

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, 15 July 2023 1:20 PM
To: Climate Reporting
Subject: Response letter to the Australian government's consultation paper on climate disclosure standards

WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY



14 July 2023

Re: Response letter to the Australian government's consultation paper on climate disclosure standards

Dear Treasurer,

I am [REDACTED], a PhD student. student in accounting at Western Sydney University (WSU). I am writing to you to express my strong support for the Australian government's consultation paper on climate disclosure standards (Australian Government, Treasury, 26 June 2023). I believe that these standards are essential to accelerate the transition to a low-carbon economy in Australia.

I started my carbon accounting study in 2018 in my master of research degree, and now I am taking a PhD. Study in Qingliang Tang's team. He is the professor of WSU who has worked in the carbon accounting area for almost 13 years and his team has been recognised as the major contributors in carbon accounting literature. The growing evidence shows that climate change has become one of the most pressing topics in this era, and we need to take action to reduce its side effects. By making compulsory disclosure requirements, business and investors will be aware of climate risks and opportunities

I am particularly pleased that the consultation paper proposes to align Australia's climate disclosure standards with the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) recommendations, as well as the recently released IFRS and ISSB sustainability standards S2: climate related disclosure. These standards are widely recognized as the gold standard for climate disclosure, and I believe that they would provide a strong foundation for Australia's own standards. These standards will enable Australia to prepare for the challenges and opportunities of climate change and achieve net zero in 2050.

Finally, my classmates and me think that Australian universities should arrange new courses on carbon disclosure, carbon accounting, and carbon assurance to help companies and accounting professions to prepare carbon reports based on the new standards. Now the Australian Universities lack the systematic carbon accounting courses while carbon accounting education at university level is an important part of the management for the forthcoming shift from corporate voluntary to mandatory climate disclosure.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the sender.