

7 April 2009

To the Senate Committee on Climate Change:

I strongly support the position of the Australian Conservation Foundation:

1. The Rudd Government's targets to cut greenhouse pollution by just 5-15% by 2020 are far too weak. If the rest of the world was to adopt similar targets Australia would face a future of more frequent and extreme weather events. If we fail to tackle the climate crisis now, we will suffer more deadly bushfires[1], costly floods and cyclones.

2. Everyone needs to do their fair share on climate change, including big polluting companies. The proposed Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme will see Australian taxpayers funding the activities of companies that are fuelling climate change to the tune of \$9 billion in the next three years. That's over \$1000 for every household in Australia. The scheme must be fixed by the Senate this year to stop big business from loading the problem of climate change onto everyone else.

3. Strong action on climate change will create millions of new Green collar jobs, and drive investment into renewable energy, not destroy jobs as the big polluters claim.

and add:

1. Carbon trading will make millions for brokers and traders, but the 'offsets' are too problematic, and the emitters will continue emitting, make profits from taxpayers, and it will be too late anyway.

The whole business should be cancelled.

It is a **diversion** from what needs to be done in conservation and innovation and in real preparation to cope with climate changes.

2. Half of everything produced is wasted at some stage or other. If Waste is stopped, carbon emissions could be halved very quickly. There is enough needing to be done to have full employment, without continuing jobs in waste-making.

3. Australia could be in the lead in innovative products for tomorrow's needs.

4. Recommendations should accompany money given out to stimulate the economy, about what to spend it on to encourage Australian jobs and stop waste. e.g. buying quality Australian-made saves jobs.

See

<http://home.vicnet.net.au/ozideas/>

especially pages on Jobs that are Needed, Tackling Climate Change, and other pages on environment, conservation and life-style for sustainable quality of life.

Yours sincerely

Dr Valerie Yule