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8 December 2020

THE PRIME MINISTER

Dear Scott,

Thank you for your letter of 20 November.

I am very pleased by the cooperation between the UK and Australia on climate change, including the progress we are making on the Clean Technology Partnership. Energy transition offers huge opportunities for economic growth: creating new, sustainable jobs for both our countries and allowing us to shape the technologies of tomorrow.

I welcome your personal commitment to Net Zero, and I look forward to Australia setting a time bound commitment and an ambitious Nationally Determined Contribution next year. I recognise how complex these issues are domestically, and your own personal stake in this. It is also impressive that Australia has overachieved on its previous target; delivering on our promises is as important as making them.

I know that Secretary of State Alok Sharma discussed with Minister Taylor the reasons we were unable to allocate a speaking slot for Australia at the Climate Ambition Summit. You will understand that we have tried to set a high bar for this Summit to encourage countries to come forward with ambitious commitments.

I know there will be many occasions for the UK and Australia to work together to showcase climate ambition next year, with the G7 and COP26 being the most notable of these. I look forward to continuing to work with you on this and many other issues.

In the meantime, I wish you and your family a Happy Christmas.

The Honourable Scott Morrison MP