

Kaida, Lisa (REPS)

From: joan vandewerdt [jvanwlear@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, 21 July 2000 5:29 PM
To: jsct@aph.gov.au
Subject: Inquiry into Kyoto Protocol

Dear Sir/Madam

My views on the Kyoto Protocol are generalist in nature for your terms of reference.

I believe that as a 1st world nation, Australia has an obligation to ratify the Protocol and to meet its target emission levels. This should be thought of as a "one world global" obligation, rather than what Australia as an individual country will gain or lose.

In relation to economic and environmental implications, I further believe that the Federal Government should intervene in Japanese companies obtaining interests in Australian coal mining companies and thereby influencing the price for coal (in a downwards direction). If potential greenhouse emissions are to be taken seriously, the price for coal should be rising rather than being cleverly negotiated downwards by Japanese shareholders. This does not seem appropriate for a finite resource, for greenhouse emissions, or for skewing market prices.

In summary, Australia should be setting an example, particularly to less developed nations and those who do not have the same opportunities as we have in the "lucky country" that we are taking our one world global obligations seriously. This requires dedicated commitment by all levels of Government.

I hope these comments are of value to you.

Joan Vandewerdt

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