

7 April 2009

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

To all Committee Members

My family and I are deeply concerned that the Rudd Government's response to climate change does not go nearly enough, rewards big polluters at the expense of the Australian community, the Australian economy, and our long-term energy and climate future.

Further, it represents a betrayal of the clear intent signaled to the community at the time of the last election.

No Australian wants to see their countrymen thrown out of work through precipitate action. This is why we wish to see, within the context of significantly higher targets, the planned phase-out of the coal industry along the lines so cogently argued by Guy Pearse. A government which cares about the whole community, rather than powerful lobbyists and vested interests, will pay due respect to the science, and will help affected communities make the transition to other, more viable and climate-friendly energy alternatives. It will also reward greenhouse gas reduction action taken by individuals and community groups, rather than allowing the results of their work to benefit major polluters.

We urgently seek that this committee take steps to implement higher greenhouse gas reduction targets, cease the rewarding of major polluters and take real steps to give Australia the clean, green future it is crying out for.

We wish committee members well in this task of utmost importance to the national (versus sectional) interest.

Yours sincerely,

Graeme Parsons and Helen Crawford