

P & C.J. O'Connor

27 June 2015

**Office of Hon Tim Groser
Minister for Climate Change
Wellington**

Dear Minister,

I know that your Government takes climate change seriously. The pledges that you have made are critical but absolutely not enough to reduce our share of emissions. It is critical that we have a zero carbon target much sooner than 2050. And we need a plan that has clear goals about how to achieve that. For it to work targets need to be set and over-seen by an independent commission charged with helping New Zealand achieve it's international climate change obligations.

What is imperative is a moratorium on fossil fuel exploration. Oil corporations have an appalling track record of exploitation and a blatant disregard for countries or their land, coastlines and sea and there are countless examples of that eg: Exxon Valdoz, Gulf of Mexico and at home our own Rena oil spill. Certainly all subsidies, funding and tax breaks to the fossil fuel industry need to stop. We need to phase out all existing extraction, particularly of coal before 2025.

The Government is to be applauded on the Global Research Alliance but without more of an investment of money in the research and progressive policies it will be too little too late.

Please include my submission. Thank you.

Your sincerely,

Cathryn O'Connor