

I am concerned that the impact of climate change and emissions must be felt by, and acted upon, at both the community and business level. The auctioning of carbon credits appears to me to be concentrating only on some businesses, and I do not believe that the proceeds going to government will be the best result for the country, especially when there will be so many opportunities for businesses and homes to innovate and become more carbon efficient.

My suggestion for carbon emissions trading is that:

1. All businesses and households to calculate their net emissions, in the same way as annual tax returns are completed, using an annual Carbon Emissions Booklet which outlines the emissions and sequestration calculation to be used, based on the science at the time. The reduction of emissions to meet cap levels set by government can then be made by each business and household through efficiency of carbon use, carbon reductions, investment in renewable replacement technology or, purchase of carbon credits. The market price for carbon will immediately drop out and every Australian citizen will be closely conversant with the need to reduce our carbon emissions, and the various options available to us.
2. The resulting market establishment of a carbon price will be the incentive for research, innovation and investment to reduce carbon emissions.

Government will still have a central role to encourage investment in renewable energy and agricultural technology concerning research for reducing emission and can raise revenue to support this activity by a small levy on each carbon trade made.

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