

To Senators on the Senate Select Committee on Climate Policy,

I am an elderly Australian and have lived my life consuming all the world offered with no concern for the future of our world. I can now see that this was selfish and unsustainable and eventually a price must be paid for this consumerism. If the next generation is to have a future every effort must be made to halt global warming and the cost of achieving this goal pales into insignificance when compared to the cost of doing nothing. I therefore ask that the proposed emissions trading scheme be thoroughly examined to expose its weaknesses and a value be assigned to carbon emissions that truly reflects the cost to our planet and acts as a true incentive for companies to reduce these emissions. I live near Alcoa's Wagerup refinery and I have no doubt that this company has lobbied the government hard to remain a primary polluter while paying nothing for the right to do so. In spite of their rhetoric they are there to mine out the bauxite as quickly as possible, make as much cash as they can then get out of Australia to start again in any country that will tolerate their pollution free of charge.

I note that the alumina industry is one that is given free permits under the ETS and this is wrong. Every polluting industry should be made to a price for their carbon emissions with no exemptions. I believe that the only way we can look forward to a reasonable future is for every one of us to contribute to the reduction of these damaging carbon emissions and as an individual I am doing all I can to achieve this aim, but the government can achieve much more than the individual through legislation and by contributing to and encouraging industries developing green technologies. Please evaluate the proposed ETS very carefully and arrive at a proposal that will make us proud to be Australians willing to lead the world in saving the planet for our children.

John Harris