

To Senators on the Senate Select Committee on Climate Policy,

If you want to see how well water trading has worked for the past ten years try looking at the Murray Darling Basin. It has not worked, and yet we are convinced that more trading will fix the problem. It is time for a total rethink on how to deal with that issue and it must involve whole of basin strategies and legislation.

So, if water trading did not work and we have been trying it for a decade, then why would carbon trading work, particularly as we do not have ten years to waste?

We select governments' favourite industries and support them with research assistance to the tune of many hundreds of millions of dollars (cf geosequestration). Why not simply set a mandatory renewables target and let the market decide the technology?

The full cost of everything must be included in its price. For too long costs, particularly environmental costs, have been externalised. The only way to do this is to tax the polluters. Tax at source can be applied within Australia and if imports are not taxed at source they must be taxed at entry. I see no other way that will work.

I have 3.5kW of photovoltaic cells on my house with plans for further actions. It is offensive to me that such further action can add to a polluter's quota. The CPRS as it stands, should be abandoned. It is worse than having nothing.

Steve Posselt