

*The Resilience of Electricity Infrastructure in a Warming World*

Submission to Senate Inquiry

I am delighted to hear that a senate committee is to recommend measures that should be taken by federal, state and local governments to hasten the rollout of (storage technologies and localised, distributed generation) technologies.

Australia has already lost so many opportunities to take a leading role in the development of such technologies that I hope the government will act quickly following this committee reports to assist and encourage these technologies in development, production and use in Australia and in development and production for export.

I travel overseas regularly. In South America and Europe I have been taken to task for Australia's retrograde approach to climate change. Great and very public damage it seems has been done to Australia's reputation overseas.

Opportunistic but unfounded remarks to slur South Australia's fore-sighted move into renewables brings the government in to great disrespect. I certainly vote for any government that betrays such ignorance, such unwillingness to search out the truth before speaking or that is so determined to ignore the experts on the technology and human induced climate change.

The government needs to move quickly to develop sound policy in this area and commence direct support for the development, production and uptake of these (and other robust sustainable energy) technologies.

An education program to help Australian people (who for too long have been encouraged to maintain their ignorance and rejection on climate change) understand the reasons to move to sustainable energy industries as quickly as possible. Australia has been a major exporter of coal and therefore its fossil fuel industries are in the front of exposure as the rest of the world moves away from unsustainable and dirty energy. This has been known for a long time. Government implementation of strategies to help Australian transition their employment are long overdue.

This inquiry is a great opportunity for government policy to move forward into much more enlightened and useful policies by making strong recommendations to support these technologies.