

To: The Select Committee on Energy Planning & Regulation in Australia

A Sensible Energy Policy for Australia

Electricity is an essential service. Australia, nor for that matter any other first world democracy, **cannot** function without an affordable, dependable, available (24/7) easy to understand (sensible) market driven Energy Policy that works from the consumer's interests *back*, rather than from the power generation industries interests forward.

In the absence of empirical evidence proving the case against CO₂¹ (*there isn't any*), the key elements of such a sensible Energy Policy would require that it;

1. Is technology agnostic; (*i.e., embraces both fossil fuels, hydro, wind, solar, geo-thermal, biomass, wave, batteries & nuclear - **all** on the table*),
2. Eliminates all subsidies & discriminatory legislation that favours one, or operates against any other technology i.e., a level playing field that's *fair to all*, with the choice of technology left entirely to the discretion of respective power generators.
3. Requires contractual obligations via AEMO auction to meet guaranteed 99.998%² power outputs in accord with clearly defined Quality of Service (QOS) standards.
4. Imposes *substantial* financial penalties upon power generators who fail to meet contractual obligations & associated QOS standards (*force majeure permitting, in the event of natural disasters e.g., earthquakes, floods & bushfires*).
5. Requires a substantial bond paid in advance to meet restoration of the environment (eg, *decommissioning & removal of all infrastructure and/or disposal / recycling costs for solar-PV panels, wind turbine blades*) as is currently required of the mining industry by way of land restoration following mining activity.
6. Repeals legislation, such as the RET³, [LRET](#), [SRES](#) plus the Safeguard Mechanism⁴ & removes the current ban on using nuclear power⁵ for power generation.

If the power generating industry finds the principles associated with this proposed Energy Policy unpalatable, simply re-nationalise the industry & return it to whence it came i.e., the responsibility of respective State Govt's.

Jim Simpson

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¹ Research by Danish scientist, Henrick Svensmark's 2018 documentary '[The Cloud Mystery](#)' clearly shows that our climate is driven primarily by the Earth's progress around the solar system (*ie., cosmic rays & clouds*), **not** CO₂ - it's an invisible, odourless, tasteless, minuscule, atmospheric trace gas essential for **all** life on Earth.

² AEMO (Australian Energy Market Operator) defined performance standard.

³ [The Renewable Energy Target: a quick guide – Parliament of Australia \(aph.gov.au\)](#)

⁴ [National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting \(Safeguard Mechanism\) Rule 2015 \(legislation.gov.au\)](#)

⁵ Repeal the ban on nuclear energy [Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Act 1998 \(legislation.gov.au\)](#).