

Nation continues to wallow in renewable fantasy

Letter published in The Australian, 6 July. (*Changes by Ed to letter sent on 4 July are in square brackets. A more up to date letter sent on 5 July included references to the ESB Chair's statement that a price reduction cannot be guaranteed and Abbott's statement that NEG has no price target*).

[Former PM] Tony Abbott has shown [in a public address made last evening and widely reported] that there are strong arguments favouring Australia's withdrawal from the Paris accord and a significant reduction of the existing targets requiring lower carbon emissions. He has also made a strong critique of the national energy guarantee proposed by the Turnbull government and which Labor supports in principle.

[Yesterday PM] Turnbull says that politics, partisanship, ideology, have not served us well. "Engineering and economics are the only guides that will ensure that we have a reliable and affordable energy system". He said the NEG offered the prospect of lower electricity prices [and "You don't have to take my word for it."] The Energy Security Board has said it will reduce wholesale generation costs by 23 per cent and it will reduce household bills as a result.

This exposes the [utter] failure of the Turnbull government to ensure that analyses of global warming have resort to expert skeptics as well as [the supposed] expert believers. Abbott's analysis and conclusion is clearly based on an examination of both sides whereas Turnbull relies on only one. [Unless both sides are properly examined a major proportion of the Australian community will continue to reject the Turnbull view and its election prospects].

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