

December 2023 Federal Members

Hon Catherine King MP Member for Ballarat

5 Lydiard Street North Ballarat, VIC, 3350 (03) 5338 8123

# Dear Hon Catherine King MP

Many that live within your electorate request a meeting/forum regarding critical action on avoiding climate catastrophe: the 3Rs - *Reduce, Remove, Repair.* 

### Reduce

- Stop subsidising fossil fuels.
- Support the Pocock Duty of Care <u>Bill</u>.
- Change the <u>water trigger</u> legislation to include fracking *before* fracking begins at Beetaloo, and stop funding for the Middle Arm Project.
- Update the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 to include climate impacts.
- Immediately release key details from the Government's Climate Risk Assessment Report.
- Commit to an urgent phase out of fossil fuel exports, which represent around 3.6% of global emissions.

#### Remove

- End native forest logging and land use change that releases CO2 and reduce sequestration potential.
- Commit to a real increase in tree and vegetation cover.

# Repair

Proactively campaign for urgent R&D into immediate cooling.

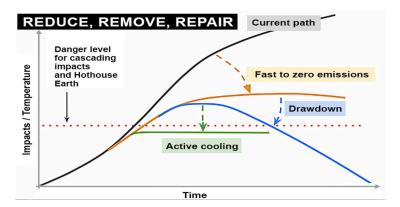
### Global heating

2023 will be the hottest year in 125,000 years. October broke global monthly heat records for the <u>fifth time</u> <u>this year</u>. 17 November was the hottest day ever recorded (<u>over 2°C</u>). The rate of warming is speeding up. We may see 1.5°C <u>by 2030</u> and around 3°C by 2050. Between 1.5°C and 2°C <u>we risk</u> "Hothouse Earth", from which there is no return to a safe climate on a human timescale.

Avoiding climate catastrophe and restoring a safe climate requires urgent action on each of the <u>3Rs:</u> <u>Reduce, Remove, Repair</u>:

Reduce emissions to near zero across all sectors at emergency speed.

- Remove excess greenhouse gases to reduce concentrations.
- Repair create an immediate cooling because Reduce and Remove alone will not reduce current
  warming fast enough. Urgent research and Development on Repair/creating an immediate cooling is
  critical to prevent further warming, as shown below.



# What is Australia doing on the 3Rs?

- Reduce? There are 116 new fossil fuel projects in the pipeline, not counting a number several advanced projects actively supported by Australian governments, including fracking the Beetaloo and Lake Eyre Basins. Emissions from the 116 projects alone could release 4.8 billion tonnes of CO2 (excludes methane). The Safeguard Mechanism would only apply to about 7% of these emissions and "offsets" would cover around 2% of the 4.8 billion tonnes. Further, the government has "wildly underestimated" emissions from Beetaloo There is no roadmap to the Government's own goal of net zero by 2050. Australia's fossil fuel exports represent 3.6% of global emissions.
- <u>Remove?</u> Australia has been called out internationally for using <u>dodgy offsets</u> for the appearance of reduced emissions.
- Repair? Research is being conducted into cloud brightening over the Great Barrier Reef.

### The Climate Rescue Accord

The <u>Climate Rescue Accord</u> wants to "initiate action to hold global average temperature rise to the minimum possible, ensuring 2°C is not breached and temperatures return below 0.5°C, and set a course to reduce greenhouse gas concentrations to preindustrial (safe) levels". The Climate Rescue Accord <u>goals</u> include minimum demands across the 3Rs.

## The leadership vacuum and moral culpability

You were elected as a leader. As a leader you must step into the climate leadership vacuum and be the change we need. Cross the floor, anything! Do whatever is necessary for the common good and the good of your children.

When can you please facilitate at your earliest convenience a meeting or forum in your electorate?