

Submission to WA Climate Policy

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I have two very young grandchildren and it makes my heart ache when I think of their futures. The inertia of the Federal Government is inexcusable and frustrating beyond words. Western Australia must lead the way to a sustainable future for our grandkids. We have the knowledge and the technology; we just need the political will.

Our State Government is doing some great things for the environment. Helena and Aurora, Stopping Roe 8, Rehabilitating Roe 8 and more but also some disappointing things such as the spectre of fracking. We do not need to be wrecking our environment to mine fossil fuels we do not need.

My priorities for WA's Climate Policy include

- Social justice – Low income households are disproportionately affected by climate change. I know. I am one. Retrofitting social housing with renewable energy systems would be a great way to improve the lives of people struggling to pay power bills and protect the planet.
- Leadership – It is embarrassing to see countries such as Scotland and Germany charging ahead with renewables when WA, with so many options, has been left in the wake.
- STOP – deforestation
- Increased electric vehicle use for public transport
- Health and Wellbeing plan integral to the policy
- Legally binding targets
- An independent expert advisory group

I have heard of the “sacrifices” that must be made to move to a sustainable future but I can only see a better, brighter future as we act on climate change. Returning to focussing locally, building strong connected communities and embracing our values that make for fulfilled, satisfying lives.

The people understand this. The large companies are coming to understand this. We now need our governments to get with the reality and ACT NOW ON CLIMATE CHANGE PLEASE.