

Garnaut Review Submission from Dr Ben Ewald, Newcastle.

The big emitting industries like Aluminium and steel must be subject to the same carbon price as everyone else. These industries have so far got their interests protected in such legislation as the NSW NRET bill, in a completely unfair manner. The protection for "Energy intensive and trade exposed" industries makes no sense, as the extra costs of renewable energy under industry support schemes such as NRET should be spread across ALL energy users.

The NRET bill also gives great discretion to the minister to grant exemption from NRET costs to particular industries which I think is poor governance and could lead to corruption. Not that that could ever happen in NSW.

Please make sure that these deficiencies are not duplicated at the national level in an emissions trading scheme. Australia needs a strong science based cap on emissions, with an early peak.

Arguing about whether we will reach 40% or 60% below 1990 levels is like my 130Kg patient who quibbles over their target weight being 78 or 81 kg. The first job is to go from annual increases to annual decreases!

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