

In reference to the advertisement of the 15th July 2000, in "The West Australian", I have the following comments in regard to the "Kyoto Protocol".

Kyoto Protocol - Australia

I have not read the documents from previous Conventions and Protocol's, but after reading the above, expect the documents to be written in the same legal jargon. These documents are produced for mutual benefit, and can not understand why they can not be written in plain language, for all to understand.

The whole document seems to be about trading in carbon credits. I do not believe trading in carbon credits should be allowed (Article 3 paragraphs 10, 11,12 and Article 6) under this protocol. It is as if countries are attempting to bypass their obligations. Surely more time could be spend in trying to encourage other countries (eg Brazil and Indonesia) to sign onto the agreement. Trading in carbon credits defeats the whole purpose of attempting to reduce overall gas emissions worldwide.

What technologies are being developed to assist in reducing emissions? If technology is or has been developed to reduce emissions, how does one find out about it? Especially in coal fired power stations, motor vehicles. As the world population is increasing, the problem is only going to deteriorate. Emissions will only increase as more electricity is required, and more cars are put on the roads.

With regard to revegetation, how could Australia possibly comment, especially as we continue to clear our land. From my understanding, 70% of natural vegetation/forests have been cleared since the arrival of European settlers. How could we possibly tell any other country what to do in regard to their countryside, and forests.

What companies have an interest in reducing carbon emissions? Their prime objective is to maximise profits for their shareholders. Carbon taxes, or any other fines will always be passed onto "joe public". Any such taxes/impositions would have to be applied world wide to be effective. Companies have a habit of moving to the lowest cost country, especially if it is stable enough (in order to operate) and has an educated population.

I am concerned about gas emissions, especially in light of the following:

- a) arctic ice cap melting
- b) antartic ice cap breaking off in extra large "chunks"
- c) coral reefs in the pacific ocean dying due to an increase in water temperature
- d) the continual retreating of glaciers worldwide

I can still remember comments from a coffee grower in Hawaii stating that they were only getting two coffee crops a year instead of three. This was in 1983, and he commented on the changing climate.

I thank you for the opportunity to make a submission.

Keith Mounsher
34 Brixton Street, Beckenham 6107.