

To Prof. Ross Garnaut,

My name is Clare Germana, I am a mother of three young children, living in Perth WA. I am writing this submission to you in the hope that I can put in an effort on the public's behalf to urge you to recommend that Australia needs to set strong, science-based targets to reduce greenhouse pollution by at least 30 per cent by 2020.

I believe climate change is an imperative issue that needs addressing NOW for our future to be safe for our children. We are on the brink of committing ourselves to dangerous climate change, but the right decisions now will make all the difference to future generations. We can save our great natural icons, like the Great Barrier Reef and Kakadu – but only if we set strong, science-based targets to reduce greenhouse pollution by 2020.

On the positive side of things, a strong 2020 target will open up new opportunities for Australia. Opportunities to once again be a world leader in solar technologies. There would also be opportunities for new jobs in booming clean-tech industries. Opportunities for our kids to grow up in a cleaner, safer world.

A 30 per cent reduction in greenhouse pollution by 2020 is affordable and achievable, contrary to what some people think. Ground-breaking research by global economists McKinsey showed Australia can achieve a 30 per cent cut in greenhouse pollution by 2020 – at a cost of just 80 cents a day for each Australian. That's a small price to pay for a better, safer future for our kids. I am sure the public would be keen to know this information, and keen to get started.

I, along with many environmentalists have already made the change as much as we can by switching to Natural Energy, switched to energy globes, and are more aware of left-on appliances, water consumption, recycling etc. We now need more ammo by the Government getting fully immersed in this concept by 'putting their money where their mouths are..' so-to-speak. It is, after all, tax-payers money to be spent on the most important issues concerning us all, in the end. The most important issue, at present, is climate change.

I hope that my little bit of input was appreciated, I feel it very important for some things to be shared.

Kind Regards,

Clare Germana  
Greenwood WA