



**THE HON GREG COMBET AM MP  
Parliamentary Secretary for Climate Change**

**CHRIS TREVOR  
Member for Flynn**

**MEDIA RELEASE**

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**RUDD GOVERNMENT TAKING ACTION IN GLADSTONE TO COMBAT CLIMATE  
CHANGE AND SUPPORT JOBS**

Greg Combet, Parliamentary Secretary for Climate Change, and Chris Trevor, Member for Flynn, today held discussion with local workers, businesses and community groups about the Rudd Government's climate change agenda.

"The people of Gladstone recognise that Australia must play its part on combating climate change but we also want to ensure that we protect our local jobs and industries in doing so," said Mr Trevor.

"Chris Trevor has done a great job in representing his electorate when it comes to the Government's actions on climate change and its support for local jobs. Not a week goes by when I don't hear from him about the importance of ensuring that the Government provides proper support for local industries and jobs while we go about combating the most significant environmental challenge our country has ever faced," said Mr Combet.

Mr Combet and Mr Trevor visited local workers, unions, businesses and industries as well as local government representatives and community groups, to discuss the Government's policies.

Many of the industries within Gladstone are big emitters so they will be receiving support from the Government at the start of the scheme, with some receiving 94.5 per cent of their permits for free.

Mr Combet said that he was continuing in discussions with the coal mining industry to discuss their concerns. The Government has already outlined \$750 million in assistance for the coal industry.

Mr Combet noted that treasury modelling indicates that coal mining operations, as well as other carbon intensive industries like those in Gladstone, will continue to grow strongly in the future under the CPRS.

"To help combat the effects of climate change the Rudd Government is taking a range of actions to reduce Australia's greenhouse gas emissions," said Mr Combet.

"Recently announced changes to the CPRS will help further support local jobs and assist industries make the transition through to a low carbon economy, which is vital for the Gladstone and the local region," said Mr Combet.

The new measures include:

- Delaying the start of the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme by one year to help Australian companies manage the impacts of the global recession;
- Supporting those businesses and industries that produce internationally traded goods through a Global Recession Buffer for Emissions Intensive Trade Exposed Industries. This means that the most exposed businesses will receive at the start of the scheme up to 94.5 per cent of their required permits free of charge;
- A one year fixed price phase will apply between 1 July 2011 and 30 June 2012. During the fixed price phase, each carbon pollution permit will cost \$10. From 1 July 2012, businesses covered by the scheme will need to purchase permits at the prevailing market price;
- Exempting legacy emissions created by Landfill Waste from the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme to alleviate the burden on local councils and save ratepayers; and
- \$200 million for eligible businesses to undertake energy efficiency measures in 2009-10 as part of the Climate Change Action Fund.

Mr Trevor said “I very happy and glad to see the changes that have been announced to the CPRS as I had been working hard within the Government to ensure that industries in Gladstone got a fair go. These changes will ensure that industries and jobs continue to grow throughout Gladstone while also ensuring we play our role in combating climate change.”

Mr Combet noted the role that strong advocates such as Mr Trevor had in bringing about the increased assistance package for industry to allow them to combat climate change during the fallout of the global economic crisis.

“I also note the significant investments that have been made by the Government in the Budget and Stimulus Packages and which are helping our community deal with the devastating effects of the global economic crisis,” said Mr Trevor.

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For more information on the Government’s Climate Change Agenda please visit [www.climatechange.gov.au](http://www.climatechange.gov.au)