This is another formal complaint against the Department for Climate Change.

Since its inception the Department for Climate Change (DCC) has failed to follow correct procedure in checking the validity of the basic science that underpins its policies and actions. For example DCC has misinformed the Australian people by shortening the noun ‘carbon-dioxide’ to ‘carbon’ then coupling it with the word ‘pollution’, hence the term ‘carbon pollution’. Further, DCC has misled the Australian people into believing that emissions from coal fired power stations are ‘carbon pollution’. The evidence shows that emissions from coal fired power stations are ~96% carbon-dioxide, which is a non-polluting, environmentally friendly, transparent, trace greenhouse gas. — Corrected to

The emissions from coal fired power stations contain anywhere between 10-25% carbon dioxide.


It is essential for plant life which is the basis of our food chain. The white emissions from coal fired power stations are water vapour. There is a small amount of some pollutants such as sulphur released from burning coal, but power stations use scrubbers to remove those pollutants.

Over a period of years DCC has coloured the emissions from coal fired power stations as black in both its animated videos and its ‘scientific’ publications which, as stated above, is incorrect and misleading.
For a 75% chance of meeting the 2°C limit we can emit no more than 1,000 billion tonnes of CO₂ between 2000 and 2050.

In the first 13 years we have emitted nearly 40% of our carbon budget.

So, we have only 60% of our carbon budget to last the next 37 years.

If we continue to spend our allowable emissions at our current rate, we will use up all of our allowable emissions by 2028. After the budget is completely spent, the world’s economy will need to be completely decarbonised.

Figure 50: Overspend in the carbon budget. Each CO₂ symbol represents 10 billion tonnes of CO₂.
Since its inception DCC has also misinformed the Australian people via radio and TV interviews. As recently as July 16th 2013 the term carbon pollution was used six - seven times in a seven minute ABC interview. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wRA R5-BmEwk.

To summarise, these are just a few of the multitude of instances where the DCC has mislead the Australian people over a considerable period of time. I expect the DCC to acknowledge receipt of this formal complaint within the next 24 hours. It has 28 days from today to respond in a satisfactory manner or I will take this matter to the Ombudsman.

Dr Judy Ryan

Dr Marjorie Curtis