

SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE CHANGE

As initials, CPR(S) to me, stands for cardio-pulmonary resuscitation(s) and if we go the way of the Government we will all be 'S' - sunk, stultified, stunned, stupified, substratum. There are many more words starting with 'S' that are applicable. If the Governments plan proceeds we'll all be beyond CPR(s), and their 'better than nothing' idea may become a 'good for nothing' world. The key flaws of the proposed Government CPRS includes: *the weak target *the over-compensation of polluters at the expense of the community and environment. TARGETS. Scientists agree that developed countries need to reduce emissions by between 25 - 40% by 2020, to avoid greenhouse gases rising above 450ppm. The 5 - 15% target is unacceptably low and must be reviewed. POLLUTERS. The biggest polluters should be paying more not getting compensated and given free permits. We've known for many years about climate change - businesses should be more ready for the restraints they knew would come and the responsibilities they would need to undertake for life on earth to continue and prosper. People must come before profits. It's the little people and smaller businesses that get squeezed so the big fellas keep their shareholders and CEO's rolling in their filthy lucre. OTHER MEASURES. An emissions trading scheme is just one way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Others are: *Mandatory renewable energy targets *A renewable energy feed-in tariff *Energy efficiency standards for government buildings/commercial buildings/homes *Every hour should be 'Earth Hour', not one day of the year. *Fuel efficiency standards *Investment in trains/buses/trams/cycleways *Ending logging of Australian native forests would reduce Australian emissions by more than 5% *For Land Use Agriculture and Forestry, adoption of proven methods, like Peter Andrews Natural

Sequence Farming and the Bio-Char technology must be given consideration. *Looking to other nations and how environmental change has occurred. For example, the work of the environmental warrior lawyer, M.C.Mehta from India. Ask the Environment Ministers to Google M.C.Mehta. Even a 'junket' to India to examine his work and success would be money well spent.

All of these policies need to be followed regardless of CPRS. CERTAINTY. Setting an ambitious, science-based target now will avoid costly mistakes by business in the future. Setting a weak target is problematic in that the only certainty business has is that it will need to be changed. Business needs long-term investment horizons in order to make multi-billion dollar decisions. In conclusion, we must avoid greenhouse gases going beyond 450ppm if we are to avoid triggering unstoppable feed-back loops. Given the current Global Financial Crisis and the underlying reason for that being greed, as Mr Rudd acknowledged, I think it's time to start a completely new discourse about the reality of our world and how we might come out of this social turmoil with new ideas and technologies for a different world, where all humans and animals benefit from life on earth, equitably, with dignity, hope and harmony.

Name: Dianne Powell