

The Secretary
Senate Select Committee on Climate Policy
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA
ACT 2600

Dear Senators,

Thank you for inviting submissions to the Senate Select Committee on Climate Policy.

I urge you to listen to Australia's best climate scientists, but also to hear the voices of ordinary citizens whom you have committed yourselves to lead.

We ordinary citizens feel acutely the responsibility for having got our planet into the mess it is in, even if it has been under the leadership of politicians and economists. Never before or again will it be so crucial that you show strong, ethical leadership on an issue of such significance.

We understand and accept that green policies will require us all to be more truly economical with the earth's resources, and this may cost some of the convenience and comfort we have increasingly take for granted in the 'developed' world.

I ask that your committee recommend policies that make strong cuts in Australia's carbon pollution, at long last taking a stand in world affairs that is honourable. With political will we can restructure our economy to thrive again, but with innovative green industries. These can promote the development and uptake of renewable energy, especially solar power, in which our country has such comparative advantage.

We also need to question whether the infinite pursuit of economic growth makes any sense on a planet that is finite. Please think deeply about the need for new economic thinking, incorporating the principles of sustainability required if humanity is to have much of a future at all.

In 2007, Australia voted for strong action on climate change. I urge you to use your important role to recommend Australia's response to the climate crisis is one in which we, the voters, can see our will effected.

Yours sincerely,

Jackie Yowell