

Dear Anthony,

**Thank you for your support during
2022. Wishing you a safe and
happy festive season.**

With sincere thanks for the genuine
engagement and ability to contribute
this year. I look forward to working with
you for the common good of our nation in the
years to come. Have a good rest. Zoe

Authorised by Zoe Daniel MP,
677 Nepean Highway, Brighton East VIC 3187.
2022

**Have a safe and
happy festive season**





Zoe Daniel MP

Independent Federal Member for Goldstein

26 May 2023

**The Hon. Anthony Albanese, MP
Prime Minister of Australia
PO Box 6022
House of Representatives
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600**

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Dear Prime Minister,

The undersigned crossbenchers thank your government for the briefings provided by the Deputy Prime Minister, the Defence Industry Minister as well as senior Defence Department staff and Australian Defence Force personnel, on the Defence Strategic Review and AUKUS.

We appreciate your government's readiness to engage, and the insights received as a result.

We understand, as CDF told one of the briefings, that ADF is focussed on the increasing burden placed on military personnel to assist victims of the increasing number of climate related disasters and its distraction from their primary role – the defence and security of Australia.

However, we remain concerned that the geostrategic and national security consequences of climate change, particularly with our near neighbours in the Pacific and Asia in mind, is not one of the six DSR priorities.

We ask that you make public a declassified version of the Office of National Intelligence report on the external risks of climate change commissioned by and presented to the government last year.

We are taking our lead from no less an authority than former and widely respected CDF Chris Barrie and the Australian Security Leaders Climate Group.

He notes that it has been “the practice of Australia’s allies to release such assessments” and that “the Australian public deserve to know the full range of security threats our nation faces, particularly those posed by worsening climate change”.

We note that in December the Home Affairs Minister told the National Press Club that increasingly extreme weather was “creating massive movements of people that may become unmanageable” and spoke of the likelihood of food and energy shortages in the region.

Clearly, both factors lead to increased national security risk.

Australian Strategic Policy Institute has pointed to a now declassified Office of National Assessments report from 1981 which was remarkably prescient in its predictions then of what climate change would mean for Australia in the 21st century, accurately predicting what it would mean for our coal exports and on the other hand on the need to develop wind and solar energy production.

How much better prepared would we be today had that report been made public much earlier?

Our collective view is that releasing a declassified version of the above-mentioned ONI report would enable the public to have an informed view of the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

We trust you will take our request in the way it is offered and give it due consideration.

Sincerely,

(signed)

Zoe Daniel MP

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

[Redacted signature block]

From: s 47F
Sent: Friday, May 26, 2023 5:33 PM
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Subject: Letter from Crossbenchers to Prime Minister's Office RE ONI

Hi s 22(1),

Please see attached correspondence.

This letter will also be sent via post on Monday.

Kind regards,

s 47F
Executive Assistant
Office of Zoe Daniel MP
s 47F

s 47F
W: www.zoedaniel.com.au

