To Senators on the Senate Select Committee on Climate Policy, If as climate scientists tell us that an ETS with a target of 5% reduction in carbon gas emissions will make no substantial difference to global warming even if adopted by the whole world, why are we even bothering with this ludricrously weak system.

Penny Wong says that it is better than nothing but in real terms it is no better than nothing because it will not help divert catastrophic global warming (for humans anyway) later this century. I understand that whatever Australia does on its own will not have much bearing on total global emissions but if Australia is to preach to the rest of the world (in particular the USA, China and India), it needs to set an example and for once be a leader. We are after all one of the worst polluters on the planet by head of population. We owe it to the world to be courageous.

For the sake of the many lives sharing this planet, you have got to make decisions NOW that will truly set us on an exemplary path to sustainability and a truly green economy.

Name: Peter Williams