

3rd July 2009

The Editor
Countryman Newspaper
PO Box D162
PERTH WA 6840

Dear Sir

I refer to your two separate articles relating to the Rudd Government's ETS and a letter from Kim Redman of the Global Warming Forest Group.

In terms of the "Liberals breath new life into ETS" I can assure you there is no such majority view in the Liberal Party room.

Whilst there is support for further inquiry, I and others have already done that work and can find nothing in an ETS that will guarantee genuine emission reductions as by its nature it is a process whereby the Government proposes to sell approx \$11bn worth of certificates to pollute and also gift a large number to other industries it knows will leave Australia if not given such assistance.

This then divides Australia into two groups, those polluters with a captive market like agriculturists and manufacturers to whom they can pass on the cost of purchasing certificates to pollute and those who are better off removing their investment and activity to other countries who, as in the United States, will operate a much more friendly ETS or China which, as Australia should, is investing in carbon reduction technology such as nuclear, hydro and wind power most importantly interconnected to industry by highly efficient high voltage DC (HVDC) transmission lines.

A similar investment in Australia equivalent to the Rudd \$900 cheque hand out could deliver a guaranteed 20% emissions reduction with no ETS and no death threat to the Australian economy.

Were Tim Flannery to demonstrate his technical skills rather than those of self promotion he might demonstrate he is a real professor instead of parroting Rudd and Penny Wong's rhetoric.

Kim Redman should also decide if the group for which he speaks is for preventing global warming or preventing the harvesting of trees as it is a fact that trees over 30 years old, and certainly those over 100 years old, are net emitters of carbon either through decomposition or fire. The young trees which replace harvested ones are, however, great consumers of CO₂. Sawn timber is the best long term bank of carbon whilst it resides in buildings and furniture.

The waste products even when turned to energy are low emitters especially when the trees involved are replaced by young and vigorous regrowth.

Put simply, if you are concerned about global warming saving elderly trees is a recipe for more not less emissions.

Yours sincerely

HON WILSON TUCKEY MP

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