

To Senators on the Senate Select Committee on Climate Policy,

I am writing this submission in particular as a concerned mother who wants to see her child grow up in an Australia that provides the same benefits of a clean and safe environment that I, and yourselves, have been lucky enough to grow up in.

A badly designed emissions trading scheme will be detrimental to Australia's economic and environmental future.

While it is my belief that an emissions trading scheme is just one of its many important tools for reducing our nation's, setting a strong target and price signal to the market should significantly assist in reducing Australia's emissions.

As currently formulated, however, the Government's proposed Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme (CPRS) is badly designed. The proposed target is far too weak and the scheme over-compensates polluters at the expense of the environment and Australian people.

Countries such as Australia need to reduce emissions by 30 to 40 percent by 2020 if climate change if we are serious about alleviating climate change. The CPRS target to reduce Australia's carbon emissions to 5% below 2000 levels by 2020 is woefully inadequate and should be urgently reviewed.

One of the key flaws in the CPRS as it stands is that it compensates Australia's worst polluters with billions of dollars (both cash and permits to pollute). This gives an unacceptable advantage to pollution-producing industries at the expense of clean industries. The cost of reducing emissions is also placed unfairly with smaller industries (which have less lobbying power) and the Australian community.

Complementary measures to reduce emissions should also be implemented, such as a mandatory renewable energy target, energy efficiency standards for new buildings, and investment in public transport (and cycling).

Setting a more significant scientifically-based (and ethically-based) emissions target now will avoid money being wasted on inferior measures that will need to be replaced in a few years and therefore cost Australian businesses a lot more in the long-run. Australia needs a strong and fair emissions trading scheme that does not protect polluting industries, but rather encourages and supports clean industries and the Australian community, for the sake of this and future generations.

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