



31 March 2003

The Committee Secretary
Select Committee on the Recent Australian Bushfires
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Submission No.27

Dear Sir/Madam

It hardly needs saying that the severity of this summer's bushfires was contributed to by the drought and record temperatures. The drought and the temperatures were attributable, at least in part, to global warming.

Until humankind manages to get global warming under control, increasing climate extremes will produce more droughts, more record temperatures, and therefore more and fiercer bushfires. This will happen regardless of any other amelioration measures which may be taken. As a major per capita producer of greenhouse gases, and as a country susceptible to droughts and bushfires, it behoves Australia to play its rôle in the fight against global warming

I submit that the Select Committee's report should recommend that the Government forthwith ratify the Kyoto Protocol.

Yours faithfully

MARK TAYLOR