



29th October 2010

The Secretary  
Senate Select Committee on the Scrutiny of New Taxes  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

By email to [newtaxes@aph.gov.au](mailto:newtaxes@aph.gov.au)

Dear Sir,

**Inquiry into Carbon Pricing**

Thank you for the invitation to provide comment on the Senate Select Committee Inquiry into Carbon Pricing.

The Association of Mining and Exploration Companies (AMEC) is the peak national representative body for hundreds of mid tier / emerging and junior exploration companies throughout Australia.

AMEC recognises the need for a strategic policy framework that will deliver substantial reductions in greenhouse gas emissions whilst sustaining strong economic growth and securing Australia's future prosperity. However, the challenge will be to ensure that environmental sustainability is achieved without detrimentally affecting Australia's existing international competitiveness, sovereign risk, local and regional communities, and employment opportunities.

The adoption and quantum of a carbon price, and the timing of the implementation of that pricing in line with our many international competitors will be of fundamental importance to the mining sector.

AMEC notes that the Government has recently established a multi-party Climate Change Committee, which is exploring options for the introduction of a price on carbon.

AMEC is not represented on that Committee and therefore is not aware of any policy details or costing models and is therefore opposed to the introduction of a tax on carbon, noting that it will also be a further financial impost on the industry that is regarded as the engine room of the Australian economy.

Thank you for the opportunity to make comment on this most important issue.

I would be pleased to discuss these issues in more detail at a time that is convenient.

Yours faithfully

Simon Bennison  
**Chief Executive Officer**