

Murray Scott

Department of (stopping!) Climate Change, Govt. of South Australia,

My reason for signing the Australian Youth Climate Coalition petition is that I am not a youth. Indeed I have grandchildren and in their lifetime the kind and extent of climate hardships will be decided by governments around the world. The only ones we can influence are Australia's and we must lose no opportunity to support your Government and others to take a lead in preventing the worst excesses of heat stress, drought, bushfire, sea level rise, storms, loss of wildlife and fish stocks, invasive feral species and tropical diseases.

The Port Augusta solar thermal power station proposal represents a critical step in reducing greenhouse gas emissions because it directly addresses the claim by greenhouse gas neglectors that renewables cannot provide baseload power. Indeed solar thermal does not provide baseload power, which requires inefficient spinning-reserve operation of slow-response coal or nuclear fuelled generators during low-demand periods. Solar thermal, along with battery power, goes one step better than baseload by storing energy to provide *dispatchable* power. It is crucial that this technology is established in Australia ASAP to demonstrate that potential and dispel the misinformation.

If Port August's coal-fired generator closes in 2016, I accept that some gas-powered stand-in will be required in the short term. I trust however that the SA Government will support Port August's campaign to build a solar thermal facility as soon as possible.

Regards,
Murray Scott