

To Senators on the Senate Select Committee on Climate Policy,

It would seem that conventional wisdom has finally arrived at where the science of climate change has been for years, namely that we need to act to reduce our emissions before our way of life is drastically altered for the worse.

In an ideal world we would also be considering the fauna and flora of the planet we live on, the intangibles that give life so much meaning and make the world so attractive a place. But politics, business and the self-interest even of the public at large mean we need to frame our response in terms of jobs, costs and lifestyle.

Well this is achievable... 5% is nothing, it merely gives polluters yet more rope to hang themselves with even though they have known a time of change was coming. Rather think of it this way: without a real commitment the oceans WILL rise, weather WILL become more extreme, our climate, farms and food security WILL suffer. Now put the cost into those terms and ask yourselves what it will take to build a sea-wall around Sydney harbour, Botany Bay, Yarra river mouth, every port in Australia will need new floating docks or sea-locks at a minimum. Surely an ETS set at a tight but not excruciating level is better than this scenario?

Finally think of the people and their jobs, we don't need to support polluters with billions of dollars merely to see them put their hands out for more in a few years when they discover that "clean coal" won't work. Let them adjust with their own profits now, if they can't do it then set the billions aside to retrain their workers for jobs in the 21st century, don't try and hang on to jobs from the 18th century.

I sincerely hope you take this message to heart and recognise that people vote, companies don't.

Kind regards,  
Warren Blore