

Submission to the Australian Parliament in support of Climate Changes National Framework

In this submission I attach a video prepared for the Climate Leadership Project sponsored by Al Gore. The links is below:

https://youtu.be/g7pt9b_teKY

In this video I focus on the local impacts of fossil fuel pollution particularly around the local health effects more than the global impacts of this pollution. I think it is relevant to the bill before parliament as it outlines the need to take immediate action as outlined in this bill. But it is an often-repressed set of facts around Health, Energy Costs and Public Safety. Coal and gas fired power, petrol and diesel driven cars are primary elements that impact Australians every day. Of course it impacts the longer term global situation with respect to temperature change, weather severity, and bush fire intensity which are all symptoms we are experiencing here in Australia from Climate Change. In addition, there are misrepresentations made by industry and our own parliamentarians around energy when we reach a zero-emission society (our Paris committed COP-21 goal) by 2050. So, the above sets to outline zero-emission living but at the same time outlines why we need to do it faster rather than slower. Again, this is in line with reasoning the bill before parliament.

Whilst I outline many aspects, I have not in the above video outlined the sources of the facts I present. Here is the source research or science that I present:

My claim on Bush Fire Intensity and Temperature:

See the submission to the Bush Fire Royal Commission by Dr Karl Braganza on the Monday the 25th of May 2020. He outlines the ENSO¹, SAM² and IOD³ impacts on Australia and how our last bushfire season, as a result of climate change (he presents the climate facts) could be more extreme even without further average global temperature upward movement.

<https://naturaldisaster.royalcommission.gov.au/publications/25-may-2020>

Start at the 15:46 minute mark. He is Australia's preeminent scientist in this area.

My claim on Health:

Is backed by much research – for example:

1. Research by the National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health, Australian National University, Canberra, ACT. Carried out and published on 16th December 2002 by Tord E Kjellstrom, MedDr, MEng, Professor (ANU), and from the University of the Sunshine Coast, Maroochydore, QLD; Anne Neller, BSc, PhD, Rod W Simpson, BSc, PhD, Dean, and Professor in Environmental Science.
2. AMA 2013 submission for the "Inquiry into health impacts of air quality in Australia" this was indorsed by the Australian Medical Association.
3. Submissions in relation to Air Pollution in response to "the Independent Inquiry into the Victorian Environment Protection Authority" 30th October 2015 published by Environmental Justice Australia.

¹ ENSO = El Nino Southern Oscillation Index (East Coast)

² SAM = Southern Annular Mode (South Eastern Area)

³ IOD = Indian Ocean Dipole (West Coast)

4. Health impacts of transport emissions in Australia: Economic costs prepared and published by the Australia Government, Dept of Transport & Regional Services and backed by evidence from Sean Walsh (Victorian EPA), Don Neale (Queensland EPA), David Power (Environment ACT) and Alan Betts (New South Wales EPA), Dr Bill Physick from the CSIRO, Professor Tord Kjellstrom from the Australian National University, Dr Geoff Morgan, from the Southern Cross Institute of Health Research and Associate Professor Bin Jalaludin, Epidemiology Unit at Liverpool Hospital – prepared June 2005.

Whilst there is an abundance of these research results, I sight these as a broad spectrum of official documents from Australian Government Departments including the CSIRO, eminent personnel from some of Australia's leading universities and many doctors from the AMA. I also demonstrate that this information has been published and has existed in Australia for many decades.

Energy Costs:

For household energy costs refer to CSIRO Chief Energy Economist and report "GenCost" 21st December 2018. The CSIRO Electricity generation technology cost projections 2017-2020 published Dec 2017, and the Energy Networks Australia's Electricity Network Transformation Roadmap 2017, developed with the CSIRO – who estimated the potential benefit of a renewable transformation to be \$1.4 billion in avoided network investment and a lowering of household electricity bills by \$414 a year.

For car running costs refer to RACV's 2019 Driving Your Dollars survey, and a further RACV research conducted by Tim Nicholson published on 17th July 2020.

Public Safety:

I present a chart of oil spillages in 2020 for the video presentation. However, this year was low compared to many years. I only have to sight BP Deep Water Horizon and Exxon Valdez to indicate the reality of this problem that we avoid if we make the transformation to electrification of land-based transport.

For resiliency of the network I sight the Final Report of the Energy Networks Australia (backed by ARENA⁴ and CSIRO) prepared on the 21st October 2020 – outlining how standalone renewable based systems enhance network resilience in Australia.

Despite what I outline and provide as empirical evidence above, we still have politician's in Australia, amongst all this research and fact-based findings, quoting heresay and anecdotal evidence of higher costs, less overall jobs, poorer grid reliability and many other incorrect details. Simply put my video whilst not detailing the fact bases above shows that we as a population in Australia are healthier, richer on average, and safer when we do all the things required to drive us to a Zero Emission Society.

⁴ ARENA is the Australian Government "Australian Renewable Energy Agency