

Alan Smith

7/4/2009

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

Dear Senators,

Thank you for inviting submissions to the Senate Select Committee on Climate Policy.

Please don't let the Rudd Government become the Dud government. The Rudd government has the chance to make a difference, let us start now with Climate change. The affects of Climate Change in 20 years times are going to make the current economic crisis look like a tiny blip in comparison.

If the rest of the world followed the Rudd Government's weak targets to cut greenhouse pollution by just 5-15% by 2020 we would face catastrophic climate change – with more deadly bushfires¹, costly floods and cyclones.

Australia needs to stop its population growth which is currently about 1.5%. This continuing increase means that we need to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions per person by 1.5% per annum just to stay neutral. Over 10 years, that is a further 15 to 20% reduction that is required.

Australia needs to show the world & lead by example and increase its weak 2020 target to at least 30%, moving to 40% in the context of a global agreement.

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

The big polluters keep telling the **myth** of reducing carbon emissions will seriously affect Australia's economy. It is a **myth** which is now being traded as fact. There will be some costs, but how enormous will the cost of doing nothing be.

Strong action on climate change will create millions of new Green Collar jobs, not destroy them as the big polluters claim.²

We must also stop the crazy situation where the carbon that is being saved by mums & dad who are putting in solar panels is being given back to the big polluters.

In 2007, Australia voted for strong action on climate change. In 2009, I urge you to use your important role to recommend Australia makes a response to the climate crisis that future generations will thank us for.

DON'T LET THE RUDD GOVERNMENT BE THE ONE THAT HAD ALL THE CHANCES TO BE GREAT BUT INSTEAD BECAME KNOWN AS THE

DUD GOVERNMENT

Yours sincerely,

Alan M Smith

¹A joint CSIRO/Bureau of Meteorology study of the impact of climate change in bushfires found parts of Victoria faced up to 65% more days of extreme fire risk by 2020 and 230% more by mid-century.

²According to CSIRO economic modeling, 2.7 million new jobs will be created in Australia by 2025 if we set course to become carbon neutral by 2050.