

## Individual Submission to Garnaut Review

### **Political Response to Climate Change is a Moral and Ethical Issue.**

I see the need for action as a moral and ethical issue. The irony is almost painful. Our generation, yours and mine, have been the ones to benefit the most by the growth that has led to this frightening situation. We are the generation who **can** turn it around, and yet we are also the generation who will most likely be 'gone' before it is catastrophic. What right do we have to make decisions that will condemn future generations to a world of global warming spiraling out of control?

### **Earth in Crisis**

The recent report from James Hansen is unequivocal, we have reached the 'tipping point' of 385 parts per million. [www.physorg.com/news126761406.html](http://www.physorg.com/news126761406.html) An April 9<sup>th</sup> report reveals that emissions from the burning of fossil fuels are at record level for 2006 that is 20% higher than in 2000. <http://www.earthpolicy.org/Indicators/CO2/2008.htm>

### **Economy.**

I am extremely concerned that our leaders primary focus is economic growth but what is progress and growth if there is no planet. During World War 2 in the US "the state took on greater powers than it had exercised before. Impossible policies suddenly became achievable." [www.monbiot.com](http://www.monbiot.com) 'What is Progress'

### **Climate Code Red: the case for a sustainability emergency.**

I applaud your interim report. However, I urge you to read the Climate **code red** report at [www.climatecodered.net](http://www.climatecodered.net) which describes the situation as a 'sustainability emergency' and how we must start NOW to cool the planet. This will require lifestyle change and reduced consumption.

### **A New Budget - Carbon Rations.**

If we are to all take responsibility for this crisis and reduce our consumption then surely global percapita carbon rations might be one answer. (Why we must ration the future. Lynas, M.) Further information at [www.mng.org.uk/green\\_house/dtccs.htm](http://www.mng.org.uk/green_house/dtccs.htm) In our own household we have reduced energy consumption by 50% in 3 years to 4 tonnes/year. We are still comfortable!

### **Courageous leaders**

I urge that you recommend Australia move rapidly to a post carbon society and economy, we cannot continue with 'business as usual.' Whilst this may seem drastic we have huge scope to become leaders in clean technology, which can only be good for our economy.

*"We are the citizens of closing times, and this makes us pioneers of opening time, bridge builders and architects, the ones who will make it happen. In this, our vision and guidance is essential for these are the times, and we are the people."* Jean Houston

I have no doubt that recommending the actions described in Climate **code red**: the case for a sustainability emergency, will take an enormous amount of courage from you, my hope is that you may be a courageous 'bridge builder' for the future.

Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission.

Wendy French [wfmaldon@gmail.com](mailto:wfmaldon@gmail.com) 03 54 751 067