

To Senators on the Senate Select Committee on Climate Policy,

The Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme (CPRS) proposed by the Government is completely unacceptable. Prior to the last federal election, Mr. Rudd claimed correctly that climate change is the biggest threat we have to face -- and the majority of Australians agreed. The Garnaut report recommended up to 40% reductions by 2020 and nothing less than 20 per cent. Since then there has been an economic crisis, but the science hasn't changed -- in fact weather patterns due to climate change have worsened considerably. And the best the Labor Party can do is to propose a pitiful 5 - 15% reduction, which is designed to pass on any savings in carbon emissions by ordinary concerned Australians to the big multinational polluters, actually REWARDING them for having played a major part in creating the problem!

THIS IS A COMPLETE BETRAYAL OF THE VOTERS WHO VOTED IN THE RUDD GOVERNMENT. It makes a complete hypocrite and liar out of Mr. Rudd himself.

But the crucial point is that the target is so small as to be ineffectual. If the rest of the world follows suit, and why shouldn't the developing countries like China and India if Australia preaches one thing but does another, the world climate will go into freefall. Every reputable scientist predicts that there will be unstoppable feed-back loops. But the Rudd Government seems to have abrogated any sense of responsibility -- just as long as the fossil fuel lobby makes billions while they still can.

Of course jobs are important, but there are even more jobs than current systems can support in producing green power: solar, wind, geothermal, tidal. Australia has ideal conditions for all these. The government must see this -- then it is win-win for all. The CPRS as is stands protects the profits of Australia's worst climate offenders at the expense of clean industries. It also unfairly transfers the cost of reducing emissions to industries with less lobbying power and to the community at large.

Please send a strong message to the Government that the present CPRS is unfair, ineffectual, incalculably damaging, and a betrayal of all the Rudd Government professed to stand for.

Name: John Biggs