

Notes Regarding ANF Submission to the 2020 Summit (19-20 April 2008)

(a retrospective, 11/7/12)

The ANF decided to make a submission to the 2020 Summit because it believed that it was important to address the issue of national energy supplies where it could be pointed out that nuclear should have a part to play. It was difficult to find a category that would accommodate such a suggestion, but the best fit appeared to be the problem of climate change (subject area 3) where nuclear power could contribute significantly by serving as a replacement for the use of coal-fired electricity generation. The climate change issue was mentioned in the following category:

Population, sustainability, climate change and water

The Australia 2020 Summit will examine:

- a. How Australia develops a long term plan to adapt to the growing impacts of climate change on our environment.**
- b. How does Australia best plan for its long-term water and energy needs.**
- c. How we position Australia to become a global leader within the next decade in the new low carbon technologies and industries**
- d. How do we plan future population growth at a national and regional level, given the constraints of water shortages and sustainability.**

Further, as noted on the Summit website under “**Submissions**”:

Contributing a submission to the *Australia 2020 Summit* is a way for all Australians to be involved in bringing the best ideas forward to address Australia’s long term challenges

All submissions will be made publicly available on this website and will be presented to the Australia 2020 Summit participants to stimulate discussion and ideas about our future challenges.

Individuals, schools, groups and organisations are invited to make submissions.

(etc., see the complete requirements provided below)

The ANF submission was provided on time (emailed 2/4/08) and true to the undertaking mentioned above, was published on the website. Many submissions from others were also published there, however, ours along with some others carried a

submission number that was considerably larger (by about several thousand) than the majority of submissions.

The Summit itself was held on Saturday the 19th and Sunday the 20th of April 2008 and (at least its opening) was nationally televised. After the introductory phase which included the appearance of the Prime Minister, one of the first items of business was to ask the chosen attendees if they thought nuclear power should be considered by the Summit – and the vote was strongly against the idea. We then checked the website the next day and found that our submission, along with all the others in the “elevated group” had disappeared!

A U S T R A L I A



Submissions for the *Australia 2020* Summit

The Rudd Government will convene an *Australia 2020* Summit at Parliament House on 19-20 April 2008 to help shape a long term strategy for the nation's future.

The Summit will bring together some of the best and brightest brains from across the country to tackle the long term challenges confronting Australia's future.

Every Australian has the opportunity to make a submission to the Summit in one of the ten critical areas of discussion:

1. Future directions for the Australian economy – including education, skills, training, science and innovation as part of the nation's productivity agenda
2. Economic infrastructure, the digital economy and the future of our cities
3. Population, sustainability, climate change, and water
4. Future directions for rural industries and rural communities
5. A long-term national health strategy – including the challenges of preventative health, workforce planning and the ageing population
6. Strengthening communities, supporting families and social inclusion
7. Options for the future of indigenous Australia
8. Towards a creative Australia: the future of the arts, film and design
9. The future of Australian governance: renewed democracy, a more open government (including the role of the media), the structure of the Federation and the rights and responsibilities of citizens
10. Australia's future security and prosperity in a rapidly changing region and world.

Submissions

Contributing a submission to the *Australia 2020* Summit is a way for all Australians to be involved in bringing the best ideas forward to address Australia's long term challenges.

All submissions will be made publicly available on this website and will be presented to the *Australia 2020* Summit participants to stimulate discussion and ideas about addressing our future challenges.

Individuals, schools, groups, and organisations are invited to make submissions.

Written submissions are limited to 500 words per topic and should focus on one of the ten identified areas. You may contribute a submission in one or more policy areas.

Submissions will be collected by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, which is acting as a secretariat for the *Australia 2020* Summit.

All submissions require a 'name for publication'. This can be an individual, group or organisation. In addition to this, each submission is required to include a contact person, their name and details. These contact details will not be published.

Your submission can play an important role in our national discussion about our future and facing Australia's long term future challenges.

What do I have to do to contribute a submission?

If you would like to contribute a submission to the *Australia 2020 Summit* in Canberra on 19-20 April 2008, complete this form and return it to the address below no later than **5.00pm Wednesday 9 April 2008**.

Submissions can also be completed online through the *Australia 2020* website at www.australia2020.gov.au.

Before completing the form please read all the information provided on this page to assist in completing your submission.

All submissions require a 'name for publication'. This can be an individual, group or organisation. Your name will appear with your submission when they are published online.

You will also be required to include contact details – your name, address, email address and a contact phone number. These details are collected in case we need to contact you in the lead up to or after the summit to discuss your ideas further. Your details will only be used for this purpose and will not be published.

If you are making a submission as a group, please include the details of a contact person for your group.

Completing the form

The form requires you to complete your personal details and a 'name for publication'. This may be your name or your group's name.

You will then be able to complete a submission for one or more of the topic areas.

Each submission may be up to 500 words per topic to ensure that delegates are able to consider each of the submissions. If just one in every 1000 Australians comments on just one of the ten topic areas, each delegate may have to read more than one million words in the lead up to the Summit. Keeping your contribution concise will ensure that all submissions receive the attention and consideration they deserve.

For this reason attachments, publications, photos and images may not be included in your submission, though you may make reference to any of these you consider useful, including by providing references to further material.

Editorial guidelines

Submissions will be published subject to editorial control that restricts any offensive material or material inappropriate for publication being made public.

If you are hand writing your nomination, please be sure your writing is clear and legible to ensure your submission is able to be considered.

Contacts

Any enquiries regarding the Summit should be directed to:

Australia 2020 Summit Secretariat
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
1 National Circuit
BARTON ACT 2600

Toll free number: **1800 703 599** (during business hours Eastern Standard Time)

Privacy and confidentiality

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet is committed to the protection of your privacy in accordance with the Federal Privacy Commissioner's Guidelines for Federal and ACT Government World Wide Websites. These guidelines outline the requirements for transparent collection, appropriate and ethical use and secure storage of personal information.

The information you provide to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet through the *2020 Summit* submission form will be used for the purposes of the *2020 Summit* only.

Only your 'name for publication' and your submission will be provided to delegates for consideration in their deliberations of 19-20 April 2008, and in this way may be incorporated into the Summit Outcomes.

SUMMIT TOPICS FOR SUBMISSIONS

(please limit comments to 500 words per topic)

Population, sustainability, climate change and water

The Australia 2020 Summit will examine:

- a. How Australia develops a long term plan to adapt to the growing impacts of climate change on our environment
- b. How does Australia best plan for its long-term water and energy needs
- c. How we position Australia to become a global leader within the next decade in the new low carbon technologies and industries
- d. How do we plan future population growth at a national and regional level, given the constraints of water shortages and sustainability.

Electricity Generation in Australia

A submission to the Australia 2020 Summit.

(Ref "Critical Area" 3, Item b

Australian Nuclear Forum 02/04/08

The conduct of everyday affairs requires adequate electric energy to be available at a reasonable price. The sources for the next 40 years will have to be essentially the proven methods available today, namely: coal, natural gas, hydro, wind and nuclear.

Electricity is the most useful form of energy because it is easily transported. Much R&D has been and is being expended on developing new methods of generation but it would be folly to depend on these being commercially available. Thus plans to anticipate the predicted increases in electricity demand must be based on the proven existing forms of generation.

Constraints• CO₂ Emissions:

It has been proposed to reduce Australian CO₂ emissions to regulate the climate. Two methods lead the political pack; Mandatory Renewable Energy Targets (aka 'tilting with windmills') and an Emissions Trading Scheme (aka 'the trader's benefit') which is beloved by economists. Both will force a change in the mix of generators and increase the price of energy. Some major industries (e.g., aluminium production) may be forced to move overseas unless exempted from the costs of the ETS. Alternatively, nuclear power could be used but is unavailable here for ideological reasons.

• Research & Development:

Much effort and funding have been expended since the 70's to develop alternative means of generation. Of the three most promising, solar, wind and waves, wind is fully developed technically and should be the only one of them to be relied upon for installation before 2050. CO₂ sequestration is also under investigation. Investments in R&D, subsidies and tax concessions should be viewed as added costs of generation.

• Generating Plant construction:

A serious constraint is the labyrinth of siting requirements that delay the procurement of sites for new generating plants. These must be streamlined if there is to be any chance of meeting

government emission targets. Purchases of equipment could also be restricted due to limited production capacities.

Recommended Actions

- Short Term- to 2020:

- Legal

- There are state legal barriers to generating plant and infrastructure (see ANF website re those for nuclear power). Action is needed to rationalise them.

- Siting

- States need to act to streamline the labyrinth of requirements and select potential sites for: Gas fired generators, the associated pipelines and LNG regasification plants; and wind generator farms plus the back up systems needed for system stability.

- Exemptions

- Identify high CO₂ producers that would relocate offshore unless given exemption from CO₂ limitation costs and penalties.

- Natural Gas

- Encourage domestic use as an alternative to electricity.

- Ordering Plant

- Generating plant would have to be purchased from overseas manufacturers already committed to supplying other countries. Planning must allow for several years delay.

- Longer term - post 2020:

- Coal fired

- Select and reserve sites suitable for coal stations with CO₂ sequestration.

- Nuclear

- Similarly select and reserve suitable sites for nuclear stations should there be no practical sequestration.