

~~PROTECTED Sensitive Cabinet~~Ref: C12/82511  
Urgent/Low Complexity

## DEPARTMENT OF THE PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET

PAC  
 Secretary  
 Dr de Bruin  
 Dr Schreier  
 Mr Taylor  
 Mr Wilson  
 Mr Hazelhurst  
 Ms Spence

To: Cabinet Secretary (for decision by 20 December 2012)

## SEEKING APPROVAL TO RE-APPOINT THE CLIMATE COMMISSIONERS

MD  
 Mr Richard  
 Mr Bentley  
 Mr Gattner  
 Mr Ruper

## Recommendation(s) - that you:

1. sign the draft response to the Minister for Climate Change and Energy Efficiency, the Hon Greg Combet AM MP (the Minister), at Attachment A, agreeing to: the reappointment of the Climate Commissioners; S22

S22

Agreed / Not Agreed

Mark Dreyfus

Date:

## Key Points:

1. The Minister wrote to the Prime Minister on 12 December 2012 seeking agreement to re-appoint the Climate Commissioners from 1 January 2013 until 30 June 2014.
  - a. s34(3), 47C  
[REDACTED]
  - b. There are no financial implications. The Government has already committed \$5.6 million over four years (ending June 2014) for the Commission.
2. The Commission was established in February 2012 as an independent body to provide reliable information about: the science of climate change; international action being taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and the economics of a carbon price. Refer to Attachment B for the list of Climate Commissioners, their curricula vitae and private interest declarations.
3. The Commission has become an authoritative source of information in relation to climate change and been effective in improving community understanding of climate change science, and international action on climate change across Australia through public forums, its website and the media.
4. We support the Minister's proposal to re-appoint the Climate Commissioners. S22

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5.

~~PROTECTED Sensitive Cabinet~~

**DEPARTMENT OF THE PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET**

Helen Wilson  
Assistant Secretary  
ICCE  
December 2012

Policy Officer: [REDACTED] s22  
Phone no: [REDACTED] s22  
Consultation: CabSec

**ATTACHMENTS**

**ATTACHMENT A** Draft Response

**ATTACHMENT B** Incoming Correspondence



**Cabinet Secretary  
Parliamentary Secretary for Climate Change and Energy Efficiency  
Parliamentary Secretary for Industry and Innovation**

Reference no: C12/82511

The Hon Greg Combet AM MP  
Minister for Climate Change and Energy Efficiency  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

*Greg*  
Dear Minister

Thank you for your letter of 12 December 2012 to the Prime Minister in which you seek approval to re-appoint the Climate Commissioners to the Climate Change Commission (the Commission) from 1 January 2013 until 30 June 2014. The Prime Minister has asked me to reply on her behalf.

The Commission has played an important role as an authoritative and reliable source of information on climate change science, international action on climate change, and the operation of the carbon price. It still has an important role to play in continuing to improve the Australian community's understanding of climate change impacts and the opportunities associated with a clean energy future. I therefore agree to the re-appointments of the Climate Commissioners:

- Professor Tim Flannery (as Chief Climate Commissioner);

s22

S22

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Dreyfus', with a large, stylized loop at the end.

MARK DREYFUS QC MP

18/12/12



Minister for Climate Change and Energy Efficiency  
Minister for Industry and Innovation

B12/743

12 DEC 2012

The Hon Julia Gillard MP  
Prime Minister  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Prime Minister

I write to seek your approval to re-appoint the Climate Commissioners.

The Australian Government established the Climate Commission as an independent body to inform Australia's approach to addressing climate change and help build the consensus required to move to a competitive, low pollution Australian economy.

I appointed the Climate Commissioners in February 2011, s34(3), 47C

s34(3), 47C

s34(3), 47C

The appointments expire on  
31 December 2012.

The Climate Commissioners are:

- Professor Tim Flannery (Chief Climate Commissioner), Chair in Environmental Sustainability, Macquarie University;

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The Climate Commission has become established as an authoritative source of information on climate science, climate change impacts and international action on climate change. The Climate Commission has provided information on climate change to communities across Australia. It has held many well-attended public forums in all states and territories, released 15 reports, and reached many people through its website and the media. The Climate Commission has also conducted selective briefings to influence business and community leaders across the country.

Subject to your agreement, I propose to re-appoint the Climate Commissioners for the period 1 January 2013 to 30 June 2014. This period is in line with the Australian Government's commitment of \$5.6 million over four years for the Climate Commission. I consider that the Climate Commission can continue to play an important role in communicating with Australians about climate change in 2013 and early 2014, particularly as the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change will be completing its Fifth Assessment Report over that period.

S22

Curricula vitae and private interest declarations for the Climate Commissioners are enclosed.

The Climate Commission is supported by a science advisory panel selected by the Chief Climate Commissioner. The panel members' appointments also expire on 31 December 2012.

S22

Yours sincerely



GREG COMBET

Enc.

## CURRICULUM VITAE

- Name: Prof Tim Flannery
- Present position: Panasonic Chair in Environmental Sustainability,  
Macquarie University  
Member, Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists
- Educational and professional qualifications:  
BA (La Trobe)  
MSc (Monash)  
PhD (University of New South Wales)
- Relevant experience: 1999 – 2006: Director of the South Australian Museum  
and Professor at the University of Adelaide  
1984 – 1999: Principal Research Scientist in  
Mammalogy at the Australian Museum in Sydney
- Current Board Memberships: Director, Australian Wildlife Conservancy  
2011 - : Tata Power Sustainability Advisory Board  
2011 - : Siemens Sustainability Advisory Board
- Former Board Memberships: Chairman of Copenhagen Climate Council National  
Geographic Society Research Grant Committee  
South Australian Premier's Science Council  
South Australian Sustainability Roundtable
- Honours and awards: 2007: Australian of the Year  
2006: NSW Australian of the Year  
2005: Humanist of the Year

~~APPOINTMENTS - IN - CONFIDENCE~~

**PRIVATE INTERESTS DECLARATION**

<b>POSITION &amp; ORGANISATION</b>	Chief Commissioner Climate Commission
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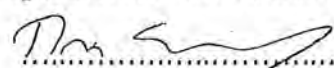
Please answer the following questions by circling the reply that applies to your personal circumstances. If you answer "yes" to any question, please provide details in an attachment to this form. Please note that answering "yes" to any question does not necessarily preclude you from being appointed. Your response will be treated as confidential and will only be used for purposes connected with this proposed appointment.

1. Do you have any disclosable criminal convictions, i.e. convictions as an adult that form part of your criminal history other than those protected by the Spent Convictions Scheme (see Part VIIC of the <i>Crimes Act 1914</i> )?	Yes/No
2. Are you, or have you been, the respondent or defendant in any civil or criminal court action (including as a company director or other office holder)?	Yes/No
3. (a) Have you ever been declared bankrupt, entered into a debt agreement under Part IX of the <i>Bankruptcy Act 1996</i> (the Bankruptcy Act) or entered into a personal insolvency agreement under Part X of the Bankruptcy Act? (b) If you are in a partnership, have any of your partners ever been declared bankrupt, entered into a debt agreement under Part IX of the Bankruptcy Act or entered into a personal insolvency agreement under Part X of the Bankruptcy Act?	Yes/No Yes/No or N/A
4. Has any business or commercial enterprise for which you, or if applicable your partner(s), have had responsibility ever gone into receivership or a similar scheme or arrangement?	Yes/No
5. During the last 10 years have you, or if applicable your partner(s), been the subject of a court order in connection with monies owing to another party?	Yes/No
6. Have you ever been summonsed or charged concerning non-payment of tax or outstanding tax debts, investigated for tax evasion or defaults, or negotiated with the Australian Taxation Office over outstanding tax debts?	Yes/No
7. Have you ever been the subject of a complaint to a professional body which has been substantiated, or is currently under investigation?	Yes/No
8. Have you ever been dismissed from employment because of a discipline or misconduct issue?	Yes/No
9. Do you or your immediate family have any financial interest in any company or business, or are you or your immediate family employed or engaged by any company or business, which might have dealings with, or an interest in the decisions of, the office to which you may be appointed?	Yes/No
10. Are you a lobbyist registered on the Australian Government's Lobbyists Register or the register of a state or territory?	Yes/No
11. Is there any other information which could be relevant to your suitability for the proposed appointment?	Yes/No

**ASSURANCE**

I advise that to the best of my knowledge my private, business and financial interests, including taxation affairs, would not conflict with my public duties or otherwise cause embarrassment to myself or to the Government during my term of appointment.

I also undertake to advise the responsible minister should a situation arise in the future which might cause a conflict of interest with my responsibilities under this appointment.

 ..... Name	 ..... Signature	6 Dec 2012 ..... Date
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~~APPOINTMENTS - IN - CONFIDENCE~~



**Private interests declaration: additional information**

Position: Chief Climate Commissioner

Organisation: Climate Commission

Name: Tim Flannery

Question 11. I will from 2013-14 be paid an honorarium in my role as a member of the Siemens Sustainability Advisory Board.

s22

**From:** Wilson, Helen  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 18 December 2012 10:14 AM  
**To:** S22  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** C12-82511 BR 2 799735-1 [SEC=PROTECTED, DLM=Sensitive:Cabinet]  
**Attachments:** C12-82511 BR 2 799735-1.docx

s22

I have made a very minor change to the brief. Just added in brackets the works (ending June 2014) in the funding sentence just for clarity and so is clear that the term of reappointment aligns with the funding over four years.

I approve this brief and the letter in your email of this morning.

Many thanks Helen

DEPARTMENT OF THE PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET

PMC  
Secretary  
Dr de Brouwer  
Dr Schreier  
Ms Taylor  
Ms Wilson  
Mr Hazlehurst  
Ms Spence

To: Cabinet Secretary (for decision by 20 December 2012)

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MO  
Mr Hubbard  
Mr Bentley  
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**DEPARTMENT OF THE PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET**

Helen Wilson  
Assistant Secretary  
ICCCE  
December 2012

Policy Officer: [REDACTED] s22  
Phone no: [REDACTED] s22  
Consultation: CabSec

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s22

S22

Yours sincerely

Authorised by:

**MARK DREYFUS QC MP**

Contact Officer: