



Sharon Grierson MP
Federal Member for Newcastle

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MORE SMOKE AND MIRRORS FROM HOWARD ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Federal Member for Newcastle Sharon Grierson has today expressed concern at the Howard Government's latest climate change policy manoeuvring.

"Australia clearly needs climate change action, but yesterday we saw little more than political manoeuvring from the Prime Minister, a devout climate change sceptic." Ms Grierson said.

"The Government has committed to introduce an emissions trading scheme but has refused to set a date; they say they are serious about climate change but they have failed to set an emissions target."

"As part of his ongoing climate change make-over the Prime Minister is hoping for a victory of style over substance and of politics over policy."

"But this is a time when the nation needs leadership and action. A time when business needs leadership & certainty."

"That is why Labor has committed to ratifying the Kyoto Protocol and to cutting Australia's greenhouse gas emissions by 60% on 2000 levels by 2050."

"It is why Labor has committed to supporting the renewable energy sector by establishing a \$50 million National Solar Institute in Newcastle, placing our region at the forefront of a Rudd Labor Government's fight against climate change."

"The right policy response to climate change is one that harnesses the power of the market, ensures the stability of the economy whilst delivering real and tangible environmental benefit. That sort of policy can only be delivered with vision, enthusiasm and responsible national leadership."

"John Howard continues to fail that test in spite of his escalating climate change rhetoric."

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