

The Secretary
Senate Select Committee on Climate Policy
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA
ACT 2600

Dear Senators,

I would like to thank you for inviting submissions to the Senate Select Committee on Climate Policy.

I am greatly concerned about the most likely path forward with respect to climate change. It seems to me that the more credible scientific evidence suggests a significant threat is now the more likely forward prognosis.

I feel that the Rudd Government's targets to cut greenhouse pollution by just 5-15% by 2020 are set at such a minimal level that if this was followed by the rest of the world we would face catastrophic climate change – with more deadly bushfires, costly floods and cyclones.

I believe that Australia needs to champion an effective global agreement if we are to avoid devastating effects on our environment and economy. We need to set a strong climate change policy before the crucial Copenhagen climate change conference in December. This is the best – and possibly last – chance the world will have to solve the climate crisis.

Australia needs to lead by example and increase its weak 2020 target to at least 30%, moving to 40% in the context of a global agreement.

I ask that your committee recommend policies that make strong cuts in Australia's carbon pollution, make Australia energy smart and drive investment in renewable energy to make it cheaper than coal power.

Strong action on climate change will create millions of new Green Collar jobs, not destroy them as the big polluters claim.

In 2007, Australia voted for strong action on climate change. In 2009, I urge you to use your important role to recommend Australia makes a response to the climate crisis that future generations will thank us for.

Yours sincerely,

John Crawford