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(1) Introduction

Since the Summer Newsletter, CNI has continued a programme of strong political lobbying. The focus has been the automotive manufacturing and manufacturing generally and also the abolition of the CO2 tax and the related organisations. Respectively the targets have been the Prime Minister's Business Advisory Council and his Renewable Energy Target Review Panel.

With the announcement by Toyota that it will withdraw from automobile manufacturing there will be no automobile manufacturing in Australia after 2018. The choice is to accept this or alternatively use the interim period to draw together the expertise and resources and find a basis for developing, in a viable way, the next generation of electric/fossil fuel driven vehicles. These have the potential to be far superior to the current hybrids etc.

Our focus on the CO2 tax and Renewable Energy Targets (RET) is two-fold. Firstly, taxing Carbon Dioxide is simply foolish. The more CO2 the more abundant will be plant life on Earth. Secondly the RET has, is and will continue to cause substantial increases in energy costs, which will impede Australia's efforts to overcome the huge debt burden and low productivity.

The Abbot Government is facing a huge challenge to get government debt under control but still achieve growth and prosperity. The previous government wasted billions of dollars on the 'Pink Bat insulation scheme', with tragic loss of life, the Building the Education Revolution (school halls, science labs and libraries) as a stimulus to offset the Global Financial Crisis (GFC). At the outset, it was obvious to us that such projects cannot be implemented quickly and therefore do not provide the stimulus planned even if it was needed. In Australia's case it was not. A recent review of the BER, for example, reveals a story of waste of more than a billion dollars, costly buildings and all too late to offset the GFC anyway. The review is a 'case study in how government's should not pursue such projects'.

There is also the emerging burden of paying for the unbudgeted cost of the Gonski education reforms and the national disability Insurance Scheme. Japan and the USA and a number of Eurozone countries have been printing money for years but to no avail. Hopefully, the Australian Government, which was heading down this path, will put the brakes on in a fair and measured way and reverse this.

The main driver for taxing CO2 has been the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). The following is an indication of how their erroneous modelling work is distorted by others to achieve faulty alarmist predictions. (Refer to CSIRO Extreme Forecast)

(2) CSIRO Extreme Forecast, Article by Cliff Ollier

THE Weekend Australian reported on March 24 that Port Macquarie Hastings Council was recommending the enforcement of a "planned retreat" because of an alleged danger from sea-level rise in the (distant) future.

The CSIRO projection is extreme.

The world's main source of alarmism is the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

This is not a scientific body but one that adjusts data before passing its "projections" on to politicians.

The CSIRO and Bureau of Meteorology, then further adjust data and produce models with even more extreme scenarios.

In The Weekend Australian on November 7, 2009, the director of the National Tidal Centre of the BOM, Bill Mitchell, reported an Australian average sea-level rise of 1.7mm a year. This is a reasonable level accepted by most sea-level watchers outside the IPCC and CSIRO and gives a sea-level rise of about 15cm by 2100. He said the "upper end was 3mm a year", which gives a 27cm rise by 2100.

At 8.30am on November 18, 2009, ABC Radio National had a program on sea-level changes.

National Sea Change Taskforce executive director Alan Stokes said: "The IPCC estimate of rise to 2100 was up to 80cm." No new data was provided to explain the leap and, in fact, the worst estimate by IPCC in its last report was 59cm.

The CSIRO uses figures far in excess of the IPCC, which until now were the greatest alarmists. In its 2012 report, State of the Climate, the CSIRO says that since 1993 sea levels have risen up to 10mm a year in the north and west. That means that somewhere has had a 19cm-rise in sea level since 1993. Where is this place? The European satellite says that sea levels have been constant for the past eight years.

How does the CSIRO arrive at its figures? Not from new data but by modelling.

Models depend on what is put into them. For example a 2009 report, The Effect of Climate Change on Extreme Sea Levels in Port Phillip Bay, by the CSIRO for the Victorian government's Future Coasts Program, based its model on temperature projections to 2100 of up to **6.4C**. That compares with the most extreme, fuel-intensive scenario of the IPCC and implies unbelievable CO2 concentration levels in 2100 of about **1550** parts per million.

Using all known fossil fuel reserves would achieve only half this and continuing the current rate of increase in concentration levels would result in only 550ppm by 2100. The result is a CSIRO prediction of sea-level rise for Port Phillip Bay by 2100 of **82cm**.

With the help of the BoM, a further increase due to wind to **98cm**. That is well above even the top level projected by the latest IPCC report. They then extend this figure to the rest of Australia and the rest of the world.

(3) Public Forum

Because of the significance of sea level predictions in local coastal planning policies and the most recent IPCC Report, CNI is currently working towards mounting our first Public Forum for 2014 on this topic. Keep watch for further information shortly.

The committee has several forums planned for the coming year to ensure our Western Australian members are exposed to speakers and topics of national interest. Funding is important as speakers of national repute generally require interstate travel with appropriate expenses so your annual renewal and donations play an important role in determining prospective speakers.

(4) Annual Membership Renewal

CNI membership year is from April 1st – March 31st.

An Annual Membership renewal form is enclosed and we earnestly encourage all members to subscribe as your renewals are our most reliable source of funding. The CNI relies upon subscriptions and donations to enable the CNI to continue to develop policies, promote public forums, lobby government and industry bodies.

The CNI invites our members to introduce new members who may wish to participate in policy development by attending meetings conducted by the Policy Discussion Group or the WA Executive Committee. If you or an associate is keen to influence policy then the development of cogent policy documents addressed to government, individuals, bureaucrats, community leaders and business people is a role you can play.

We would warmly welcome your interest. Contact Denis Whitely on 0430 147 049 or email wacni@outlook.com or fax or telephone the CNI office.

Society seems to be busier than ever so taking time out of busy schedules for activities such as the CNI means recruiting participants for active involvement is becoming more difficult. The attendant loss of direction by our society in selecting good policies is being exacerbated by the background of chaotic noise making the CNI role ever more important.

CNI supporters can play a role in ensuring matters of a national interest reach the appropriate influential members of our society.

We encourage members and supporters to provide an up to date email address for notification of forums and matters of general interest. In spite of, or regardless of email cost savings, we have determined that snail mail is still an important communications medium and as a result regular mailouts are considered important in connecting with our membership. The recent increase in postal charges has just increased our costs and while manageable still makes your membership and donations an important aspect of maintaining communication channels.

