

To The Senate Select Committee On Climate Change

Dear Senators,

This Planet is our Home. We are rapidly making it uninhabitable for ourselves and all other organisms that share it with us.

The most important words in your terms of reference are in item (a) (iii) **contribute to a global solution to climate change.**

Item (d) “determining a fair and equitable contribution” – what a feeble response to this world threatening situation. Will the effects of **climate change** be felt in a “fair and equitable” way?

Item (a)(i) reduce carbon pollution (delete ‘at the lowest economic cost’). What will the economic cost be if **climate change** is not curbed?

Item (c) “...adequacy of the Government’s 2020 and 2050 greenhouse gas emission reduction targets in avoiding dangerous climate change”.

The targets are weak and spineless. They must be as high as we can push them and they should not be conditional. We should be leading from the front – not waiting to see what others will do.

Item (e) “whether the design of the proposed scheme will send appropriate investment signals”. Australians – your constituents – who have chosen to purchase green power or buy solar systems or other renewable energy products will, under the terms of this scheme, subsidise polluters and reduce their incentive to find alternative solutions. The scheme, as proposed, would also reduce customer support for green technologies and lessen the openings for green collar jobs and new research. We need to exceed our Kyoto Targets – not feel satisfied to just meet them.

We ask that your committee recommend policies that make strong cuts in Australia’s carbon pollution now, make Australia energy smart and drive investment in renewable energy to make it cheaper than coal.

Sincerely, Nancy Bevan Tom Bevan