

Press Release – Repeal of the carbon tax

17 July 2014

Climate Rescue of Wagga Inc. spokesperson Stephen James stated that although the federal government has repealed the carbon tax, the government's policy to reduce Australia's greenhouse gas emissions by at least 5% remains unchanged from that of the previous government. "A cost-effective means is needed to achieve the reduction" said Mr James. "Further, the science indicates that far deeper cuts are needed promptly."

"Most economists believe that carbon pricing is the most efficient method for this, using either an emissions trading scheme or a carbon tax."

Mr James noted that about 50 other nations and states around the world have or will soon have carbon pricing, mainly by means of emissions trading schemes. Carbon pricing is probably necessary to achieve the reductions that climate science indicates are required. The carbon tax had successfully reduced the emissions from the electricity sector by about 5 percent without much impact on households or the economy. Australian households were reimbursed for the additional costs resulting from the carbon tax. "I think Australians are going to be disappointed by how little the repeal of the carbon tax benefits their household budgets." he said.

"China has carbon pricing schemes in 7 provinces and has indicated it will move to a national emissions trading scheme. India's new government has just doubled the tax on coal and has set out plans for ambitious deployment of solar energy. The USA has had two successful long-standing emissions trading scheme involving a number of states and has outlined plans to cut power emissions by 30 per cent nationally through executive orders." said Mr James.

For more information please contact Stephen James, Climate Rescue of Wagga Inc., 0429 653 968

References

Carbon price was reducing emissions:

<https://ccep.crawford.anu.edu.au/publication/ccep-working-paper/4388/impact-carbon-price-australias-electricity-demand-supply-and>

China, UK, India and other countries move forward on carbon pricing

<http://reneweconomy.com.au/2014/chinauk-climate-vows-mean-game-tony-abbott-95150>

<http://reneweconomy.com.au/2014/modi-accelerates-india-solar-revolution-doubles-tax-on-coal-57890>

<http://reneweconomy.com.au/2014/rolling-coal-abbott-blows-black-smoke-into-australian-economy-83562>

[http://climatecommission.gov.au/wp-](http://climatecommission.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/climatecommission_internationalReport_20120821.pdf)

[content/uploads/climatecommission_internationalReport_20120821.pdf](http://climatecommission.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/climatecommission_internationalReport_20120821.pdf)

The Climate Commission said that by 2013, 33 countries and 18 sub-national jurisdictions will have a carbon price in place. These schemes could be expected to cover around 850 million people, around 30 per cent of the global economy and around 20 per cent of global emissions.

Opinion of scientific academies and institutes

Australian Academy of Science:

<http://www.science.org.au/publications/science-climate-change-questions-and-answers>

US National Academy of the Sciences: <http://nas-sites.org/americasclimatechoices/>

American Association for the Advancement of Science: <http://whatweknow.aaas.org/>

The Royal Society: <https://royalsociety.org/policy/projects/climate-evidence-causes/>

Wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scientific_opinion_on_climate_change

The site gives numerous links to study and summarises “The scientific opinion on climate change is that the Earth's climate system is unequivocally warming, and it is more than 90% certain that humans are causing it through activities that increase concentrations of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, such as deforestation and burning fossil fuels.”