

28 November 2011



**Environment  
Institute of  
Australia and  
New Zealand**

Dr. Lynne Williams  
Review of Climate Change Act  
State Government of Victoria  
PO Box 500  
East Melbourne 8002

Via email: [legislation.reviewenquiries@climatechange.vic.gov.au](mailto:legislation.reviewenquiries@climatechange.vic.gov.au)

Dear Dr. Williams,

**Re: Review of the *Climate Change Act 2010***

The Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand (EIANZ) is pleased to have this opportunity to provide a submission to the Department of Sustainability and Environment on the consultation of the Review of the *Climate Change Act 2010*.

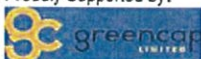
The EIANZ is the peak professional body representing environmental practitioners in Australasia. Our mission is to promote independent and interdisciplinary discourse on environmental issues. The Institute advocates that 'best' environmental practices be delivered by competent and ethical environmental practitioners.

I am forwarding this submission to you on behalf of the Victorian Division of the EIANZ. Our membership is represented by a diverse range of technical disciplines including scientists, policy makers, engineers, lawyers and economists.

The introduction of a national carbon price as set out in the national Clean Energy Legislative Package is welcomed by the EIANZ and is a positive step in providing a vision and mechanism for moving to a clean energy future. The Victorian *Climate Change Act 2010* has the opportunity to complement this package, and the EIANZ commends the climate change policy objectives as outlined in the Act, and views the Act as being crucial to:

- Supporting the national Clean Energy Legislative Package in achieving its vision for a clean energy future
- Meeting its moral obligations with respect to a global response to addressing the challenge of climate change, as citizens of a global community and as being amongst the highest emitters of greenhouse gas emissions per capita
- Victoria continuing to provide a leadership role in tackling climate change

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GPO Box 211 Melbourne VIC 3001  
Tel: 03 9654 7473 Fax 03 9650 1242  
Web: [www.eianz.org](http://www.eianz.org)  
ABN 39 364 288 752

The EIANZ wholly supports as a minimum, Victoria's legislated emissions reduction target of 20 per cent by 2020 (based on 2000 levels). A reduction in this target would be considered to be a retrograde step in abating the worst impacts of climate change.

A responsible and balanced approach to decision making is recommended through maintaining the requirement for decision makers to take climate change into account when making specified decisions.

The EIANZ supports amendments to the *Environment Protection Act 1970* to enable the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) to recommend that the Governor in Council make regulations to allow the EPA to regulate the emission of greenhouse gas substances. EPA is considered to be an appropriate authority to regulate greenhouse gas emissions, as the environmental regulator and as a body with experience in regulating environmental emissions and discharges. This supports a holistic approach to environmental regulation.

EIANZ welcomes any further opportunities to discuss details of this submission or other consultations undertaken by the Department of Sustainability and Environment. I can be contacted at [VicEianzPolicy@gmail.com](mailto:VicEianzPolicy@gmail.com).

Yours sincerely,



Sri Patnaikuni  
EIANZ Victorian Division  
Chair – Policy Sub-committee



Simone Stevenson  
Committee Member – EIANZ Victorian Division