

from Dr John Patterson

8 April 2009

Dear Committee members

I strongly support the Government taking action on Climate Change now, rather than leaving it until it is too late.

The Emissions Trading Scheme has many advantages, however I have some major concerns with it. They are:

- 1) the large exemptions or free permits likely to be issued to major polluters. These negate the effectiveness of the policy.
- 2) the fact that individual efforts go unrewarded. I think it is essential to bring ordinary citizens explicitly into the policy. At present, as I understand it, any emissions reductions made at the individual level just make it easier for the big polluters to meet their targets. This is unsatisfactory and inefficient.

May I urge on the Government and Senate to move towards improving public acceptance of nuclear power as a means of expanding our electricity generation capacity without significant greenhouse emissions?

I remain very sceptical that "clean coal" can do this economically and safely within the emissions trading scheme. I believe we must have a second string to our "bow" for our future prosperity. Solar and wind while useful, cannot provide base load capacity. Nuclear can.

Thank you for considering this submission.