

Dear Sir /Madam,

Please accept this submission regarding the proposed CPRS.

I wish to object to the proposed legislation and suggest that it should be rejected completely in order that appropriate steps be taken in the future, rather than this pathetic attempt at paying lip service to the Australian electorate whilst serving the vested interests of Big Coal & Big Oil.

The introduction an emissions trading scheme could be one of an important series of policy initiatives that you could assist Australia achieve the goal of minimizing Climate Change & transitioning us to a low carbon economy. The current draft legislation for the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme (CPRS) will not result in domestic emissions being reduced nor will it assist our business leaders and community transition our economy.

The proposed CPRS fails the Australian community in a number of ways.

Targets-In line with the Science

Australia's emissions should be cut by a minimum of 40% from 1990 levels by 2020 if we are to have any chance of returning to a safe climate. A 15% reduction undermines international negotiations and a 5% reduction is viewed as a joke. Leading scientists are calling for cuts of at least 40% by industrial nations and Australian Treasury modeling shows that over the long term such a target would have negligible impact on Australia's GDP (it would double in 276 months from now rather in 254 months). Let's not have to explain to our children and the rest of the world that we didn't do our bit to combat climate change because we couldn't wait 22 months longer to be twice as rich !!

Auctioning permits- no free rides.

Major polluters should purchase all of their emission permits. That is a free market. It will facilitate the transition to a low carbon economy and provide the Government with revenue to assist low income households be more energy efficient and ensure a just transition to affected communities. It will also provide investment capital to power the charge to renewable energy and provide low carbon public transport & freight infrastructure. If major polluters are given 80 % of their permits free it will just make the price of carbon for those not compensated more expensive and will delay the transition. This is unjust.

No compensation to Coal Powered Electricity generation.

Emissions trading schemes have been discussed in Australia for more than 10 years and the operators of Coal fired power stations have known that the introduction of such a system is likely. If they have not invested in alternatives already and wish to continue to operate the stations as is they should bear the costs of these decisions. It is unjust that they receive \$3.9 Billion dollars because of these decisions; that is the equivalent of a \$455 cheque from every Australian family. That is unjust.

Inclusion of voluntary action.

If householders, local government, State governments and small business voluntarily reduce their emissions the number of issued permits should be reduced commensurately. That enables us all to do our bit to address climate change. With all sectors of society contributing together we will make large reductions in our domestic emissions.

Domestic emission reductions- Place a limit on overseas permits.

If we buy all our offsets overseas we do nothing to position ourselves for the new economy and only stave off the changes that will eventually be required. Delayed action will cost us jobs.

In closing I note that our Prime Minister has called climate change the defining issue of our generation and we have a moral responsibility to take this challenge seriously. The proposed actions of Mr Rudd's Government fail to align with the election promises of 2007.

Please reject this legislation for the sake of our children.

You have a responsibility to ensure that this Government takes this *'the defining issue of our generation'* seriously.

Regards Jim Norris