

Thank you for taking the time to consider my submission to this inquiry.

As you read this, please consider that it is written by an average parent and scientist in my limited free time, amid my other volunteer duties. I do not have the capacity to compete with the professional lobbyists in the oil and gas industries. However, unlike the oil and gas industry, my primary concern is for the people and places loved by me and my fellow Australians. I would be grateful if you kept that in mind as you consider all the submissions and their motivations.

I am ashamed to live in a country that has benefitted so little from our precious resources. The amount of revenue generated from the Petroleum Resource Rent Tax (PRRT) is embarrassingly low. Australia is like the fool who has been swindled by a greedy, clever scammer. When we compare Australia and Norway, we are very much the fool. As pointed out by The Australia Institute, "[Australia's and Norway's economies both have massively profitable resource industries, but Norwegians receive a much larger and fairer share](#)"

It is almost as if our governments have set the amount of tax paid through the PRRT for the benefit of the multinational oil and gas companies that operate in Australia, rather than for the benefit of the Australian people.

I recommend that decisions around the PRRT prioritise the interests of Australians above the interests of the oil and gas industry and their lobbyists. This is particularly important in a country suffering the financial and other costs from so many climate change harms.

To allow multinational oil and gas companies to privatise so much profit from extracting Australian resources, while socialising the costs of climate damage to the Australian people, is indefensible. The current PRRT situation, along with strange ideas, such as a "Gas-led COVID Recovery" indicates the excessive influence of the gas industry on government policies. It is past time to shift the balance in favour of Australians. This might start to improve our record low levels of trust in government.

Changes to the PRRT must increase the revenue generated, to at least partially cover the enormous costs of climate change to Australians.

The extra revenue from a fairer PRRT could be used to:

- Assist communities recovering from climate disasters
- Provide government insurance options as [properties become uninsurable](#), or as insurance becomes unaffordable
- Support the transition to a truly sustainable, decarbonised society
- Support a just transition for affected workers in carbon intensive industries
- Centrally fund political candidates to improve our democratic processes and reduce the influence of harmful industries, such as the gas industry.
- Invest in the education of future generations to improve their resilience in a worsening environmental situation and to equip them to develop regenerative systems.
- Provide public housing and other measures to reduce inequality.
- Support Indigenous-led caring for country education and other programs

In conclusion, I ask that changes be made to the PRRT so that at least some of the harm done to Australians by the oil and gas industries is paid for by those industries.

Sharee McCammon