

Jon Stanhope MLA

CHIEF MINISTER

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Submission No.27

TT 25 June 2008

TREASURER MINISTER FOR BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

MINISTER FOR INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, WATER AND CLIMATE CHANGE

MINISTER FOR THE ARTS

MEMBER FOR GINNINDERRA

Mr Kelvin Thomson MP Chair Joint Standing Committee on Treaties Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mr Thomson

Thank you for your letter of 3 July 2008 regarding various treaties under consideration by the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties:

- Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
- Headquarters Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Secretariat to the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels

I take this opportunity to congratulate the Prime Minister, Minister for Climate Change and Water and the Australian Government for ratifying the Kyoto Protocol. Ratification is a significant and long overdue step forward and tangibly demonstrates the Australian Government's commitment to tackling climate change.

Although the ACT is a small contributor to global greenhouse gas emissions responsible for about 1.2% of Australia's emissions, we are committed to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions to help Australia meet its Kyoto Protocol obligations. My Government has set a target reduction of 60 per cent of year 2000 emission levels by 2050 as part of the *ACT Climate Change Strategy 2007-2025*.

I thank you for the opportunity to comment on these international agreements.

Yours sincerely

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Jon Stanhope MLA Chief Minister

18 AUG 2008

ACT LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY