

Dear Members of the Clean Energy Finance Corporation,

I am writing to let you know in the strongest possible terms, that I demand a zero emissions energy future for Australia.

I do not believe that economic prosperity can come at the expense of the environment - that is a fool's game and one that completely ignores the immutable fact that we depend on the environment for our very existence.

We cannot continue to pollute our air, water and soil and expect to get away with it. Do we want ours to be known by History as the selfish, short-sighted and greedy generation who let it all slip away because we didn't care enough or have the guts to make the necessary changes?

If we put the necessary human resources into developing first a truly far reaching energy efficient lifestyle and economy through things like energy efficient urban form and building design, and relocalisation of our economies and communities, and then into meeting our reduced energy needs with renewables, we need not compromise any true measures of standard of living. Many of the activities we engage in do not add to our standard of living, but detract from it by promoting ill health, and social and economic disconnection.

Imagine if Australia became known as the 'lucky country' not because of the natural resources we exploit, often at the expense of the environment, but because of the human resources we employed in developing a renewables-based economy that really could sustain us now, and future generations well into the long-term. An economy based not on simplistically blowing all our natural resource capital heedless of the environmental and human cost, but on ingeniously designing and managing an ecology-based economy based on whole systems understanding, and deep care and respect for each other and the Earth.

This could be our future, but it will be much harder to develop it if political leaders like yourselves lack the guts, intelligence and foresight to help make it happen. The hard truth is, if we don't do it now, it could soon be too late.

Sincerely,

Kerry Dawborn