

Dear Senators,

I am writing to implore the senate enquiry to recognise the seriousness of the climate change the world is facing. But Australia is one of the most vulnerable countries. Temperatures have been rising faster in Australia than elsewhere in the world and even 1.5degrees rise over pre industrial temperatures will have devastating effects in Australia, with increased fire (65% increase in sever fire risk days by 2020), drought already experienced and now record droughts are also occurring in different parts of the world from Argentina, to California, China, and parts of Europe such as France and Greece. The temperature increase will cause massive coral death and change in composition in the Great Barrier Reef. The Murray Darling basin productivity already severely threatened by drought will get much worse. Dengue fever will increase dramatically and problems with other plant and animal diseases and pests will also increase. Sea level rise will cause massive problems for the coastal regions eg south east Queensland, not to mention the nearly 1 billion people world wide who will have to relocate with sea level rise associated with a 1 m which will be caused by a 2 Degree rise in global mean temperature.

So please make the proposed targets for emissions fit the task. The current targets if adopted by other countries will result in much more than a 2 degree rise in temperature. Already the Artic sea ice melts and the Antarctic shelf melts are greater than predicted. The climate change is close to a tipping point where the temperature will inexorably increase despite mitigation effects.

To keep the global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees will need at least a target of 40% reduction by 2020. The change to renewable energy and other mitigation measures will provide 2.7million jobs and the economic costs of delay to starting this transformation of the economy will have catastrophic effects on the economic sustainability of Australia.

The subsidising of polluting industry through free carbon credits will cost \$9billion in the next 3 years. This is an outrageous impost on households of \$1000.

The science is showing that the climate change effects are happening faster than the IPCC predicted so we are in crisis mode even now. Global Emissions have to peak by 2015 if the world environment is to survive with anything like a semblance to its current state

So please do the right thing by Australia and the world and realise just how serious the situation is.

Peter Dart