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Australians are having a negative impact on our climate.

1. The Bureau of Meteorology estimates Australia has *already* warmed on average by 1.44°C (± 0.24°C) between 1910 and 2019<sup>i</sup>.
2. The United Nations notes<sup>ii</sup>:
  - a. The concentration of greenhouse gas (GHGs) in the earth's atmosphere is directly linked to the average global temperature on Earth;
  - b. The concentration has been rising steadily, and mean global temperatures along with it, since the time of the Industrial Revolution;
  - c. The most abundant GHG, accounting for about two-thirds of GHGs, carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), is largely the product of burning fossil fuels.
3. It is estimated<sup>iii</sup> that Australia produced 3.6% of total GHGs in 2016. Yet we are less than 0.3% of the earth's population today.
4. The majority of Australians agree that something needs to be done. For example, a recent survey<sup>iv</sup> suggested:
  - a. 80 per cent of Australians think Australia is already experiencing problems caused by climate change
  - b. 83 per cent of Australians support the closure of coal-fired power stations.
  - c. 71 per cent of Australians now think Australia should be a world leader on climate action

As an Australian citizen, I assert:

- A. Australia needs a non-political plan to reduce the impact of anthropogenic climate change.
- B. Australia needs to do its part. Today, and for more than a decade, Australia has been mired in political point-scoring that has stopped us from doing our part.
- C. Australia must legislate to reach net zero carbon emissions before 2050. Australia needs regular 5 year budgets and plans to reach this objective.
- D. Australia needs an independent, non-political body to shape our response to climate change – and to mitigate further change.

My children's future depends upon it. As will their children.

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<sup>i</sup> <http://www.bom.gov.au/state-of-the-climate/>

<sup>ii</sup> <https://www.un.org/en/sections/issues-depth/climate-change/>

<sup>iii</sup> <https://www.crikey.com.au/2019/11/25/fact-check-australias-greenhouse-gas-emissions/>

<sup>iv</sup> <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-10-28/australia-institute-2020-climate-change-report-concern-growing/12764874>