

Council For The National Interest

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The Hon Scott Morrison MP
Prime Minister of Australia
PO Box 6022, House of Representatives
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Prime Minister Morrison

Congratulations to you and your colleagues on your miracle win.

Shorten has gone (for the time being at least). Coal is back not only here in Australia but around the World. A recent report by BP shows demand for coal is growing globally. The War Against Coal has been lost.

As you know, CNI is non-party political; we neither give support to nor receive support from any political party. We are however, glad that the Liberal National Coalition has been elected as the alternative would have been extremely destructive for Australia and Australians, particularly, the everyday working families, small business owners and rural and regional Australians.

Two critical issues need to be addressed to restore the growth of the economy and reduce the level of youth unemployment. *FIRSTLY*, the climate change and emissions reduction charade must be deconstructed for the following reasons:

1. Australia's Chief Scientist, Dr Alan Finkel, is on record as saying at a Senate Committee hearing that if Australia's emissions, being 1.3% of global emissions, were eliminated, it would make virtually no difference to the Earth's temperature.
2. Of the 185 countries that ratified their Paris Agreement emissions commitment only 17 – the likes of Samoa and Algeria - are meeting their commitments and these are doing so mainly because they committed to so little.
3. Major emitters China, India etc have made no commitment. USA has withdrawn. Even France has taken no meaningful measures to meet its significant commitment.
4. Today wind and solar energy deliver 1 per cent of global energy. The International Energy Agency estimates that even by 2040 wind and solar will deliver little more than 4 per cent of global energy. Australia's emissions commitment and renewable energy targets (RET) are absolutely pointless. They will not affect climate change 'one iota' but the consequent increases in electricity prices are causing massive hardship for everyday Australians, small and large businesses, loss of employment and driving down consumer spending and demand
5. The International Energy Agency's most recent report finds that when adjusting for the unreliability of solar and wind, existing coal will be cheaper than new solar and wind everywhere at least until 2040. It is fanciful to think that there will be a rapid transition from coal and gas to renewables in Australia.

6. The analysis, by Dr Brian Fisher respected former head of the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics, of the Coalition's policy to reduce 2005's CO₂ emissions by 26-28% by 2030, predicts a loss of \$293billion to Australia's economy, the loss of 227,000 fulltime jobs, a 1.0 – 4.7% cut to real wages and already high electricity prices to increase by 38 per cent by 2030.
7. Clearly, this is too great a price for Australia to pay, particularly when Australia's GDP is down to 1.8%per annum and the huge majority of other countries are not meeting their Paris Agreement commitments.
8. It is ludicrous for Australia to pursue current emissions reduction and RETs when the irrefutable fact is, the reduction of CO₂ emissions will not affect the temperature of the Earth. This is proven by the enclosed CNI FACT SHEET – CARBON DIOXIDE (CO₂). No scientist, no academic nor anyone else has refuted this FACT SHEET.
9. The FACT SHEET shows:
 - (i) CO₂ is not a pollutant
 - (ii) CO₂ is necessary for plant life, animal life and human life on Earth
 - (iii) CO₂ does NOT warm the Earth; rather, as the Earth warms it is followed by increased levels of CO₂; as the Earth cools lower levels of CO₂ follow.
 - (iv) Coal fired power stations, using clean coal 'scrubbing' technology do deliver reliable, secure and cheap electricity whilst emitting clean non-polluting CO₂.
10. The dishonesty of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is well documented. The data IPCC provided to the Paris Meeting, December 2015, at which Australia and the other countries made their emissions reduction commitments, was shown to be false. IPCC's climate projections over the years have been proven wrong, consistently.
11. IPCC official, Ottmar Edenhofer, said in 2010 *"...one has to free oneself from the illusion that international climate policy is environmental policy. Instead, climate change policy is about how we redistribute de facto, the World's wealth."* And Kevin Trenberth, lead author of IPCC reports stated *"None of the models used by the IPCC are initialized to the observed state and none of the climate states in the models correspond, even remotely, to the current observed state."*
Obviously, UNFCCC and IPCC policies are about achieving a new world order NOT about global warming or climate change or the latest term 'climate emergency'.
12. The above provides absolutely sound, proper and compelling grounds for Australia to withdraw from the Paris Agreement and the emissions reduction commitment and to scrap the RETs. The climate and energy bodies can be properly wound up and the savings of \$3billion plus per year can be used to promote and support the establishment of clean coal technology coal fired power stations (including upgrading existing coal fired power stations) to reduce Australia's electricity prices back to the lowest in the World with maximum energy security and reliability. Scrapping carbon credits will save multi \$millions.

13. As a precursor to this action, to take Australians with you, the Government must undertake a massive community wide education campaign along the lines of the CNI FACT SHEET – CARBON DIOXIDE (CO₂), the International Energy Agency's research findings detailed above and the charade of the IPCC behaviour. Many Australians already accept these facts.

SECONDLY – Australia's current growth rate of GDP at 1.8% per annum is just not acceptable. If nothing is done it will decline further and head towards a recession. Whilst the Government deserves commendation for achieving a budget surplus, in economic times such as the present it is more important and in fact, imperative, to implement positive plans to boost investment to recharge the economy.

It is essential to surrender some or all, of the projected surplus and the savings of \$3billion plus, mentioned above, to bring forward major infrastructure programs; to support research and development (other than renewables); to work with business and TAFE to support the training of the unemployed youth the levels of which are unacceptable. Traineeships where the unemployed receive the dole or new start allowance with the employer paying only the balance of a fair wage would be very valuable in reducing youth unemployment and enhancing the skilled workforce. ACARA can play a vital role here by de-cluttering the Curriculum to focus on those subjects which are necessary for the hi tech jobs of the future.

The Government should put immense pressure on Victoria and other States to remove the bans on development of onshore gas reserves to create the opportunity for lower cost energy. A proportion of the gas must be reserved for use in Australia at reasonable prices. There must be a stop to the green tape extravagances which are strangling major infrastructure projects. Nine years to approve the Adani coal mine project is a disgrace. The Hydro2 scheme is not economically viable and must be deferred.

There could be a major role for the Productivity Commission to promote initiatives that raise the level of productivity.

The CSIRO's deep green, interventionist Australian National Outlook report, just released, should be ignored. Judith Sloan describes it as "rent seeking bilge" The Weekend Australian, June 22-23, 2019.

Now is the time for a major summit of governments and business to focus on and develop and implement policies which will bypass the costly unreliable renewables and bring about investment and growth in projects which will create employment and exports, will dramatically reduce electricity costs and drive increased consumer confidence and consumption.

When the economy improves and growth rate of GDP reaches an acceptable level of say 3-4per cent per annum then the focus can again turn to getting the budget back to surplus. We will welcome your comments and a commitment to these proposals.

Sincerely,

Denis Whitely

Denis J Whitely
Executive Director

*cc Coalition Senators and MHRs
For information*

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FACT SHEET - CARBON DIOXIDE (CO₂)

Fact 1. "Carbon Dioxide is a colourless, odourless, incombustible gas present in the atmosphere and formed during respiration, the decomposition and combustion of organic compounds and in the reaction with carbonates; used to carbonate drinks, in fire extinguishers and as dry ice for refrigeration. Formula CO₂" And "carbon cycle is the circulation of carbon between living organisms and their surroundings. Carbon Dioxide from the atmosphere (with water) is synthesized by plants into plant tissue, which is ingested and metabolized by animals and reduced to carbon dioxide again during respiration and decay." (i)

Fact 2. Clearly CO₂ is not a pollutant but an "Ecologically beneficial trace gas that forms the base of almost the entire planetary food chain and which currently exists at atmospheric starvation levels of 380 parts per million (PPM) compared with up to ten times that concentration and more during the preceding 600 million years of multi cellular life on Earth.(ii) NB By 2014 CO₂, in the atmosphere, had risen from 380PPM to about 400PPM.

Recent satellite data shows there has been, roughly, a 14 per cent increase in the amount of green vegetation on the planet since 1982, that it has happened in all eco systems but especially in arid tropical areas and that it is due, in large part, to man made CO₂ emissions. (iii)

Any successful action to reduce atmospheric CO₂, will simply reduce the abundance of plant and animal (and ultimately human) life on Earth.

Fact 3. CO₂ does not cause global warming. Its mild warming effect is logarithmic not proportional. Over millions of years, a higher temperature is followed a hundred years or so later, by an increase in CO₂.(iv) Conversely, it is a fact that a lower temperature is followed by a lower level of CO₂ in the atmosphere.

Fact 4. CO₂ and other greenhouse gases (Methane, Nitrous Oxide and water vapour) are such a small percentage of the atmosphere (less than 1 per cent) that what happens to them (warming or cooling) is really irrelevant to the temperature of the Earth. (v)

Fact 5. CO₂ is emitted by modern coal fired power stations but these power stations are not 'dirty' as they do not now emit sulphur, mercury, arsenic as they once did. (vi)
20th December 2015

References:

- (i) Collins English Dictionary, Wm Collins Publishers Pty Ltd, Box 476 GPO Sydney, 2001.
- (ii) Carter, R M Professor, National Observer, Summer 2008/2009.
- (iii) "Sunny side of global warming: carbon delivers growth spurt" Ridley, Matt, The Australian Newspaper, October 20, 2015.
- (iv) Science Briefs: Do Stormy-Weather Clouds Cool or Warm the Earth? NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies, January 18, 2011, <http://www.giss.nasa.gov/research/briefs/tselioudis-01/>.
- (v) Hughes A M et al, About Face – Why the World Needs More Carbon Dioxide – The Failed Science of Global Warming (page 57), Two Harbors Press, Minneapolis, MN 55401, USA www.TwoHarborsPress.com
- (vi) Hughes A M et al op cit – Clean Coal Technologies (pages 173-174).