



Jane Prentice MP

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR RYAN

16 December 2015

Mr Malcolm Roberts
180 Haven Road
PULLENVALE QLD 4069

Dear Mr Roberts *Malcolm*

Thank you for your letter dated 11 November 2015.

I apologise for the delay in response. However, your letter's arrival coincided with a particularly busy period in Canberra leading to the final sitting weeks before recess, as well as several delegations and committee hearings which took me out of the state.

As the Federal Member for Ryan, I have persistently advocated your views and concerns to the Government, including arranging personal meetings between you Minister Hunt.

Your recent letter seems to indicate that you did not receive a copy of the letter from the Minister for Environment, the Hon Greg Hunt MP, dated 10 October 2015 and forwarded by my office.

Please find an additional copy for your records.

Yours sincerely

Jane
JANE PRENTICE MP
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR RYAN

enc



The Hon Greg Hunt MP

Minister for the Environment

MC15-033461

Mrs Jane Prentice MP
Member for Ryan
PO Box 704
INDOOROOPILLY QLD 4068

RECEIVED
8 OCT 2015

1 OCT 2015

Dear Mrs Prentice

Jane

BY:

I refer to your letter of 4 August 2015 concerning climate change on behalf of your constituent, Mr Malcolm Roberts. I understand you also wrote to my Parliamentary Secretary, the Hon Bob Baldwin MP, about issues that Mr Roberts has raised with you on this matter.

Mr Baldwin and I have previously met with and written to Mr Roberts regarding his views on the science behind climate change. I appreciate Mr Roberts' deep interest in this topic.

As we have previously outlined, the Australian Government accepts that climate change is a serious environmental issue and that mankind makes a contribution. This is supported by strong scientific evidence, including from experts from the Commonwealth Science and Industrial Research Organisation and the Bureau of Meteorology. I respect that Mr Roberts holds different views about the science of climate change, and I accept there are many uncertainties in what impacts Australia and other countries will face in the future. However, the Government has been advised of the serious risks that climate change poses for the Australian economy and environment, and it is our task to prudently and responsibly manage for these risks.

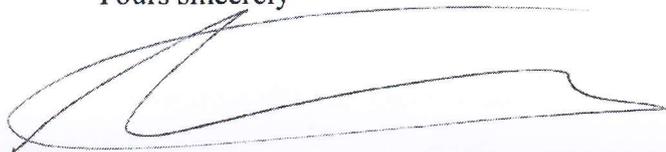
In this context, Australia is working closely with other countries towards an effective climate change agreement at the Paris conference in December this year. Climate change is a global issue that requires action by all countries. For this reason, the Government has announced that Australia will reduce its emissions to 26-28 per cent below 2005 levels by 2030. This is a fair contribution for Australia, is in step with the actions of other countries, and aligns with our national interests and circumstances.

I can assure Mr Roberts that the actions the Government is taking to meet our climate change targets have been designed so that they do not damage the Australian economy, while delivering valuable co-benefits. In particular, Australia will meet its 2030 target through policies built on the proven Direct Action approach, which improve productivity, reduce costs and drive innovation. At the core of Direct Action is the Emissions Reduction Fund, a policy that is already achieving results. More than 47 million tonnes of abatement were contracted in the first auction under the Fund and a second auction is scheduled for 4-5 November. Many projects being supported by the Fund are delivering co-benefits to Australian businesses, communities and land-holders. For example, reforestation can reduce erosion, improve water quality, address salinity and provide habitat for native species.

Further information about the actions Australia is taking on climate change, including the Emissions Reduction Fund, is available at: www.environment.gov.au/climate-change/international.

I have copied this letter to Mr Baldwin. Thank you for bringing Mr Roberts' concerns to my attention.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Greg Hunt', written over a horizontal line.

Greg Hunt