

WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW?

Australia has one of the highest levels of CO² per person, more even than the USA Canada and the UK.

Research suggests that the short term social and economic changes required to cut emissions are far smaller than the impact of inaction will be. According to the CSIRO, Australia's economic growth would continue at 2.1%pa compared to the current 2.2-2.3%pa.

CSIRO predicts that developed countries such as Australia need to reduce emissions by 60-90% by 2050 to avoid 2% global temperature increase. (AMA)

The Australian Medical Association lists global warming as one of the key current health policy issues for Australia. (AMA)

Climate change is and will have significant and irreversible impacts on the world's species and ecosystems and human health. Countries with higher incomes, including Australia account for three quarters of the world's greenhouse gas emissions.

Australia is one of over 40 nations that have legislated renewable energy targets, but they are too low to sufficiently impact our emissions. (CANA)

Nuclear energy supplies 17% of the world's power. It is expensive to produce, uses large amounts of water, produces radioactive waste, and reactors are slow to build. (ACF)

Most material in this information sheet is drawn from the Uniting Church in Australia's Federal Election 2007 resource kit, Growing a Nation of Hope.