

The logo features the number '350' in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. The '3' is stylized with a circular arrow around it, indicating a cycle or a target.

Thursday 2nd September

## Civil society statement on a credible plan on pollution and climate change



We are a diverse group of leading civil society organisations that represent a broad cross-section of Australians.



We believe that Australia urgently needs a price on pollution as the most cost-effective way to reduce our greenhouse pollution and its impacts on our climate, health, environment, and security.

We strongly support the establishment of a multi-partisan climate change committee as part of a broader effort to increase accountability and transparency on climate change policy and to ensure Australia moves quickly to establish a price on pollution and respond to climate change.



It is well established that the longer we delay action, the more expensive action will be. It is also well established that an equitable, efficient and effective response to climate change requires major polluters to take responsibility for the pollution they cause. As citizens and consumers, we will share this responsibility.



A price on and commitments to reduce pollution, alongside the Renewable Energy Target and a national energy efficiency strategy, will provide incentives for business to shift to cleaner energy and products. The current uncertainty surrounding pollution pricing has undermined investor confidence and is delaying the long-term investments that are necessary to shift to a cleaner economy and provide abatement opportunities for regional Australia.



There is strong community support for urgent action to tackle pollution and climate change. Most Australians recognise that pollution is currently at levels that threaten the wellbeing of our nation and the lives of the world's poor -- who are most at risk from the impacts of the changing climate. We need to begin immediately to make the change to clean energy to ensure there is a future for all of the world's children.



A credible and effective plan to reduce pollution and respond to climate change will release billions of dollars of new investments. This will make clean energy cheaper, ensure major emitters take responsibility for the pollution they cause, create thousands of new jobs in clean energy industries and new opportunities in regional Australia.



We urge all parties involved in negotiations for the formation of the next Government to include a strong platform for action on pollution and climate change.



Specifically, we urge all members and senators to commit the next Australian Parliament to implement a price and a limit on carbon pollution, effective from 2011, that will provide long-term confidence and encouragement to enable investments in clean technologies in Australia



and developing countries, that will ensure that the vulnerable are not adversely impacted, and will set us on the right course to meet the challenge of climate change.



**Signed by:**

350.org Australia

Australian Conservation Foundation

Australian Council of Social Services

Australian Council of Trade Unions

Australian Youth Climate Coalition

Climate Action Centre

Climate Action Network Australia

The Climate Institute

Climate Change Australia – Hastings

Climate Change Balmain - Roselle

Construction, Forestry, Mining and Energy Union

Environment Victoria

GetUp

Greenpeace Australia Pacific

Oxfam Australia

Terrain Natural Resource Management

Total Environment Centre

Uniting Church in Australia

World Vision Australia

WWF Australia



TOTAL ENVIRONMENT CENTRE INC



World Vision

