

To the Garnaut Review,

This submission is a perspective from a concerned Australian. I grew up in Alice Springs and never really considered the environment, as there were not many people where I lived. I moved to the east coast in 2001 and was immediately struck by the impact and degree of pollution that a larger body of people have on the surrounding environment.

Climate change is an issue that does concern me. It also concerns the people I speak to (friends, family and work associates). No one I have spoken to has said the issue does not concern them. I don't know anyone who is an open climate sceptic either.

I think climate change is very important, as it affects us all. In relation to the Garnaut review, I have four key points:

1. I feel we need to produce clear, science based emission reduction targets that must be adhered to. I support the figure of a 30 per cent reduction in emissions by 2020.
2. I feel that a strong 2020 emissions reduction target would create new economic opportunities for Australia in sustainable industries. This is more achievable if one considers the Howard Government previously funded grants for fossil fuel industries to a tune of 27 times more than grants that were provided to sustainable energy research.
3. A report from McKinsey's said a 30 per cent cut in emissions by 2020 would cost as little as 80 cents per day, per Australian. This attainable figure is not a cost, but an investment.
4. I do not support nuclear power.

Take this analogy. South east Queensland residents use less water than ever before, below 130 litres per person per day. Despite the low level of water used per person, the sheer magnitude of population growth means our dams are still sitting at unsatisfactory levels.

To extrapolate from that example, consider this - never before have 6 billion people existed on earth. The collective impact of six billion people is very great. It is therefore very important the Garnaut review recognises the importance of acting briskly and setting a global example.

Regards,

Luke Rowe