



No one likes to think of themselves as narrow-minded, so I hope you live up to your self-image and read this letter with an open mind. I take it that like me, you are not an expert on climate science. If you haven't had peer-reviewed papers published in the field, then you are not an expert.

The expert consensus on climate change is overwhelming, unambiguous and definitive. It is based on literally 1000s of man-years of research, meticulously studied and peer-reviewed, based on a mountain of experimental evidence & observation (not just modelling), research done throughout the world at 100s of independent institutions, in many countries, over many decades.

All this research is distilled in what are perhaps the most peer-reviewed & heavily scrutinised scientific documents ever produced, the IPCC reports, the latest of which (2007) say that:

- Global warming is already happening
- Most of it is very likely man-made (95% certain)
- Warming & sea level rise very likely to keep happening for centuries to come
 - Summer Arctic ice could be gone by 2015
- Sea levels set to rise by up to 2m by 2100 (this would displace 100s of millions of people)
- If we pass a "point of no return" due to carbon feedback cycles, temperatures would go up by 6.5C . There's a good chance we'll pass the "point of no return" if we allow the average temperature to increase by more than 1.7C (we're currently at 0.8C and rising).
- A temperature rise of just 3.5C would result in 40%-70% of species going extinct, and over 50% of the planet would be in moderate to extreme drought.

All the above would be an apocalyptic disaster for the (soon to be) 9 billion people of the world. This isn't hyperbole – you can't feed 9 billion people when 50% of the planet is in drought, and the sea has risen by 2m.

Please don't believe me – please look this up yourself. These aren't the mad rantings of an eco-doomsday cult – these are the considered findings of sober scientists.

No doubt you love your children & grandchildren. I don't doubt that you do. Collectively all of our actions will shape our future: what sort of future are you shaping for your grandchildren? What will you say to your grandchildren when millions of hectares of Australian farmland lie desolate, blighted by a never ending drought?

What will you say when events like the Black Saturday fires (and the morgue-filling heatwave that preceded them) become the norm?

What will you say, when our cities run out of water?

What will you say, when water & productive land shortages across the world spark war, and the Earth's climate refugees come to our shores in their millions? All the above may sound fanciful, but all of it has already started happening, and is set to get much, much worse, unless we act now to de-carbonise the world economy.