

-----Original Message-----

From: farren [SMTP:farren@vicnet.net.au]
Sent: Thursday, August 24, 2000 1:00 PM
To: jsct@aph.gov.au
Cc: Fiona Campbell BFA (E-mail 2); BFA Vic Alan Parker (E-mail)
Subject: Kyoto protocol

Dear Sir,

The Bicycle Federation of Australia (BFA) strongly supports the ratification of the Kyoto protocol.

Current policies are inadequate to reverse the growth of unsustainable motorisation. The National Greenhouse Strategy (NGS) states that:-

Transport was responsible for 24% of emissions produced through activities involving the use of energy in 1996... Cars were responsible for 56% of these emissions... In the absence of further measures to limit greenhouse emissions, domestic transport emissions will increase by 42% on 1994 levels by the year 2015.

Economic growth is not an inevitable outcome of increased fuel consumption and use of non renewable resources. Separating these two aspects is a sound economic and environmental approach.

Ecologically Sustainable Development in the transport sector can be achieved in Australia given a commitment to integrated policies on transport, road safety, environment and health. Successful models already exist eg the Netherlands National Environment and Policy Plan (NEPP3). Australia is one of the few countries to have a National Bicycle Strategy - Australia Cycling, The National Strategy, however it currently languishes through lack of commitment and funding for implementation.

The benefits of this integrated approach will not only contribute to a decrease in carbon emissions but also to the health of the nation. The World Health Organisation clearly acknowledges the health benefits of physical activity. Replacing short urban car trips to work or school with walking and cycling yields immediate benefits.

Within the transport sector there are enormous opportunities to contribute to the emission level targets set by the Kyoto protocol.

Yours faithfully,

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The BFA publishes Australian Cyclist, Australia's premier cycle touring, bicycle news and advocacy magazine. For more details or subscriptions, go to www.bfa.asn.au