

19 February 2008

The Garnaut Review
<http://www.garnautreview.org.au>
contactus@garnautreview.org.au

Dear Sir,
Submission re

- 1) need for short term targets for cuts in Greenhouse Gas Emissions.
- 2) a 2020 goal of 40% cuts below 1990 actual GHG emissions in Australia

I refer to your comments in the media in recent months which appeared, if correctly reported, to question the need for short term targets for cuts in GHG emissions.

I refer you to the recent report by McKinseys Australia in relation to Australian Greenhouse Gas Emissions available from:

http://www.mckinsey.com/client-service/ccsi/pdf/Australian_Cost_Curve_for_GHG_Reduction.pdf

At page 6 McKinseys say:

"A significant reduction in Australian GHG emissions is achievable - 30 percent below 1990 levels by 2020 and 60 percent by 2030 without major technological breakthroughs or lifestyle changes"...

"We estimate that by 2020, almost 80Mt, or 25% of the total reductions potential, can be realised with positive returns. Most of these positive-return (or 'negative-cost') opportunities are energy-efficiency measures related to improvements in buildings or appliances."

The absence of short term goals would mean that these reductions of net benefit to the Australian economy might not be realised until a later date because, as McKinsey notes: "Many can be categorised as market failures arising from misaligned incentives, for example, where it benefits the tenant to install insulation or energy-efficient lighting."

In addition, the commonsense experience of any manager of any task or project (or home) can tell you that a project without short and medium as well as ultimate or long term goals is doomed to failure.

Your report would be a laughing stock if it failed to recommend strong short and medium term targets for reduction of GHG emissions, particularly in a country where so many communities lose from the impacts of climate change: farmers, country towns, reef based tourism and towns with such tourism, waterfront land owners including in suburbs in capital cities, governments owning waterfront infrastructure including ports, wharves and parks, low lying regions such as those around the Clarence River, Surfers Paradise and countless others.

The report of the Kyoto Working Group members makes clear that targets of cuts of 25 to 40% by 2020 compared to actual 1990 emissions are necessary and the Australian Government has ratified Kyoto.

A failure to recommend mandated targets by 2020 would be directly in conflict with the Nobel Prize winning work of the IPCC.

The effects of Climate change on Australia are well researched and documented by the CSIRO: CSIRO's Climate Change Impacts on Australia and the Benefits of Early Action to Reduce Global Greenhouse Gas Emissions" <http://www.csiro.au/files/files/p6fy.pdf> and their findings that early action is highly desirable become clearer as we see the increasingly fast rate of ice melt in 2007. (<http://www.google.com/search?q=arctic+ice+melt+2007>)

I respectfully request that you support short term targets for cuts in Greenhouse Gas Emissions in general and a goal of a 40% cut in GHG emissions by 2020 compared to 1990 emissions in particular.

Thanking you for your consideration.

Yours sincerely
Paul Hanly
Rhodes NSW

CC
1 John Murphy MP Lowe, NSW
2 Angela D'Amore MLA Drummoyne NSW