

To Senators on the Senate Select Committee on Climate Policy,

We as Australians must become world leaders in carbon reduction.

We are now the poster boys for climate change as evidenced in the hottest days on record this year causing the extreme conditions that led to the horrific bushfire disasters, floods, king tides and heat related deaths of the elderly and frail.

People around the world are now looking at Australia to see how they will be affected by global warming in the years to come.

Corporate Business needs big picture leadership, as proven time and time again with the irresponsible and shortsighted actions of CEOs and CFOs only concerned with shareholder profits and their own incomes. This is human nature. The individual will always strive to look after their immediate interests.

We need a committed and pragmatically idealistic Government to push for the interests of ALL Australians into a future further than 5 years down the track.

The message the federal government is sending with this veneer of a carbon reduction policy is that they weak and easily lobbied. No real determination, vision or concern is seen when it comes to the environment and our impact as humans on the fragility of the system that supports us.

A commitment to a 40% reduction by 2020 is the absolute minimum that will send a strong message both to corporate leaders and the public at large that we can, with strong willpower, overcome the most difficult of challenges.

If we can't do this, natural selection will surely show its hand and the weak willed societies will perish as seen time and time again in several thousand years of history. Please learn the lesson.

I voted for the Rudd led federal government because tough action on carbon emission was promised.

I am deeply disappointed in this backflip and will probably never support federal labor again. Many, many of my friends and family, labor supporters all of their lives, share this disappointment and will vote differently next election.

Again, it is so obvious that we could become world leaders in carbon reduction and renewable energy technologies, as Germany is becoming. Instead, we cringe and fawn and wave our hands, helpless in the face of some deep feeling of inadequacy in the world.

This feeling must end.

We are capable of becoming leaders.
We are proud and strong and passionate underneath it all.
Let's prove it to the world.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Gordon