

## Letter to Green supporters from Senator Bob Brown – 04.05.09

Dear Greens member,

We are writing to let you know about the strong stance the Green MPs are taking on the Government's CPRS 'emissions trading' legislation and to ask you to take some URGENT action.

As Greens senators, we cannot support the Government's 5% CPRS target. In its current form, we cannot support this bill. But what we do want is to ensure real domestic action on climate change and ensure that Australia can play a leading role in Copenhagen at the end of the year. We have written to the Prime Minister to say that unless the Government accepts the unconditional pre-Copenhagen target of at least 25% by 2020, to be met regardless of global action, to be lifted to 40% by 2020 in the event of a strong agreement at Copenhagen, the Greens will not be supporting the Bill.

We are also demanding substantial changes to the design of the scheme, in particular:

- Removing compensation to polluters;
- Inclusion of savings that could be made by halting native forest and woodland destruction;
- No compensation for existing electricity generators;
- Inclusion of transport fuel in the scheme;
- Mechanisms to include voluntary abatement in the scheme; and
- Mechanisms to increase transparency and accountability of the scheme.

The Greens' greenhouse gas reduction target is unchanged. We are firmly committed to at least 40% cuts below 1990 levels by 2020 on the way to zero net carbon as soon as feasible.

We Greens' have done an excellent job of making climate change a recognised issue in our communities. The passion and relentless efforts of every member of our party has helped make climate change and the health of the planet a major political issue.

THE NEXT FEW DAYS WILL BE CRITICAL AND WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT. Please do all you can to back our position. Please write to your local papers, call talk back radio, tell your friends, workmates, networks and the community about why we're taking this stand for the planet. You can find all the information you need, including fact sheets, media releases and flyers, on our website. We will be in touch to let you know of our national campaign roll out. Contact your local branch and organise a climate change action, download flyers from the website, and give them to your friends and workmates or letterbox your street. Sign up to our actions list for more information and to make sure you are informed of actions taking place around the country.

We look forward to continuing our work with you to ensure climate change is at the forefront of the political agenda from now to the next election and beyond.

For the Earth

Yours Sincerely

Bob Brown, Christine Milne, Rachel Siewert, Scott Ludlam and Sarah Hanson-Young