

THE HON MELISSA PRICE MP MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

MC18-017017

Sr Libby Rogerson ibvm Catholic Religious Australia Justice Committee PO Box 1518 NORTH SYDNEY NSW 2059

8 FEB 2019

Dear Sr Rogerson

Thank you for your correspondence concerning climate change action.

The Australian Government remains committed to the Paris Agreement and meeting its 2030 target to reduce emissions to 26 to 28 per cent below 2005 levels. This target is responsible and represents one of the most ambitious reductions in per capita emissions and emissions per unit of GDP among developed countries.

The Government has a comprehensive set of policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase energy efficiency and fast track development and uptake of clean energy. The Emissions Reduction Fund is the centrepiece of the Government's response, supporting a range of emissions reduction opportunities across the economy. The Safeguard Mechanism places limits on Australia's largest emitters, covering half of our national emissions.

The National Energy Productivity Plan will improve energy productivity by 40 per cent between 2015 and 2030. The Renewable Energy Target is a key driver in encouraging the uptake of renewables and is on track to generate at least 23.5 per cent of Australia's electricity supply in 2020. Last year, approximately 15 per cent of Australia's electricity generation was from renewable sources; one third from wind, one third from hydro-electricity and a quarter from solar.

Major investments are also made through the Australian Renewable Energy Agency and the Clean Energy Finance Corporation, to manage the ongoing transition to lower emissions in the energy sector.

Thank you for bringing your concerns to my attention.

Yours sincerely

MELISSA PRICE