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Sent: Wednesday, August 09, 2000 10:52 PM
To: jsct@aph.gov.au
Cc: Madeleine
Subject: Parliamentary Inquiry

The Chair
Joint Standing Committee on Treaties
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Dear Chair:

As you know, fossil fuel corporations have lobbied for a new Parliamentary Inquiry into the Kyoto Protocol. This Inquiry is likely to provide a platform for ideas such as - global warming is not real and reducing greenhouse gases is bad for the economy.

The new climate skeptics group was established early this year - the 'Lavoisier Group' is made up of a handful of individuals. The group wants to slow action on greenhouse gas pollution. They do this by telling decision-makers that scientific bodies such as the CSIRO are wrong about the science of climate change. This group uses discredited arguments to claim that there is no problem and there is no need for action to be taken.

At a meeting of this group in May speakers included, Peter Walsh, Hugh Morgan, Tony Staley, Alan Oxley, Wendy Craik and Don McGauchie. Andrew Thompson who is the Chair of the Treaties Committee also spoke at the meeting about the need for an Inquiry into the Kyoto Protocol.

Please convey these messages to politicians at this Inquiry :

- * Australia should ratify the Kyoto Protocol;
- * There are many economic opportunities in changing Australia's economy into a greenhouse friendly one;
- * Human induced warming of the earth is recognised by the world's scientific community as a reality;
- * The scientific community is also concerned about the irreversible impacts of climate change;
- * There are economic, environmental and human costs if we do not immediately reduce the amount of CO2 going into the atmosphere;
- * Climate skeptics' arguments have no scientific weight and should not be encouraged by decision-makers.

Thank you for the opportunity to bring these remarks to your attention.

Yours sincerely,
Robert E. Rutkowski, Esq.

cc: Ambassador Michael Thawley

Secretary Madeleine K. Albright

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