

**SENATE SUBMISSION: COAL-FIRED POWER FUNDING PROHIBITION BILL
2017**

I am a Queensland resident, just over 60 years old, a member of the Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland, and have been actively involved in bush rehabilitation both in Fay Smith Wetlands in Maryborough and Happy Valley on Fraser Island. I am also a supporter of the research and reports of the Climate Council. I represent myself in this submission.

I support all aspects of the Coal-Fired Power Funding Prohibition Bill 2017 with particular reference to Part 2 (of the Bill) Prohibition on Commonwealth support for coal-fired power stations section (1) The Commonwealth or an authority of the Commonwealth must not, on or after the commencement of this Act: parts a) and b), Section 2 Paragraph (1) (a) and Section 3 Paragraph(1) (b).

There is no time to waste: continuing with propping up of coal-fired power stations must be phased out rapidly. Other western world countries have noticed with great concern the reluctance of the Australian government to adopt a scientifically based Climate Change policy. In Australia the last three summers have indisputably been the hottest on record, and the last three winters the warmest on record. The ravages of extreme weather events have already incurred human, wildlife and economic costs: these will only increase in frequency and severity. In my own garden during dry times and hot times I need to refill our bird baths up to twice a day and it seems that all the birds in the block know where they can come to bathe and drink. I even see woodland birds in our garden when the Fay Smith Wetlands, 3 km away, begin to dry out.

Australia has abundant sun and wind, and along with the rapid deployment of solar and wind (cheaper to run than coal powered electricity), pumped hydroelectricity is gaining interest to compensate for the variability in the weather. Pumped hydroelectricity is the most common form of grid-connected energy storage in the world. The Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) has identified 22,000 potential sites in Australia where pumped hydroelectricity would be viable.

I wish all Australians success in the passage of this bill.

Yours sincerely

Ruby Rosenfield

