

MY SUBMISSION TO THE INQUIRY INTO THE SUSTAINABILITY CHARTER  
BY THE ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE COMMITTEE PARLIAMENT  
HOUSE AUSTRALIA FROM MS LYNDA McCORMACK

I wanted to say I am not an academic just an active member of my community  
I am not sure how to approach this so I will just begin. I am doing this as an  
individual submission

In this charter I would like the Australian Government to recognise

(1)The general principles of promotion and safeguard of human rights, as  
historically achieved through the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* of 1948  
and the subsequent Agreements, Conventions and Charters (such as the recent  
*Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union*, December 2000).

I take this idea from this Charter on this web page

[http://ftp.torino2006.it/uploads/pdf/charter\\_intent.pdf#search='what%20are%20the%20contents%20of%20a%20sustainability%20charter%20in%202006'](http://ftp.torino2006.it/uploads/pdf/charter_intent.pdf#search='what%20are%20the%20contents%20of%20a%20sustainability%20charter%20in%202006')

(2)Reaffirm the United nation Conference on Human Environment adopted at  
Stockholm on 16 June 1972, a/ and seeking to build upon  
it, With the goal of establishing a new and equitable global partnership through  
the creation of new levels of cooperation among States, key sectors of societies  
and people working towards international agreements which respect the interests  
of all and protect the integrity of the global environmental and developmental  
system, Recognising the integral and interdependent nature of the Earth, our  
home. Adopt all the principles within the **RIO DECLARATION ON  
ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT**

<http://www.un.org/documents/ga/conf151/aconf15126-1annex1.htm>

(3) Recognise the Sustainability Reporting guidelines and where they can be  
improved always make lobbying efforts to do so

<http://www.globalreporting.org/guidelines/2002.asp>

- Download [The State of Sustainability Reporting in Australia 2005 - Executive Summary](#)  
(survey2005-summary.pdf - 134 KB)
- Download [The State of Sustainability Reporting in Australia 2005 - Full Report](#)  
(survey2005.pdf - 419 KB)

**(4)** Recognize the United Nations Environment program AGENDA 21

<http://www.unep.org/Documents.multilingual/Default.asp?DocumentID=52&ArticleID=>

**(5)** Recognise a mandate and Mission of the Supreme court of Australia similar to the Supreme court of Canada if my esteemed peers believe there is a better reference to base law and sustainability on then I hope they bring it forward in this Inquiry

<http://www.unep.org/Documents.multilingual/Default.asp?DocumentID=52&ArticleID=>

**(6)** Allow this Charter to be reviewed every five years and the private and civil and government and non government sector's in Australian Society be able to submit to the review and a federal government body organise this.

**(7)**Recognise the Charter of The United Nations and any changes to it.

<http://www.un.org/aboutun/charter/>

**(8)**Organise Community Sustainability groups and also recognize the CSIRO Sustainability Network but I believe communities will do this if they have a group that's focus is sustainability like a Sustainability Club there are many pieces of Information that can be shared with community it may take a while to build this network up but word of mouth helps . <http://www.authentic-roof.com/>

<http://watersustain.blogspot.com/>

<http://www.bml.csiro.au/SNnewsletters.htm>

<http://www.unm.edu/~soc101/quotecommunity.htm>

**(9)**Recognise the World Conservation Strategy and The World Charter for Nature

<http://www.unep.org/geo/geo3/english/049.htm>

**(10)** Recognise the Stockholm Challenge as a prestigious award and set up a similar award nationally in Australia

<http://www.stockholmchallenge.se/news.asp>

**(11)** Recognise this Guide from UNEP in communicating sustainability

[http://www.uneptie.org/pc/sustain/reports/advertising/Communication\\_Guide/webEN2.pdf](http://www.uneptie.org/pc/sustain/reports/advertising/Communication_Guide/webEN2.pdf)

**(12)** Recognise the recommendations in this Thesis paper and the links

<http://www.sustainablepss.org/ThesisFINAL.doc>  
and this support tool

<http://www.sustainablePSS.org>  
<http://www.environmental-expert.com/magazine/kluwer/jspd/>

I have been influenced because I am reading a book from Ultimo TAFE library "A Sustainable Earth" by Cambridge Press ISBN 0 521 45592 8

**(13)** Recognise principles of Sustainable Livelihoods

<http://www.iisd.org/sd/principle.asp>

**Principles of sustainable livelihoods** (Civil society)

Principles of [North American Regional Consultation on Sustainable Livelihoods](#)

This is just an example it should be worked on by Unions and other members of society <http://www.pcdf.org/>

**(14)** Recognise big bold beautiful targets like Zero waste to Landfill by 2010  
And Zero Emissions now

**(15)** Recognize that we need to educate on all levels for sustainability  
and incorporate sustainable development education into all studies.

<http://www.minedu.fi/julkaisut/pdf/89ktpo.pdf>

[http://www.unesco.org/education/tlsf/theme\\_a/mod01/uncom01t05s01.htm](http://www.unesco.org/education/tlsf/theme_a/mod01/uncom01t05s01.htm)

**(16)** Recognise all the UNEP events

<http://www.unep.org/Documents.multilingual/Default.asp?DocumentID=303>

**(17)** Can we have a National Transport Coalition if there is already one or  
A National Alliance for Sustainable Transport

<http://stcwa.org.au>

(18) Recognise all reports and recommendations from the International Council for Clean Transport and recognise the Cleaner Development mechanism of the United Nations.

<http://www.cleantransportcouncil.org/>

(19) I was able to attend a Lecture at the University of Sydney Last year And Chris Eiser who is the head of the Air pollution division of the Department of Environment and Conservation in New South Wales told us Sydney was the most air polluted city in Australia from mainly transport and I know from doing some volunteer work in the Prince Of Wales Hospital I know that the pollution effects babies in the womb and is causing older people to have an early death so something must be done about minute or nano particles in the Air.




My daughter suffers from Asthma so I have great interest in it and I know that Bankstown has a great deal of Air pollution. I have black soot on my white electric fans all the time and soot appears on my white bathroom sink and bath all the time..I think you have to recognise sustainable health indicators and the ABC Catalyst program has just had a presentation on this

<http://abc.net.au/catalyst/stories/s1630007.htm>

Please read these article below and take note I think the Environmental indicator should be the min indicator and be continually debated and nano particles of pollution to air soil and water and its human impact especially On neonates to 8 year old children should be measured FYI

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<http://www.ifeh.org/indicators/index.html>

<p><b>The International Federation of Environmental Health</b></p> <p>is running a project with the title:</p> <p><b>Sustainability Indicator Project</b></p>	<p>Some of the information on this website is also available in other languages:</p> <p>German </p> <p>French </p> <p>English (default) </p>
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The aim of this project is to build up a collection of initiatives and activities undertaken primarily by local and regional environment and health authorities, World-wide. It is intended to demonstrate how indicators can be used as a tool for planning and monitoring. The use of indicators will allow for a more accurate assessment, performed by the local authority, on whether progress has been made towards a sustainable development.

By using indicators it should be easier to answer some basic questions and visualize the state/pressure/effect:

- *What is the actual pressure on - and state of the environment and health in our local / regional community ?*
- *On which topics should we focus our efforts ?*
- *Does our effort show to result in measurable changes on the pressure, or on the state of the environment and/or health ?*
- *Do we contribute to move towards a sustainable development - both locally as well as globally ?*

All local and regional environment and health protection authorities which have undertaken or intend to undertake initiatives using indicators are invited to participate. Also organisations working with environment and health are welcome to participate.

#### **How to participate and contribute to this project:**

- |    |   |
|----|---|
| 1. | First of all <u>let us know that you are interested</u> (to notify your interest / contribution in advance)   |
| 2. | Next complete the <u>worksheet</u> , describing your local initiative(s) and used indicators.   |
| 3. | Return one or more completed worksheets to the <u>IFEH-Project Secretariat</u> by e-mail: <u>indicator-project@ifeh.org</u> or to the IFEH contact person in your country if available.<br><br><u>Check out here</u> to see whether there is a contact person in your country connected to this project. It is not mandatory that your country is represented by a member organisation in IFEH. |

#### **Updates of the collection of examples.**

Completed worksheets, will be published on this web site under the item "Sustainability indicators - Collection of examples on local initiatives - worldwide" as they are received.

The website is updated on a regularly basis.

#### **Why should one participate.**

By demonstrating how your local authority has used or plans to use indicators in the daily work you can help other authorities all around the World to get started. Many local authorities in the World are in the phase of capacity building on the use of indicators. Of course the authorities who have already started using indicators also can get new and valuable inspiration from each other through this project.

The result of this project is depending on the input and reply from your authority and that as many authorities as possible with some experience in the field of using indicators feel an obligation to share this knowledge.

And finally it takes no financial costs to participate - it only takes a little of your time to fill in the worksheet.

The project was presented at the Worldsummit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg 2002. [Download the presentation](#) (PowerPoint 1.6 MB )

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[http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/transport/index\\_en.html](http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/transport/index_en.html)

<http://www.iclei.org/index.php?id=2787>

<http://www.tc.gc.ca/programs/environment/sd/sds0406/menu.htm>

<http://www.nesea.org/greencarclub/news.html>

<http://www.sutp.org/>

<http://www.greenhouse.gov.au/transport/index.html>

[http://newsroom.wri.org/newsrelease\\_text.cfm?NewsReleaseID=361](http://newsroom.wri.org/newsrelease_text.cfm?NewsReleaseID=361)

<http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/medicalnews.php?newsid=9550>

<http://www.ehponline.org/members/2000/suppl-4/713-723pope/pope-full.html>

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<http://climateark.org/articles/reader.asp?linkid=51220>

## **Australia: Heavy road congestion is killing us, study finds**

**Source:** Copyright 2006, [Sydney Morning Herald](#)

**Date:** January 23, 2006

**Byline:** Wendy Frew

ROAD transport is costing Sydney \$1.4 billion a year in greenhouse gas and other air pollution, with the city's heavy congestion exacerbating ill health and climate change.

That is the conclusion of a report by the Centre for International Economics, which also found that over the next 15 years the annual cost of greenhouse gas emissions would rise by almost a third, to \$187 million.

The study, commissioned by the Herald, said the environmental and health damage from rising emissions would be shared by all Australians.

In comparison, air pollution from the lead, nitrogen, sulfur and particulate matter emitted by motor vehicles would rise only slightly over that time, but the cost was far greater and would be felt directly by Sydney's residents.

Research by the Bureau of Transport and Regional Economics found that pollution from cars might be prematurely killing as many as 2000 Australians each year and causing another 2000 asthma attacks.

Children are particularly vulnerable because they inhale more air for their body weight than adults, but the elderly and the sick are also at risk.

Sydney accounted for four out of 10 of the Australian deaths and illnesses caused by vehicle pollution each year, the centre's report found. It said the damage to health would cost Sydney \$1.223 billion last year, rising to \$1.228 billion in 2020 - a net rise of \$5.1 million.

The director of the Total Environment Centre, Jeff Angel, said the report dispelled the myth that car use was cheaper than public transport.

"The comparisons between road and rail are unbalanced because the costs of road - environment, health and associated economic costs - are not put into the equation," he said.

"The health effects of air pollution on the elderly, the young and those with respiratory problems have been an enduring problem for Sydney."

Mr Angel said that even if emissions from cars were cleaned up, road congestion would

remain a big problem.

"We can't just keep filling up the city with cars. At some point we must upgrade public transport."

Domestic transport accounts for 14.4 per cent of Australia's total greenhouse gas emissions, and 88 per cent of that comes from road transport, compared with 2 per cent for rail transport, the centre's report found.

Fuel consumption per vehicle under congested conditions was about double that under free-flowing conditions, and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions due accounted for 17 per cent of total emissions generated by domestic transport.

"Congestion in Sydney was estimated to generate an additional 4 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions every year," the report said.

"Based on a cost per tonne of CO<sub>2</sub> emitted of \$10, this results in annual emissions costs due to Sydney congestion of \$40 million."

The Australian Government has invested in research to develop technology it hopes will reduce fuel-based emissions.

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<http://www.caprep.com/0206023.htm>

#### **United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) report says air pollution control measures pay-off**

UNITED NATIONS (02/15/06) -- A report just released by the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) says governments that invest in air pollution control

measures can save billions of dollars as health care costs are slashed, worker productivity soars and ecosystems flourish.

These savings, along with other economic gains such as sounder bridges, public buildings and other infrastructure that endure less corrosive air pollutants can be six times greater than the initial investments in techniques and equipment to curb air pollution, says UNEP's Global Environment Outlook Year Book 2006.



The report's findings on the economic savings emanating from investments in air pollution controls stem from work by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the experiences of city governments in Mexico City and Santiago, Chile.

The United States agency, for example, estimates that the economic benefits of the country's Clean Air Act will total \$690 billion over the 20-year period that ends in 2010. A Santiago study assessed the financial benefits stemming from compliance with the Santiago Decontamination Plan at \$4 billion during a 15-year period.

These studies mirror a new report by the European Commission on achieving improved air quality standards by 2020. The Commission estimates that an investment of around \$7 billion to reduce air pollution will deliver \$42 billion in economic benefits as a result of "fewer premature deaths, less sickness, fewer hospital admissions and improved labour productivity."

The Year Book finds that indoor air pollution may be responsible for up to 2.4 million premature deaths a year while outdoor air pollution from industries and vehicle may trigger about 800,000 premature deaths annually, with 65 per cent of the deaths occurring in the developing countries of Asia.

**(20)** Recognise the U.N Millennium Development Goals and its implementation plan and the Water millennium development goals and its indicators

<http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/>

<http://www.danishwaterforum.dk/Docs/Invitation%20to%20meet%20Gordon%20Young%20logo.pdf#search='water%20millenium%20goals'>

[http://www.unesco.org/water/wwap/facts\\_figures/mdgs.shtml](http://www.unesco.org/water/wwap/facts_figures/mdgs.shtml)

[http://millenniumindicators.un.org/unsd/mi/mi\\_goals.asp](http://millenniumindicators.un.org/unsd/mi/mi_goals.asp)

**(21)** Recognise the **Johannesburg Declaration** on Sustainable Development and any corrigendum's [corrigendum](#)

[.http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/documents/WSSD\\_POI\\_PD/English/POI\\_PD.htm](http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/documents/WSSD_POI_PD/English/POI_PD.htm)

(22) Consider that Investors need something similar to the Clean edge index of NASDAQ <http://www.csrwire.com/article.cgi/5574.html>

(23) I feel we need National Water Charter as they have done recently in Colorado <http://www.enn.com/water.html?id=388>

<http://www.information.com.au/news/govtindustry/03/05/article8784.asp>

(24) Recognise the Principles of responsible Investment <http://www.globalreporting.org/news/updates/article.asp?ArticleID=473> From The Global Reporting initiative

Just as an aside here's an example of Veolia's Sustainable Charter but I believe it is just targeted to their needs and the charter should include far more than this

[http://www.collex.com.au/sustainability/sustainability\\_home.cfm](http://www.collex.com.au/sustainability/sustainability_home.cfm)

(25) To recognise that we need to eliminate all human toxins and ecotoxins from the environment and to look at new elimination licenses within all Australian states environmental management and planning acts. And to introduce extended producer levies on them rather than giving out licenses to pollute. And in so doing recognise the in the sustainability charter the principles of the underlying principles, addressed through the EPR, are the waste prevention, the phase out of dangerous chemicals and the sustainable design of products which eventually will lead to clean production

To corroborate my position please see this web site

<https://www.diversitas.org/db/x.php?DD=ST&DR=J1664>

[Global Strategies - Solutions Online](#) 

... International Congress **Science ... Extended Producers Responsibility** (EPR) issue: It is very important that producers take **responsibility** for the environmental impacts that their products **may ... 2006** (UIA profile ...

**(26)**Recognise the POPS Convention and the Basel Convention and any future conventions to eliminate those toxins in so doing have a National Hazardous chemicals and substances and new organism's act on e act as New Zealand has.

**(27)** Please make sure you consider and recognise the intergenerational equity principle and the intragenerational equity principle

From

Ms Lyndall McCormack

Delegate of the NUW Market Research Branch Sydney

Member of the ACF

Member of the ATA

Member of PANR

Member of the National Seniors

Parishoner of the Anglican Church Padstow

Member of the Revesby Workers Club

Member of Padstow RSL

Member of Ban toxics network yahoo group

Member of the zero waste action Group

Student of TAFE Ultimo and member of the Students union

*O Lord, Forgive us for having left undone those things which we ought to have done and for having done those things which we ought not to have done.*