



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

TONY WINDSOR MP
INDEPENDENT
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR NEW ENGLAND

Shop 5
259 Peel Street
TAMWORTH NSW 2340

All Mail: PO Box 963
TAMWORTH NSW 2340

Ph: (02) 6761 3080
Toll Free: 1300 301 839
Fax: (02) 6761 3380
e-mail: Tony.Windsor.MP@aph.gov.au
Web Page: www.tonywindsor.com.au

Media Release

26 September 2008

Windsor to introduce Climate Change Bill

Provisions to deal with the threats posed by climate change will be proposed by the Independent Member for New England Tony Windsor in a Private Members Bill to be introduced into the Federal Parliament within the next month.

Mr Windsor's Bill has had input into its formulation from environmental groups but also takes into account practicalities of minimising the impact of any changes on the national and local economies.

"Australia and the world must not only acknowledge that our current practices of energy production and way of living has and still is having an adverse impact on our environment but also that unless we change our ways then the sustainability of our planet is at risk.

Principles of ecologically sustainable development will also underpin the Bill including the 'precautionary principle', intergenerational equity, conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity as well as polluter pays mechanisms," Mr Windsor said.

The Bill will have targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 2020 not exceeding a level which is 30% below 1990 emission levels and by 2050 not exceeding a level which is 80% below the 1990 emission levels.

It will embrace energy efficiency guidelines, encouragement of renewable energy options including biofuels and more support for research and development of technology in the field including carbon sequestration in soils and carbon capture and storage.

The Bill will also ensure that Australia meets its obligations under the Kyoto Protocol and reaffirms my position on NO nuclear power reactors in Australia," Mr Windsor said.

Mr Windsor believes that his Bill gives voice to thousands of Australians' desires that emission reduction targets that will make a real difference long term be set.

"The issue is one where both sides of the Parliament should come together to actually determine a bipartisan approach to solving a global problem and encourage initiative and new technologies.

For those who say it is pointless for Australia to lead the climate change debate, if China and India aren't part of a global plan I say, why not?

Australia has lost many of its climate change innovators through government neglect.

We should embrace the opportunities that a greenhouse economy will expose," Mr Windsor said.

For further information contact Tony Windsor, Ph (02) 6761 3080 or 0427 66 8868