

To Senators on the Senate Select Committee on Climate Policy,

I have already made a submission but there are a few more points I would like to make.

There are many energy leakages in our economic system that impact on Greenhouse build-up.

1. For example I have been watching buildings being demolished in our small suburb over the last 12 years. Most of the timber in these buildings is crushed and/or burnt. I have collected and recycled as much as I could (a small fraction) for my own use. So much of the timber is high quality and often of varieties that are no longer obtainable. I have also seen well built buildings with high quality materials demolished in Sydney and replaced with concrete block buildings with a thin veneer to give the impression of style that soon show signs of cracking and other deterioration. There needs to be regulation to prevent this wastage and economic incentives to encourage recycling.

2. Water and sanitation management is another area which currently use high energy coal fired inputs to transport and treat potable water, human excrement and greywater. Potable water is used for waterborne sanitation systems (highly treated water is not required for this). Centralized waterborne systems have also changed carbon and nutrient flows. These products are removed from normal cycling processes and are lost to soil carbon and nutrient pools. They are exported-often to coastal and river aquatic system. For more information on this subject the Committee can read my 2001 doctoral thesis titled "Agricultural Sanitation: From waste to resource" from the University of Tasmania (or I have a copy).

3. Our out-moded economic measurements need to be replaced so that all economic activities are not regarded as positive. For example cleaning-up an oil spill or removing a railway line should be seen in negative terms. There needs to be another measurement of human well being (other than economic growth).

There are many opportunities available to have a direct impact on Greenhouse build-up. The response should be comprehensive. Innovation and creative thinking will be required. I support and encourage the Senate Select Committee in this vital task.

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