



Sharon Grierson MP
Federal Member for Newcastle

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CPRS WHITE PAPER GETS THE BALANCE RIGHT

Sharon Grierson says the release of the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme White Paper provides further certainty for our region as we begin our sustainable energy future.

The Government yesterday announced a carbon reduction target of 5 to 15% – a responsible, appropriate target that will protect the environment and sustain jobs in our region.

Ms Grierson said she was aware of criticism from both sides of the climate change debate.

“I have never agreed with those who want to destroy the jobs of local people in our mining and manufacturing industries,” Ms Grierson said.

“Just as I have never agreed with the extremists on the other side who think we should do nothing about climate change.”

“The Government’s approach is responsible and appropriate, and puts us at the international table.”

“The White Paper was informed by significant public input, which people in Newcastle had the opportunity to participate in.”

“This included the opportunity to put their views direct to the Minister and Prime Minister at the Newcastle Community Cabinet, to the Department at a Newcastle public forum on the CPRS, and to me at the sustainability stream of the local 2020 Summit.”

“I will keep taking input from those interested in sensible debate in our community on how best to take the opportunities of a low-emissions future.”

“This includes the \$100 million Australian Solar Institute to be headquartered in Newcastle, exploring opportunities under the fast-tracked \$500 million Renewable Energy Fund, and further developing Newcastle’s bid for a \$20 million Clean Energy Innovation Centre.”

“Now that the Government has outlined the detail of its CPRS, it is up to all of us in the local community to work together on taking the opportunities and bringing about a sustainable energy future.”

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