

December 16<sup>th</sup> 2008

**Media Release**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
**CARBON DIOXIDE TAX IRRELEVANT**

“The carbon dioxide emission targets announced yesterday by the Prime Minister are irrelevant to the state of climate – at 5, 15 or 25 per cent” said Dr John Nicol, chairman of the Australian Climate Science Coalition.

“Given there is no evidence to link human caused greenhouse gas emissions with any change to climate, warming or cooling, the level of reduction is of no consequence.

The evidence to link global temperature with carbon dioxide levels has been weakening since the turn of the century to the point that there is now none.

The Emissions Trading Scheme is just another form of taxation and a further burden on the economy and taxpayers.

If the government feels committed to this unsound course of action, it should at least delay its introduction until 2012 so that it can examine all aspects of the scheme properly. In addition, there should be an independent government initiated inquiry into the real state of the science behind the green house effect and hence into the hypothesis that man is contributing to global warming and climate change. The new government in New Zealand has already initiated plans for such an inquiry which could form an appropriate model.

The Australian Climate Science Coalition calls on the Prime Minister and the Minister for Climate Change to appoint at least three scientists, who challenge the IPCC view, as consultants to the Department of Climate Change to help with the development of a National Climate Change policy.

It appears that the minister and the government do not currently enjoy the benefits of a balance of viewpoints on climate science. The issue is far too important for the country to not have a range of views considered” said Dr Nicol.

- ENDS -

The Australian Climate Science Coalition, which works closely with the [International Climate Science Coalition](http://www.auscsc.org), was formed by a group of scientists and professional people interested in encouraging continued scientific research into the world’s climate and in particular into the effects of increased concentrations of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. The mission of the ACSC is to promote open scientific debate on the causes of climate change. ACSC is an apolitical, not for profit affiliate of the Australian Environment Foundation. For more information about the ACSC, visit [www.auscsc.org](http://www.auscsc.org)

**For further information or to arrange an interview, please contact:**

**Katy Denis      ACSC PR Manager**

**M: 0414 388 879 / E: [pr@aefweb.info](mailto:pr@aefweb.info)**