

Hello

I am writing from two viewpoints:-

I have had experience in extreme weather conditions my home was flooded 2 years ago this week, and it took over 12 months to recover from that in the most basic ways. In many ways I've never recovered due to the treasured things that I have lost.

Secondly - I am a radio dispatcher for the CFA working out of Mt Helen near Ballarat. In this horrendous season I hear and see the worst of our planet's dire condition. I have been doing this job for some years now, and whilst I wasn't on duty for the black Saturday fires, I know that things are getting worse across the board. Global warming is taking its effect. Even this year, the fire season started a good month earlier than usual. We don't have the plans in place - or if they are, they are not communicated to the residents of communities - to protect our homes and communities. I speak of this in two parts (again). Firstly - in fire and flood readiness. I know there is the odd community meeting to talk about it - but in this day and age we need community specialists coming to each home and assessing and talking about what needs to be done at a grass roots level to protect these homes and communities.

Secondly on this point - I think that the person/people that attend at homes also need to be offering advice on how individuals can reduce global warming. I know that offering up Japan as an example at this point is pretty moot, but Japan has for a long time been recycling up to 30 types of waste products and individual households have separated them for this purpose. Are we able to recycle and re-use more than we do now?

On a third point - we need to stop listening to amateurs in relation to climate change and discharges. When I am ill, I go to a doctor, I don't just ask the person next to me on the bus what they think. These scientists are the specialists that we should be listening to, and also be implementing their recommendations. If these recommendations affect jobs and industry, then we need to address that and create new jobs according to the new world that we are creating. What we should not be doing is NOT implementing recommendations because of jobs or industry squeals. If we apply industry and job criteria we will have no industry or jobs within the next 40 years, as there will be little left for them to be manufacturing for.

Please - please - implement the recommendations of scientists, continue to cut carbon pollution regardless of industry, and create a better world for our children and grandchildren that the one that is currently on the map.

Help us to create better readiness for the future, and make that easier by stopping export of primary materials which will only result in the worsening of the world for all of us. Please create a benchmark of clean energy that the rest of the world will aspire to.

Please don't consign us, the people, your population, to a dire life of bad air, bad health, and bad extreme weather conditions.

Kind regards
Lorelle Denham