I am responding to your invitation for submissions by November 3rd 2022.

I note the Court Judgment of August 26, 2021, orders the EPA "to develop environmental quality objectives, guidelines and policies to ensure environmental protection from climate change."

The National Broadcaster, the ABC, put it more simply that "CO2 is to be controlled as a pollutant".

I will concentrate my comments on the effect of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. My comments would be similar for other greenhouse gases but with an effect of several magnitudes less.

WHAT IS POLLUTION

Commonly pollution is considered in negative terms such as "to make unclean, to foul" (Macquarie); or "to contaminate, to taint" (Brewer); or "to make harmful to human, animal or plant" (Chambers).

I note that the PEO Act1997 defines
air pollution means the emission into the air of any air impurity. and ***air impurity*** includes gases, .
Put simply, the Act defines "pollution as any gas into the air".
Thus a pollutant could be good or bad.

CONSEQUENTLY, I believe, this puts AN ONUS ON THE EPA **TO CONSIDER THE BENEFITS OF CO2** as well as the drawbacks. Additionally, any formulation of policy also needs to consider the costs and benefits of NOT pursuing that policy proposal. And likewise for alternative policies.

CLIMATE CHANGE,
and the IPCC, AR6 AND SPM

A) Steve Koonin, wrote his 2021 book 'Unsettled, what climate science tells us, what it doesn't, and why it matters'.
Looking at the background papers, and the AR6 he has illustrated many instances where the underlying papers to AR6 are not reasonably reported, where AR6 comments are incorrectly reported in the Summary For Policymakers, and where the SPM is incorrectly reviewed in news.

ANY POLICY OR ACTION OF THE EPA NEEDS **TO ACCURATELY REFLECT THE UNDERLYING SCIENCE**.

B) Koonin also points to AR6 matters that are just wrong, or fail to represent the historical perspective.
. . . lack of scientific integrity . . . tends to persuade rather than inform . . . withholds essential context or what doesn't fit . . . are in a double bind between being effective and being honest . . . produce scary predictions . . . the science does not support what is portrayed.
And that is just the introduction.

C) Scientific proof is needed. If the EPA intends to control or regulate CO2, IT IS INCUMBENT ON THE EPA **TO PROVE THAT CO2 AFFECTS CLIMATE**.
I cannot prove a negative and so the EPA needs to prove the positive.
I note that Professor Ian Plimer says " nobody has yet scientifically proven CO2 causes global warming or climate change".
Prof Dr Hermann Harde states "There exists no evidence for AGW".

D) 97% of scientists agree is not correct. It came from either one of two sources; in one it was from 67 of 69 scientists of over 13,000 surveyed; in the other it came from reviewing published papers, and was subjectively "inferred" even when not stated.
In contrast over 30,000 scientists with over 9,000 PhD's signed The Petition Project that "there is no convincing scientific evidence".
And CLINTEL has over 1100 scientist signatories who currently state "There is NO climate EMERGENCY".

DO NOTHING.
ONE ALTERNATIVE IS TO DO NOTHING AND NOT CONTROL CO2.
THESE ARE THE ECONOMIC COSTS.
The economic costs have been calculated as follows:-
2008 July Ross Garnaut . . .with continuing emissions the Australian standard of living will be between 5% and 10% lower than the otherwise four fold growth in GDP pp. to 2100 (So my ancestors will be only 3.6 to 3.8 times as well off!)
2013 IPCC AR5 Working Group 2. The effect of unchecked global warming to the end of the century projects a temperature rise of 3C degrees, and its impact on world economic activity would be 3% or less.
2018 NCA Volume 2. The impacts on the US of a very large 6C degrees warming to 2090 would diminish the US economy by about 4%. In contrast the US economy has grown at an annual average 3.2% since 1930.
These sound good to me!

ADAPTION

ANOTHER ALTERNATIVE POLICY IS TO ADAPT to changes in the climate, in contrast to MITIGATING against changes. COMPARE THE COSTS OF MITIGATING WITH ADAPTION
Andrew Montford. Adaption is far cheaper than mitigation. UK adaption may cost GBP10BLN once, whereas mitigation will cost GBP 50BLN annually.
In 2018 Daniel Wild calculated the cost of mitigation for Australia at $52BLN 2018 - 2030.

MY PERSONAL CALCULATIONS
Most natural things fluctuate and cycle, but for illustration, assuming at a moment in time, that CO2 is 420 ppm and global average temperature is 15 degrees centigrade, C,
then,
I calculate that if NSW went to NET ZERO tomorrow, CO2 would be 419.99 and temp be 15.0
I calculate that if AUSTRALIA went to NET ZERO, CO2 would be 419.93 and temp would be 15.0
I calculate that if PARIS signatories went, CO2 would be 418.49 and temp 15.0,
(but if you believe in IPCC's ECS of 3, temperature may be 14.95C)

IN CONCLUSION

In order to regulate green house gases, I ask the EPA:-

TO PRODUCE THE SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE that CO2 CAUSES CLIMATE CHANGE.
TO OUTLINE and CONSIDER the BENEFITS OF CO2 AGAINST any DRAWBACKS.
TO ACCURATELY REFLECT the UNDERLYING SCIENCE in any POLICY or ACTION.
TO BE CAREFUL FOLLOWING ANY IPCC STATEMENTS.

TO OUTLINE that any POLICY or ACTION IS BETTER than DOING NOTHING.
TO OUTLINE that any POLICY or ACTION IS BETTER than ADAPTING.
TO SET GOALS IN TERMS OF TEMPERATURE AND CO2 CONCENTRATION.

These are the main points as contribution to my submission.

DISCUSSION
I now wish to turn to some discussion around these points. Essentially this is a literature review from my last 3 months reading. I trust I have faithfully abbreviated the quotes.

BENEFITS OF CARBON DIOXIDE that Professor Ian Plimer writes are:-

1. CO_2 is food for plants, crops and vegetables.
2. More CO_2 in the air increases crop growth, and yields.
3. Life has thrived whenever there has been a high atmospheric carbon dioxide concentration.
4. Polar bears are thriving; the Great Barrier Reef is thriving; tropical islands are expanding.
5. Extinctions are minimal. There are some 1.5M species described of up to 50M extant. There have been 5 mass extinction events of up to 96%, and 21 minor events. Globally in the last 500 years, 77 mammal species of more than 5,000 have become extinct, 34 amphibian of 6,000, 140 bird of 10,000, nil rainforest birds, nil rainforest mammals, and just one European bird.

Alex Epstein, writes in Fossil Future.
Human flourishing is directly related to the amount of energy used. Abundant food, clean water, quality air, sanitation, medical care, fulfilling work, a nourishing and protected environment, and the amount of leisure are directly related to our use of fossil fuels. Ultra low cost, effective, reliable fuel has enabled humanity to rise out of poverty, reduce pollution and make liveable the fundamentally hostile earth. We have seen a mastery of drought, fire, storms, rising seas, and climate related deaths.

CO_2, with water and sunshine, is an essential part of photosynthesis, the basis of all plant life and a vital part of human life.

WHAT ACTION TO TAKE
Some comments include;
Don't disconnect what works before we have a replacement. Chris Uhlmann, ABC Sept 2022
Whatever the UK is doing about Climate Change will have no effect on your climate. It will have a profound effect on your economy. It is clear that there is no policy that is better than doing nothing. Prof Richard Lindzen.
Despite the Paris accord, the US EIA assess that global coal consumption will continue to grow moderately in volume, even whilst the main growth of energy comes from gas and renewables.
When will they figure out that reducing CO_2 emissions is pointless. The Manhattan Contrarian.
The planet has been warming for the last 14,000 years since the last ice age.
Professor Christopher Scotese states "most of the Earth's history since the explosion of life . . . nearly 600 Million years ago . . . was hotter than our climate today - a lot hotter." 21-10-22

SUICIDE PACT FOR AUSTRALIA TO FORCE THE CLOSURE OF

COAL FIRED POWER STATIONS

Net Zero is a suicide pact. Dr Patrick Moore.
Net Zero only works if everyone does. Dr Ron Wallace 4-7-22
Across the world, 345 new coal fired power plants are being built. Matt Canavan.
583 Power stations are under development. Schellenberger.
Australia has 24.

Not widely reported in Australia, was the **Shanghai Co-operation Organisation Summit** in Samarkand, Sept 16,17, 2022, with Xi Jinping, Narendra Modi, Vladimir Putin, Racep Erdogan, and a few others, as reported in Newsmax by Vijay Jayaraj, in relation to energy they stated "we will not be co-erced . . . we will delay renewables, and aggressively increase fossil fuels". The declaration on energy from the Summit reads, "to use fossil fuels and increase investment in their exploration and production . . . and to provide aid to other countries in the form of finance and technology to provide accessible and affordable energy." That is CLEAR, STRONG AND DEFINITE. CHINA, INDIA, AND RUSSIA spoken for. (Now, I cannot find the reference, but even Turkey has at least 58 coal fired power stations under development.)

CO2 AS THE SINGULAR CONTROL KNOB TO CLIMATE

Anthropogenic CO2 is some 3 to 4% of total atmospheric carbon dioxide, and in NSW some 30% comes from burning fossil fuels.
If ever you have been in an aeroplane at 30,000 feet looking down, we appear almost inconsequential in the landscape. We are such a small part of this planet. Australia's science nerd, Karl Kruszelnicki calculated that all of humanity would fit inside a cube of 1KM. I have seen a similar description that all of humanity, could stand inside a square of 27Km. Steve Koonin thinks it is the height of hubris to imply that only one factor contributes to global warming and that it is human emissions of CO2. Professor Ian Plimer keeps asking why the other 96 to 97% of natural emissions do not cause warming. Koonin - It is hubris to assume that in carbon dioxide from coal gas and oil, we have found the one control knob to climate and that we can dial it up or down.

Comments from two other scientists:-
Rather than being a cause, CO2 and methane rises lag behind temperature by about 10 months. Prof Murry Salby.

. . . in fact, the CO2 changes do seem to follow temperature changes, not precede them. James Hansen, NASA

THE IPCC MAY NOT BE CORRECT a) on ECS, b) on fingerprinting, c) on "Hot Spot, d) on extreme weather, e) on its objective.

In science, someone proposes, and someone opposes and slowly the reality or realism reveals itself. It has nothing to do with alarmism or denialism. It is the scientific process. Science is rarely settled.

a) ECS (Equilibrium Climate Sensitivity), or temperature change to a doubling of one element.
The AR6 estimate is that CO2 has an ECS of a "very likely" range of 2C to 5C and a "likely" range of 2.5C to 4C with "high confidence", with a "best estimate" of 3.0C
UK mathematician Nicholas Lewis, 14-10-22, estimates it historically between 1.8 to 2.2 and since 1870 to be 1.8C.
Van Wijngaarden and Happer, 2021, assert it is 1.0C (and methane 0.06) not including water vapour.

As professor Ross McKitrick states, Financial Post, 13-10-22, This is a big deal. The justification for renewables is the view that carbon dioxide emissions have a big effect. The economic implications of ECS being 2 C rather than 3 C are enormous. If the ECS parameter is instead centred around 2 C, the estimated social cost of carbon plummets. It would fail a cost-benefit test even if ECS were 3 degrees C. But it's even less justified with an ECS of 2 degrees C, which is the level the evidence seems to insist on.

b) FINGERPRINTING
In calculating the residual anthropogenic CO2 in the atmosphere, the IPCC relied upon a ratio of C12C13 from coal burning.
A subsequent paper, has found C13 also emits naturally from swamps, casting doubt on those assertions.

c) IPCC's "Hot Spot" in the upper troposphere has never been found.

d) Recent empirical observations compared with AR6
REF: Extreme Weather: The IPCC's Changing Tune, Ralph Alexander, The Global Warming Policy Foundation, Report 54.
Dr Alexander writes that the AR6 "conclusions about droughts, tropical cyclones, heatwaves and cold extremes cannot be justified by actual observations. And, contrary to historical records "AR6 wrongly states that coral bleaching and mortality events have increased in recent decades"
Empirical evidence of sea level rise at Fort Denison shows an increase of 0.73mm p.a. or 87mm for 118 years. That is about 3.5 inches for 118 years. On global mean sea level rise, AR6 gives an estimate of 200mm (150 to 250) over 118 years. With "high confidence" state it is rising at a substantially increased rate of 3.7mms/per century over the last 13 years.
Putting it into perspective, Professor Koonin illustrates that sea level has been rising since the last ice age, and more recently at a much, much

slower rate. Additionally, since 1900 sea level has unexplainable multi decade oscillations, not even discussed by the IPCC. He writes that he would have failed any student who wrote the AR6 statement.

e) THE IPCC CHARTER, OR OBJECTIVE, OR OBJECTIVITY.

The IPCC was established "to ascertain the human impact on climate". How can it find otherwise?
The IPCC rules require the summary to be written first, and then the supporting papers are amended to reflect the summary !?! (What is that saying about carts and horses.)
I believe the doors are locked until consensus is reached. And the IPCC is unelected.
Distinguished scientists to resign from this process include Seitz, Pielke Jnr, Lindzen, Toll, et al.
Laframboise analysed that in the 2007 report, of 18,531 references, 5587 were not peer reviewed, and included Greenpeace, WWF, magazine articles and press releases.

The EPA will need to be very careful following any IPCC recommendations.

FLOURISHING WITH FOSSIL FUELS

Alex Epstein asks what is your decision making criteria; from what perspective do you make decisions. Humans thrive when energy is cheap and reliable. Only fossil fuels can provide cheap, plentiful, and reliable energy for billions of people. Hydrocarbons provide some 6,000 everyday products. The hydrocarbon industry provides unique efficiency, vital energy and materials to be affordable and available to billions of people.

Ronald Stein 14/9/22. Efforts to cease the use of crude oil will be the greatest threat to civilisation. Of almost 700 oil refineries, 140 are expected to cease production in the next 5 years.

NATURE THRIVES WHEN HUMANITY THRIVES.

I note that the EDO, Environmental Defenders Office (which sounds like BUT is not a government department) has as its raison d'etre for When Nature Thrives.

When we are wealthy, and we have a free and democratic society, with good governance, and no corruption and we do not need to spend all day picking up sticks and dung to light fires, then nature thrives.

WHAT SHOULD WE DO

I will leave the last words to Steve Koonin, Unsettled, 2021. Even though he believes there is global warming, and that humans may be contributing to that, "I think our primary response should be adaption and to promote economic development and strong institutions in developing countries. We cannot deny cheap and reliable electricity to the 3.5BLN who do not have reliable electricity, and the 800M who have none."

Respectfully submitted,

Bob King