

Dear Senate,

I welcome the Environmental and Biodiversity Protection Bill and hope it passes swiftly through the senate. As a radio producer looking for climate change solutions I am highly aware that we need to decarbonise our economy . Every interviewee tells me that. I wish to see no exemptions for coal and gas projects from the EPBC which I believe has bilateral approval.

Specifically I would like to see minor amendments to remove s22 2b and d) so that key projects such as The Arrow Coal seam gas project in Qld and Camden in Western Sydney are not exempt.

I hope that further amendments can be made to strengthen the role of the Independent Expert Scientific Committee. Also you should make provision to cover all unconventional coal mining, tight gas and shale gas.

The real challenge of climate change is for us to prevent more greenhouse gases escaping from the burning of fossil fuels. Biodiversity and a stable environment will be completely upset by the wild and intense weather which more than 2 degrees of warming will unleash.

We are on a trajectory to 4 degrees of warming in this century if we go on mining and exporting coal and gas. I applaud your bill but want it to go further to restore the biodiversity already on the brink and to protect the climate which has given us centuries of civilization. It is on your watch that this challenge presents itself. Please put strong laws in place to prevent the further destruction of our aquifers but more importantly of our whole biosphere.

Do not be beguiled by the gas companies that tell you gas has less impact on global warming and coal companies that tell you Australia's whole economy depends on expanded exports. Now is the time to make a transition to renewable energy which will not cause such havoc.

Yours sincerely

Vivien Langford

