

Dear Committee Secretary,

I wish to make the following submission to the senate:

Regardless of whether you believe climate change real, is human driven or is not even happening, it makes good sense to take steps that will serve as an insurance policy in case it does come to pass. And this is possible to do without hardship if we make the right decisions. In fact it is possible for every day people to benefit from taking positive steps toward reducing green house emissions.

I would like to share with you our own personal example of how this is a possibility for ordinary Australian consumers like us :

Currently our personal fossil fuel usage amounts to \$1200 electricity and \$4300 car fuel for commuting, per year. Recently we came to realise that if we were to invest \$10 000 into solar panels we could cut our electricity bill entirely which amounts to a return to investment of 12%. If we also invest in a second hand Nissan Leaf (\$20000) plus enough panels to charge it as well (extra \$5000) and a shed to put the extra panels on (\$10000) That would total a \$45000 investment which would give us free electricity and commuting, amounting to \$5500 or 12% return to our investment. This is better than any bank offers and better than most super investments. And it has the potential to help reduce green house emissions.

This is a positive way to be climate change active regardless of whether you believe the science or not. And it needs government support to help people make these decisions to cut fossil fuel consumption, just in case climate change is real and is human caused by our carbon emissions. If climate change isn't real it will still have been a good investment for us.

However, when looking for a second hand EV we found that there are very few available at that price. In fact there are very few second hand or new EVs available at all. In order to make it possible for the ordinary every day person like us to be pro active in regard to our reduction in fossil fuels there needs to be enough of a EV market to choose from. There needs to be enough uptake of new vehicles that can trickle down to the second hand market for the above example to become desirable, and viable. There needs to be promotion of this financial prospect as a concept in order to get people interested in delving into the market for reasons beyond 'doing our bit for climate change' because this ideology is generally is not sufficient an incentive for most people. Financial benefit is more likely to get people interested.

Government needs to facilitate and educate in order to promote the initial uptake of new EVs using tax and investment incentives similar to first home owner schemes and solar panel rebates. Recharge station infrastructure needs to be in place to encourage confidence in current EV km range and EV recharging facilities should be a regulated common standard so that recharge stations are more generic and avoid the issues that are associated with recharging different brands of mobile phones.

Yours sincerely

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