

Hon. Julie Bishop MP  
PO Box 2010  
Subiaco, WA 6904

25 May, 2015

Dear Minister

I am writing to you in your capacity as Australia's lead negotiator at the UN climate talks in Paris, December 2015. Alongside your role as Foreign Minister, you are also my local Member for Curtin. I believe that you take seriously your role as representative and voice on critical issues, evidenced by your first parliamentary speech. So today I write as one of your constituents, to ask that you use this opportunity to advocate for effective actions to address global warming.

I write as an individual concerned about energy and global warming, and as a woman who wonders what lies ahead for future generations within and beyond Australia. I am one of a majority of Australians who support strong action on climate change. We want Australia to be a leader in climate solutions, to retain a significant Renewable Energy Target and eliminate the subsidies going to fossil fuels.

The world wants action on climate change. China, the US and the European Union have made commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 2030. Pope Francis has made the issue a priority in his coming encyclical, directed to the Catholic Church's 1.2 billion members.

Like many Australians, I strongly support the pursuit of knowledge and technologies for alternative energy production. It is incredible to me that in this country – blessed with abundant sun, wind and waves – we lag behind in the development and use of alternative energies, and rely so heavily on fossil fuels. We are one of the wealthiest countries in the world per capita. We have a responsibility to use our wealth, our skills and our expertise to make a positive difference in the negotiation and implementation of clean renewable energy alternatives. I hope that you will champion this responsibility by committing Australia to ambitious carbon reduction targets.

This is the way of the future. This affects all of us.

Please use your power as Australia's representative to advocate for what most Australians want: a safe climate, a productive forward-looking economy, and fair and healthy communities.

Yours sincerely

Laura Dales