

I am writing to provide comment on the proposed CPRS Exposure Draft. The scheme in its current embodiment proposes targets significantly lower than those recommended by leading scientists and will serve to lock Australia in to a scheme which serves to exacerbate climate change and inhibit developments and innovation in low emission technologies. Additionally, the scheme will remove the opportunity for individuals to make voluntary change, as this change will be offset by increased emissions from industry. Accordingly I recommend the following modifications to the CPRS:

1. The CPRS adopt an emission reduction target of 40% below 1990 levels.
2. That offsets created by reforestation projects remain current only while that reforestation project is not disturbed by logging and the vegetation within remains in good health.
3. The number of free permits be limited so as to allow the market based carbon trading scheme to work as designed. The issuing of an uncapped number of free permits will reduce market confidence in the trading system and undermine the intent of the system.
4. Assistance to coal fired power stations should be dependent on development of a coal phase out scheme which promotes investment in green technology and renewable energy generation.
5. That third parties are able to challenge decisions made under the CPRS Act.
6. That there is a limit to the units available for issue by the government at a fixed price
7. That there is a limit to the units available to be generated by offsets (such as reforestation) and that a minimum number of units must be generated by actual reduction in emissions (as opposed to offsets).
8. That there is a limit to the number of emissions that are able to be traded internationally.
9. Voluntary emissions reductions by companies or members of the community should not allow an increase in emissions by industry.

I'm incredibly scared about my own and my children's future in the face of catastrophic climate change and urge that deeper cuts are made to Australias emissions and that the CPRS is transparent and does not reward or compensate major polluters. The scheme should advocate and provide a framework for a just transitions to a low emissions future.

Please contact me if you wish to discuss my comments further. I look forward to seeing drastic change to the CPRS.

Sincerely,  
Sherida McKean