

Australian Productivity Commission,  
Level 2, 15 Moore Street,  
CANBERRA CITY,  
ACT 2600

11th June 2012

Dear Commissioners,

The main barrier to effective climate change adaptation is widespread doubt that the recent warming period was entirely due to industrial carbon dioxide emissions. Many Australians are also acutely aware that the competitiveness of our industries depends on continuing access to low cost base-load power.

The Terms of Reference of the Commission's public inquiry asks them to identify any specific barrier that may act to inhibit adaptation to unavoidable climate change. Natural climate change cycles are inevitable. Studies of why their significance has been minimised in public discussion led myself and other Earth scientists to closely examine Report 4, 2007 of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. In September last year, an error was found in their definition of "Greenhouse Effect".

The wording of this erroneous definition includes terms like "thermal infrared radiation", "troposphere", "solar radiation", and "radiative forcing" that may not be readily understood by some meteorologists and members of the public. However, the false concept that means no Greenhouse Effect is possible from the way IPCC define it, is very well known and immediately apparent.

Everyone making submissions or participating in public discussion would know that heat radiated from colder things cannot cause an increase in the temperature of anything that is already warmer. It would be regarded as ridiculous to suggest that one could get warmer if the radiator bar were made of ice!

The IPCC definition of "Greenhouse Effect" on page 946 of their report claims that low level radiant heat from the cold upper atmosphere (average  $-19^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) traps heat in the warmer air below it (average  $+14^{\circ}\text{C}$  at ground level) to result in increased temperatures and global warming. This is wrong. It contravenes a fundamental law of physics and may have been overlooked by climatologists compiling the lengthy IPCC report because of the confusing scientific jargon used and the necessary attention to their extraordinarily difficult task of assessing a truly prodigious volume of global meteorological data.

Because of the erroneous definition there can be no causal link between increasing  $\text{CO}_2$  in the atmosphere and the recently observed increase in average global temperatures. This invalidates the premise on which much of the international IPCC report is based.

A brief abstract and statement of the nature of the IPCC error (Abstract wrong Greenhouse Effect.pdf), a short technical report on the erroneous definition (IPCC Report 4 invalidation.pdf) and a non-technical explanation of natural climate change cycles (Natural\_Climate\_Change v2.pdf) are submitted herewith.

It is urgently necessary to draw the Commission's attention to the fundamental defect in the IPCC Report. The Australian public is aware that the dire predictions of prolonged drought in 2008 have not eventuated and that average global temperatures have trended slightly downward since 1998. Confusion arising from non-resolution of what has been called "the climate change debate" and an uncertain future for Australian productive industry have become the main barrier to effective climate change adaptation.

Yours sincerely,

JOHN ELLISTON, AM