

From: Jasper McCormack
To: Climate Change
Subject: Draft Climate Plan submission
Date: Thursday, 6 April 2023 10:16:42 AM

Hello,

Thank you for making the feedback process on the Climate Change Action Plan easier than other consultations. This is my first submission to a government process. I hope my views can be taken into account in the final plan.

I wish I could write that I see this plan making the necessary difference to the climate I will live through. At 27 years old, this plan gives me little hope for my future and for my family. I believe that Climate Change Office staff know the actions that are needed, just as the climate scientists and increasingly the general population do. It is a shame to see the plan full of wishy washy words rather than set targets that might actually contribute to climate mitigation.

It is very disappointing to see a net zero target that we have already achieved, be our 2030 target. This makes me ashamed to be Tasmanian. We could do so much better. The recent federal election and those in other states has shown the strength of feeling about climate change among voters. Tasmania has done little to make the most of our natural lead in the renewables and the reduction of logging. This plan continues this failure to consider the urgency of the climate crisis for people my age and younger.

The goals in this plan should have stated numerical targets for each sector, rather than loose descriptions. Even the smallest, most useless "reductions" will allow the government to claim this plan as a success in 2 years time, since there are few actual targets.

The priority areas of research, mitigation and resilience planning are good. I would like to see more detail in each and an emphasis on mitigation. Few climate scientists think that reliance plans will help much and most know that we already have enough data to take stronger action.

I would like to see an end to native forest logging included in the plan. The evidence for the value of forest sequestration is clear in the huge difference LULUCF has made in recent years.

This plan should more clearly demonstrate the principle of social equity. The transition to a low carbon future should bring everyone along. For example, I feel guilty driving an old petrol car, but I am not able to afford an EV while struggling under the housing inequity people my age suffer. Please look at the idea of a HECS type of scheme to support us all to make the necessary changes (contact Dr Saul Griffith, or Rewiring Australia for more info).

This plan could include a strategy to keep Tasmanian renewable power for Tasmanians and Tasmanian jobs - yet it includes the idea to export it.

Rather than relying on people like me to advise the Climate Change office, I would prefer to see the reinstatement of an independent Climate Change body. We vote our government in to lead us on the best science based policy. As much as I am grateful for the opportunity to have input, it takes a lot of time from my week to do so. This process seems to be testing just how little climate action can be quietly passed by the community, so that the Tas government can help their donors and mates delay the necessary emissions reductions.

Kind regards
Jasper McCormack