

Summary of points made at a forum

KYOTO NOW

held during the Men of The Trees FESTIVAL OF TREES, 30 March 2002

Most areas call for government action and leadership

BUILDING

Provide energy conservation incentives for all new housing

- Insulation
- Solar hot water systems
- Passive solar design principles
- Photo voltaic cells to provide power for home and grid
- Extensive use of high intensity fluoro lighting units

Provide water conservation incentives for new housing

- Rainwater tanks
- Rainwater cisterns under the house
- Domestic methods for using grey water safely

Provide incentives for retrofitting older houses as above

Make provision in the standard building regulations for homes, shops, offices and factories to accommodate the above

TRANSPORT

- Tax heavy fuel use vehicles, eg 4wd used for family shopping.
- Encourage the use of smaller cars (and public transport)
- Reward people who purchase cars under one litre capacity by subsidising the purchase cost and road tax
- Consumers might consider not ordering a new car until hydrogen cell or solar energised cars were on the market

EDUCATION

Initiate an ongoing media education program Ð Òthe road to Kyoto and beyondÓ

- Make Òenvironmental valuesÓ a significant part of the schools curriculum. (Children educate their parents)
- Rent space at Perth Airport to inform passengers of the carbon deficit factor of their ticket. eg a single return ticket to London will account for an additional 5 tonnes of CO₂ in the atmosphere.

RECYCLING

- Adopt the Stirling City Council 'one bin' municipal garbage collection system where everything is centrally separated for recycling and landfill reduction.
- Encourage the recycling of containers by promoting the refill principle
- Promote the idea of secondary use, eg packing cases that can be denailed and reused, even at higher value than the original
- Subsidise industries that use recycled materials as their raw material
- Consumers might refuse to buy products in excessive packaging or that have containers that cannot be refilled

LAND CLEARING / TREE PLANTING

It is noted with regret that Australia is still clearing land far in excess of that which it is planting to trees.

- Place an immediate ban on further land clearing for broad acre agriculture, subsidising farmers for loss of income where necessary. This particularly refers to Queensland and northern NSW.
- Introduce a 'burning tax' on any further land clearing, big or small. It is not just the clearing which is bad but the burning of the scrub which should (must) be shredded and returned to the soil as humus.
- Recognise the economic, environmental and social value to the national wellbeing of work undertaken by volunteers and voluntary organisations.
- Remove all tax and ATO imposed financial administration penalties from those voluntary organisations whose role is tree planting.
- Subsidise the high cost of public liability insurance now being charged to voluntary organisations.

GOOD HOUSE KEEPING

- Farmers should realise that feeding sprouted grain to sheep and cattle yields three times the nutritional value than dry grain.
- Floating partly filled plastic water bottles on a dam will reduce surface evaporation