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From: Coral Newman [SMTP:c.newman@cowan.edu.au]
Sent: Monday, August 07, 2000 6:00 PM
To: jsct@aph.gov.au
Subject: Parliamentary Inquiry into the Kyoto Protocol

I believe that Australia should ratify the Kyoto Protocol because human induced warming of the earth is widely recognised by the world's scientific community as a reality which has to be addressed now. Just denying that there is scientific evidence will not eliminate the economic, environmental and human costs that will have to be borne if we do not immediately reduce the amount of CO2 going into the atmosphere. There are opposing, self-interested views, but even non-scientific individuals can work out that we cannot make direct comparisons with any other period in history, because this is the first time that the world has reached the current level of population combined with its unprecedented industrial output. We cannot afford to continue to make mistakes which may be irreversible. We do not have the right to squander the future. The bottom line is not profit, but the health and welfare of all of us, and the planet itself. Ratifying the Kyoto Protocol could enable Australia to become an environmentally-responsible leader, developing economic opportunities through undertaking that responsibility.

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