From: sue wright

To: <u>Committee, Environment (REPS)</u>

Subject: Just a thought

Date: Tuesday, 7 January 2020 1:15:49 AM

Dear Sir,

This might be the worst message you receive this year, but I wanted to at least send it.

I live in the UK and am sorry to see the devestation currently being caused because of the fires. In the short term, good luck with your efforts and I hope you manage to get them under control asap.

Apparently you use very little solar energy but have loads of it available. If you invested serious money in 'solar powered, desalination plants', you could provide water for the irrigation of large areas of land. There would be significant initial set up costs, but little in running costs. This could provide 'wet' farm land/woodlands that act as fire breaks around townships, the cooling of these areas would limit the drying effects or the wind and there would be increased production of crops/timber for commercial uses. I'm just trying to think a little "out of the box", but trying to think of long term solutions.

If some accdemics considered this idea then it might be a step towards reducing global warming; while at the same time providing food, timber and employment in countries that have a lot of sun and not much rain fall...

Just a thought.

Yours faithfully Philip Wright.