

**From:**  
**To:** [Community Affairs Committee \(SEN\)](#)  
**Subject:** Submission to inquiry - Impacts on health of air quality in Australia  
**Date:** Monday, 4 March 2013 1:44:03 PM

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Dear Senators

there are a number matters of concern regarding air pollution standards and monitoring that I would like to be considered by the committee.

Firstly whilst the relationship between airborne pollutants and human health is well documented, Australia has been a laggard in evidence-based standard setting, monitoring and enforcement. Australia needs strong enforceable standards on PM 2.5 and 10 micron particulate pollution as well as monitoring stations in appropriate locations (but in particular close to the sources of pollution) to record this pollution and enforce mitigating action.

My particular concern relates to the relationship between airborne pollutants harmful to human health and climate change. This is evidently ill managed within Australia through, for example, policies that subsidise diesel fuel; inadequate standards for vehicle emissions and efforts to reduce vehicle usage Australia wide; and lack of monitoring and enforcement of coal dust and related pollutants associated with coal mining.

yours sincerely

Dr Jennifer Kent