

Submission to Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme Inquiry

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This is in response to the invitation for submissions to the [Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme Inquiry](#) [1]. It is inadequate to aim to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to between 5% and 15% below 2000 levels by 2020, as detailed in the [Draft Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme Bill](#) [2]. The bill should be changed to aim for a 25% to 50% per cent reduction, as [advised by IPCC scientists](#) [3].

A reduction of 15% can be delivered just by the use of [more effective use of computers and telecommunications](#) (ICT) [4]. Better ICT can reduce energy use, reducing greenhouse gas emissions and at the same time lowering costs. As an example, the Australian Government is planning to replace interstate travel for some meetings with [high-definition video teleconferencing](#) [5].

As well as reducing greenhouse gas emissions from air travel, the use of teleconferences will reduce the cost of airfares. This process of "[dematerialisation](#)" is a technique covered in a course I have been teaching to postgraduate ICT students [6].

The [Green ICT course](#) was commissioned by the Australian Computer Society (ACS) and is conducted online via the web [7]. A Masters level version of the course is planned to commence at the Australian National University in mid 2009.

Disclaimer

[Tom Worthington](#) is the Chair of the ACS Green ICT Special Interest Group and is an Adjunct Senior Lecturer, for the Australian National University Masters course in Green ICT. However, this submission is made in a person capacity and does not necessarily represent the views of the ACS or ANU.

References

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