

Sarah Trethowan

April 8th 2009.

The Secretary,
Senate Select Committee on Climate Policy
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra
ACT 2600.

Dear Sir,

I live on a farm in Central Victoria. In February of this year, the temperature under the verandah of our house, i.e., in the shade, reached 46C two days running, it reached 43 C for three days and on the day of the horrific bushfires near Melbourne, the temperature here reached 50C. I have never experienced heat like it in all the many years that I've lived here.

I sincerely believe that the Rudd Government's targets to cut greenhouse pollution by 5 – 15% by 2020 are far too weak. We have already experienced dramatic temperature rises, as I've illustrated. We need to tackle Climate Change now.

Our family has taken measures to try to reduce our own carbon footprint but we are now told that Australian taxpayers, such as ourselves are funding the activities of some of Australia's worst polluters. I hope that the Senate can, this year, stop big business from loading their Climate Change problems onto everyone else.

I also believe that strong action on Climate Change by this government will have many benefits such as creating new "Green" jobs and create investment in renewable energy. We cannot ignore this frightening problem.

I can tell you that when the temperature reached 50C here, I was truly shocked.

Here's hoping that you will listen to the voices of the people who are so worried about the future.

Yours sincerely,
Sarah Trethowan.