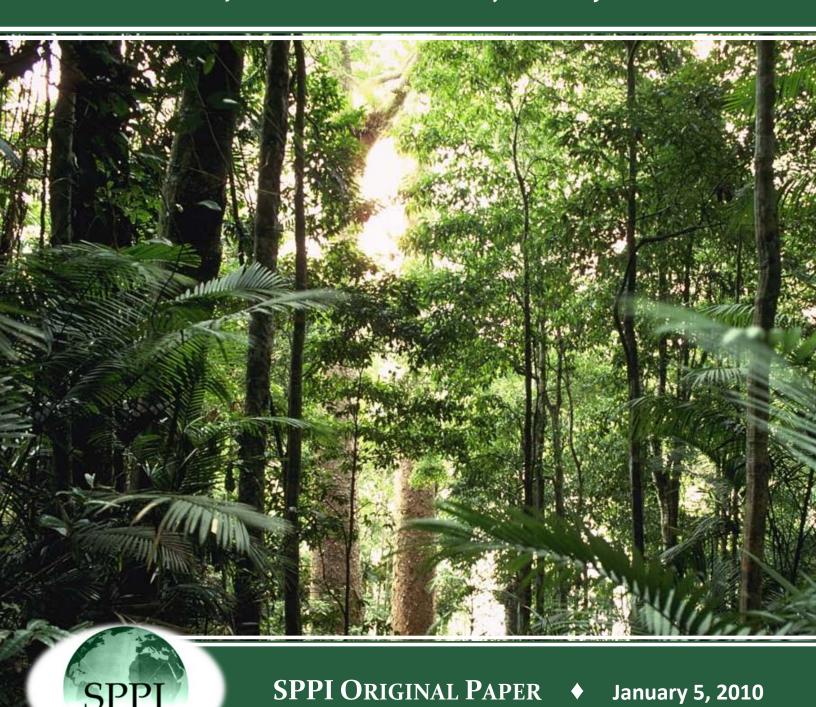
AN OPEN LETTER TO AUSTRALIAN PRIME MINISTER RUDD

by The Viscount Monckton of Brenchley



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From The Viscount Monckton of Brenchley:

Shortly before the Copenhagen Climate Conference, the Prime Minister of Australia, Kevin Rudd, delivered a canting, 45-minute rant about the "Denialists", "Climate Change Deniers", and "Skeptics" who, he said, were entirely funded by special interests and who were now so dangerous that they were putting Our Planet's Future And The Future Of Our Children And Our Grandchildren in jeopardy. Kevin Rudd seems not to like me very much: he mentioned me by name six times in the speech, in generally uncomplimentary terms. I was too busy to reply to him before Jokenhagen, but, since I shall be travelling to Australia in a couple of weeks for a barnstorming three-week lecture-tour (watch this space for dates and venues), I thought it was time to reply to Mr. Rudd. On New Year's Day I sent him the following letter, but I am not holding my breath for a reply. The unanswerable is seldom answered.

1 January 2010

The Honourable Mr. Kevin Rudd, Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of Australia.

Prime Minister,

CLIMATE CHANGE: PROPOSED PERSONAL BRIEFING

Your speech on 6 November 2009 to the Lowy Institute, in which you publicly expressed some concern at my approach to the climate question, has prompted several leading Australian citizens to invite me come on tour to explain myself in a series of lectures in Australia later this month. I am writing to offer personal briefings on why "global warming" is a non-problem to you and other party leaders during my visit. For convenience, I am copying this letter to them, and to the Press.

Your speech mentioned my remarks about the proposal for world "government" in the early drafts of what had been intended as a binding Copenhagen Treaty. These proposals were not, as you suggested, a "conspiracy theory" from the "far right" with "zero basis in evidence". Your staff will find them in paragraphs 36-38 of the main text of Annex 1 to the 15 September draft of the Treaty. The word "government" appears twice at paragraph 38. After much adverse publicity in democratic countries, including Australia, the proposals were reluctantly dropped before Copenhagen.

You say I am one of "those who argue that any multilateral action is by definition evil". On the contrary: my first question is whether any action at all is required, to which – as I shall

demonstrate – the objective economic and scientific answer is No. Even if multilateral action were required, which it is not, national governments in the West are by tradition democratically elected. Therefore, a fortiori, transnational or global governments should also be made and unmade by voters at the ballot-box. The climate ought not to be used as a shoddy pretext for international bureaucratic-centralist dictatorship. We committed Europeans have had more than enough of that already with the unelected but all-powerful Kommissars of the hated EU, who make nine-tenths of our laws by decree (revealingly, they call them "Directives" or "Commission Regulations"). The Kommissars (that is the official German word for them) inflict their dictates upon us regardless of what the elected European or any other democratic Parliament says or wishes. Do we want a worldwide EU? No.

You say I am one of "those who argue that climate change does not represent a global market failure". Yet it is only recently that opinion sufficient to constitute a market signal became apparent in the documents of the IPCC, which is, however, a political rather than a scientific entity. There has scarcely been time for a "market failure". Besides, corporations are falling over themselves to cash in on the giant financial fraud against the little guy that carbon taxation and trading have already become in the goody-two-shoes EU – and will become in Australia if you get your way.

You say I was one of "those who argue that somehow the market will magically solve the problem". In fact I have never argued that, though in general the market is better at solving problems than the habitual but repeatedly-failed *dirigisme* of the *etatistes* predominant in the *classe* politique today.

The questions I address are a) whether there is a climate problem at all; and b) even if there is one, and even if *per impossibile* it is of the hilariously-overblown magnitude imagined by the IPCC, whether waiting and adapting as *and if* necessary is more cost-effective than attempting to mitigate the supposed problem by trying to reduce the carbon dioxide our industries and enterprises emit.

Let us pretend, solum ad argumentum, that a given proportionate increase in CO2 concentration causes the maximum warming imagined by the IPCC. The IPCC's bureaucrats are careful not to derive a function that will convert changes in CO2 concentration directly to equilibrium changes in temperature. I shall do it for them.

We derive the necessary implicit function from the IPCC's statement to the effect that equilibrium surface warming *delta-T* at CO₂ doubling will be $(3.26 \pm \ln 2)$ C°. Since the IPCC, in compliance with Beer's Law, defines the radiative forcing effect of CO₂ as logarithmic rather than linear, our implicit function can be derived at once. The coefficient is the predicted warming at CO₂ doubling divided by the logarithm of 2, and the term (C/C_0) is the proportionate increase in CO₂ concentration. Thus,

$$delta-T = (4.7 \pm 1) \ln(C/C_0)$$
 | Celsius degrees

We are looking at the IPCC's maximum imagined warming rate, so we simply write –

 $delta-T = 5.7 \ln(C/C_0)$ | Celsius degrees

Armed with this function telling us the maximum equilibrium warming that the IPCC predicts from any given change in CO₂ concentration, we can now determine, robustly, the maximum equilibrium warming that is likely to be forestalled by any proposed cut in the current upward path of CO₂ emissions. Let me demonstrate.

By the end of this month, according to the Copenhagen Accord, all parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change are due to report what cuts in emissions they will make by 2020. Broadly speaking, the Annex 1 parties, who will account for about half of global emissions over the period, will commit to reducing current emissions by 30% by 2020, or 15% on average in the decade between now and 2020.

Thus, if and only if every Annex 1 party to the Copenhagen Accord complies with its obligations to the full, today's emissions will be reduced by around half of that 15%, namely 7.5%, compared with business as usual. If the trend of the past decade continues, with business as usual we shall add 2 ppmv/year, or 20 ppmv over the decade, to atmospheric CO2 concentration. Now, 7.5% of 20 ppmv is 1.5 ppmv.

We determine the warming forestalled over the coming decade by comparing the business-as-usual warming that would occur between now and 2020 if we made no cuts in CO2 emissions with the lesser warming that would follow full compliance with the Copenhagen Accord. Where today's CO2 concentration is 388 ppmv –

Business as usual: $delta-T = 5.7 \ln(408.0/388) = 0.29 \text{ C}^{\circ}$

- Copenhagen: delta-T = 5.7 ln(406.5/388) = 0.27 C°

= "Global warming" forestalled, 2010-2020: 0.02 C°

One-fiftieth of a Celsius degree of warming forestalled is all that complete, global compliance with the Copenhagen Accord for an entire decade would achieve. Yet the cost of achieving this result – an outcome so small that our instruments would not be able to measure it – would run into trillions of dollars. Do your Treasury models demonstrate that this calculation is in any way erroneous? If they do, junk them.

You say "formal global and national economic modelling" shows "that the costs of inaction are greater than the costs of acting". You ask for my "equivalent evidence basis to Treasury modelling published by the Government of the industry and employment impacts of climate change". I respond that the rigorous calculation that I have described, which your officials may verify for themselves, shows that whatever costs may be imagined to flow from anthropogenic "global warming" will scarcely be mitigated at all, even by trillions of dollars of expenditure over the coming decade.

Every economic analysis except that of the now-discredited Lord Stern, with its near-zero discount rate and its absurdly inflated warming rates, comes to the same ineluctable conclusion: adaptation to climate change, in whatever direction, as *and if* necessary, is orders of magnitude more cost-effective than attempts at mitigation. In a long career in policy analysis in and out of government, I have never seen so cost-ineffective a proposed waste of taxpayers' money as the trillions which today's scientifically-illiterate governments propose to spend on attempting – with all the plausibility of King Canute – to stop the tide from coming in.

Remember that I have done this calculation on the basis that everyone who should comply with the Copenhagen Accord actually does comply. Precedent does not look promising. The Kyoto Protocol, the Copenhagen Accord's predecessor, has been in operation for more than a decade, and it was supposed to reduce global CO2 emissions by 2012. So far, after billions spent on global implementation of Kyoto, global CO2 emissions have *risen* compared with when Kyoto was first signed.

Remember too that we have assumed the *maximum* warming that the CO2 imagines might occur in response to a given proportionate increase in CO2 concentration. Yet even the IPCC's *central* estimate of CO2's warming effect, according to an increasing number of serious papers in the peer-reviewed literature, is a five-fold exaggeration. If those papers are right, after a further decade of incomplete compliance and billions squandered, warming forestalled may prove to be just a *thousandth* of a degree.

Now ask yourself this. Are you, personally, and your advisers, personally, and your administration's officials, personally, willing to make the heroically pointless sacrifices that you so insouciantly demand of others in the name of Saving The Planet For Future Generations? I beg leave to think not. At Flag 1 I have attached what I have reason to believe is a generally accurate list of the names and titles of the delegation that you led to Copenhagen to bring back the non-result whose paltriness, pointlessness and futility we have now rigorously demonstrated. There are 114 names on the list. One hundred and fourteen. Enough to fill a mid-sized passenger jet. Half a dozen were all that was really necessary – and perhaps one from each State in Australia. If you and your officials are not willing to tighten your belts when a tempting foreign junket at taxpayers' expense is in prospect, why, pray, should the taxpayers tighten theirs?

You say that climate-change "deniers" – nasty word, that, and you should really have known better than to use it – are "small in number but too dangerous to be ignored", and "well resourced". In fact, governments, taxpayer-funded organizations, taxpayer-funded teachers, and taxpayer-funded environmental groups have spent something like 50,000 times as much on "global warming" propaganda as their opponents have spent on debunking this new and cruel superstition. And that is before we take account of the relentless prejudice of the majority of the mainstream news media.

How, then, it is that we, the supposed minority who will not admit that the emperor of "global warming" is adequately clad, are somehow prevailing? How is it that we are

convincing more and more of the population not to place any more trust in the "global warming" theory? The answer is that the "global warming" theory is not true, and no amount of bluster or braggadocio, ranting or rodomontade will make it true.

You say that our aim, in daring to oppose the transient fashion for apocalypticism, is "to erode just enough of the political will that action becomes impossible". No. Our aim is simply to ensure that the truth is widely enough understood to prevent the squandering of precious resources on addressing the non-problem of anthropogenic "global warming". The correct policy response to a non-problem is to have the courage to do nothing. No interventionist likes to do nothing. Nevertheless, the do-nothing option, scientifically and economically speaking, is the right option.

You say that I and others like me base our thinking on the notion that "the cost of not acting is nothing". Well, after a decade and a half with no statistically-significant "global warming", and after three decades in which the mean warming rate has been well below the ever-falling predictions of the UN's climate panel, that notion has certainly not been disproven in reality.

However, the question I address is not that but this. Is the cost of taking action many times greater than the cost of not acting? The answer to this question is Yes.

Millions are already dying of starvation in the world's poorest nations because world food prices have doubled in two years. That abrupt, vicious doubling was caused by a sharp drop in world food production, caused in turn by suddenly taking millions of acres of land out of growing food for people who need it, so as to grow biofuels for clunkers that don't. The scientifically-illiterate, economically-innumerate policies that you advocate – however fashionable you may conceive them to be – are killing people by the million.

You say my logic "belongs in a casino, not a science lab". Yet it is you who are gambling with poor people's lives, and it is you – or, rather, they – who are losing: and losing not merely their substance but their very existence. The biofuel scam is born of the idiotic notion – a notion you uncritically espouse – that increasing by less than 1/2000 this century the proportion of the Earth's atmosphere occupied by CO2 may prove catastrophic. At a time when so many of the world's people are already short of food, the UN's right-to-food rapporteur, Herr Ziegler, has roundly and rightly condemned the biofuel scam as nothing less than "a crime against humanity".

The scale of the slaughter is monstrous, with food riots (largely unreported in the Western news media, and certainly not mentioned by you in your recent speech) in a dozen regions of the Third World over the past two years. Yet this cruel, unheeded slaughter is founded upon a lie: the claim by the IPCC that it is 90% certain that most of the "global warming" since 1950 is manmade. This claim – based not on science but on a show of hands among political representatives, with China wanting a lower figure and other nations wanting a higher figure – is demonstrably, self-servingly false. Peer-reviewed analyses of changes in cloud cover over recent decades – changes almost entirely unconnected with changes in

CO2 concentration – show that it was this largely-natural reduction in cloud cover from 1983-2001 and a consequent increase in the amount of short-wave and UV solar radiation reaching the Earth that accounted for *five times* as much warming as CO2 could have caused.

Nor is the IPCC's great lie the only lie. If you will allow me to brief you and your advisers, I will show you lie after lie after lie in the official documents of the IPCC and in the speeches of its current chairman, who has made himself a multi-millionaire as a "global warming" profiteer.

However, if you will not make the time to hear me for half an hour before you commit your working people to the futile indignity of excessive taxation and pointless over-regulation without the slightest scientific or economic justification, and to outright confiscation of their farmland without compensation on the fatuous pretext that the land is a "carbon sink", then I hope that you will at least nominate one of the scientists on your staff to address the two central issues that I have raised in this letter: namely, the egregious cost-ineffectiveness of attempting to mitigate "global warming" by emissions reduction, and the measured fact, well demonstrated in the scientific literature, that a largely-natural change in cloud cover in recent decades caused five times as much "global warming" as CO2. It is also a measured fact that, while those of the UN's computer models that can be forced with an increase in sea-surface temperatures all predict a consequent *fall* in the flux of outgoing radiation at top of atmosphere, in observed reality there is an *increase*. In short, the radiation that is supposed to be trapped here in the troposphere to cause "global warming" is measured as escaping to space much as usual, so that it cannot be causing more than around one-fifth of the warming the IPCC predicts.

My list of the Copenhagen junketers from Australia's governing class is attached. All those taxpayer dollars squandered, just to forestall 0.02 C° of "global warming" in ten years. Yet, in the past decade and a half, there has been no "global warming" at all. Can you not see that it would be kinder to your working people to wait another decade and see whether global temperatures even begin to respond as the IPCC has predicted? What is the worst that can happen if you wait? Just 0.02 C° of global warming that would not otherwise have occurred. It's a no-brainer.

Yours faithfully, VISCOUNT MONCKTON OF BRENCHLEY

THE RUDD GOVERNMENT'S COPENHAGEN JUNKET LIST

December 2009

The following 114 officials or representatives of the Australian Government and of State administrations attended the UN climate conference at Copenhagen in December 2009 –

- 1. Kevin Michael Rudd, Prime Minister; 2. Penelope Wong, Minister, Clim. Chg. & Water; 3. Louise Helen Hand, Ambassador for Clim. Chg.; 4. David Fredericks, Dep. Chf. of Staff, Dept. of the Prime Minister; 5. Philip Green Oam, Sen. Policy Advr., Foreign Affairs Dept.; 6. Andrew Charlton, Sen. Advr., Prime Minister's Dept.; 7. Lachlan Harris, Sen. Press Sec., Prime Minister's Office; 8. Scott Dewar, Sen. Advr., Prime Minister's Office; 9. Clare Penrose, Advr., Prime Minister's Office; 10. Fiona Sugden, Media Advr., Prime Minister's Office;
- 11. Lisa French, Prime Minister's Office; 12. Jeremy Hilman, Advr., Prime Minister's Office; 13. Tarah Barzanji, Advr., Prime Minister's Office; 14. Kate Shaw, Exec. Sec., Prime Minister's Office; 15. Gaile Barnes, Exec. Asst., Prime Minister's Office; 16. Gordon de Brouwer, Dep. Sec. Prime Minister's Dept.; 17. Patrick Suckling, 1st Asst. Sec., Intl. Div., Prime Minister's Office; 18. Rebecca Christie, Prime Minister's Office; 19. Michael Jones, Official Photographer, Prime Minister & Cabinet;
- 20. Stephan Rudzki; 21. David Bell, Federal Agent, Aus. Federal Police; 22. Kym Baillie, Aus. Federal Police; 23. David Champion, Aus. Federal Police; 24. Matt Jebb, Federal Agent Aus. Federal Police; 25. Craig Kendall, Federal Agent, Aus. Federal Police; 26. Squadron Leader Ian Lane, Staff Offr., VIP Operations; 27. John Olenich, Media Advr., to Minister Wong, Office of Clim. Chg. & Water; 28. Kristina Hickey, Advr. to Minister Wong, Office of Clim. Chg. & Water; 29. Martin Parkinson, Sec., Dept. of Clim. Chg.; 30. Howard Bamsey, Special Envoy for Clim. Chg., Dept. of Clim. Chg.;
- 31. Robert Owen-Jones, Asst. Sec., Intl. Div., Dept. of Clim. Chg.; 32. Clare Walsh Asst. Sec., Intl. Div., Dept. of Clim. Chg.; 33. Jenny Elizabeth; ilkinson, Policy Advr., Dept. of Clim. Chg.; 34. Elizabeth Peak, Princ. Legal Advr., Intl. Clim. Law, Dept. of Clim. Chg.; 35. Kristin Tilley, Dir., Multilat. Negots., Intl. Div., Dept. of Clim. Chg.; 36. Andrew Ure, Actg. Dir., Multilat. Negots., Intl. Div., Dept. of Clim. Chg.; 37. Annemarie Watt, Dir., Land Sector Negots., Intl. Div., Dept. of Clim. Chg.; 38. Kushla Munro, Dir., Intl. Forest Carbon Sectn. Intl. Div., Dept. of Clim. Chg.; 39. Kathleen Annette Rowley, Dir., Strategic & Tech. Analysis, Dept. of Clim. Chg.; 40. Anitra Cowan Asst. Dir., Multilat. Negots., Dept. of Clim. Chg.;
- 41. Sally Truong, Asst. Dir., Multilat. Negots., Intl. Div. Dept. of Clim. Chg.; 42. Jane Wilkinson, Asst. Dir., Dept. of Clim. Chg.; 43. Tracey Mackay, Asst. Dir., Intl. Div., Dept. of Clim. Chg.; 44. Laura Brown, Asst. Dir., Multilat. Negots., Intl. Div., Dept. of Clim. Chg.; 45. Tracey-Anne Leahey, Delegation Mgr., Dept. of Clim. Chg.; 46. Nicola Loffler, Sen. Legal Advr., Intl. Clim. Law, Dept. of Clim. Chg.; 47. Tamara Curll, Legal Advr., Intl. Clim. Law, Dept. of Clim. Chg.; 48. Jessica Allen, Legal Support Offr., Dept. of Clim. Chg.; 49. Sanjiva de Silva, Legal Advr., Intl. Clim. Law, Dept. of Clim. Chg.; 50. Gaia Puleston, Political Advr., Dept. of Clim. Chg.
- 51. Penelope Morton, Policy Advr., UNFCCC Negots., Intl. Div., Dept. of Clim. Chg.; 52. Claire Elizabeth Watt, Policy Advr., Dept. of Clim. Chg.; 53. Amanda Walker, Policy Offr., Multilat. Negots., Dept. of Clim. Chg.; 54. Alan David Lee, Policy Advr., Land Sector Negots., Dept. of Clim. Chg.; 55. Erika Kate Oord, Aus. Stakeholder Mgr., Dept. of Clim. Chg.; 56. Jahda Kirian Swanborough, Comms. Mgr., Ministerial Comms., Dept. of Clim. Chg.; 57. H.E. Sharyn Minahan, Ambassador, Dipl. Miss. of Aus. to DK; 58. Julia Feeney, Dir., Clim. Chg. & Envir.,

Dept. of Foreign Affairs & Trade; 59. Chester Geoffrey Cunningham, 2nd Sec., DFAT, Dipl. Miss. of Aus. to Germany; 60. Rachael Cooper, Exec. Offr., Clim. Chg. & Envir., Dept. of Foreign Affairs & Trade;

61. Rachael Grivas, Exec. Offr., Envir. Branch, Dept. of Foreign Affairs & Trade; 62. Moya Collett, Desk Offr., Clim. Chg. & Envir. Sectn., Dept. of Foreign Affairs & Trade; 63. Rob Law, Dept. of Foreign Affairs & Trade; 64. Robin Davies, Asst. Dir. Gen., Sustainable Devel. Gp., Aus. Agency for Intl. Devel.; 65. Deborah Fulton, Dir., Policy & Global Envir., Aus. Agency for Intl. Devel.;

66. Katherine Vaughn, Policy Advr., Policy & Global Envir., Aus. Agency for Intl. Devel.; 67. Brian Dawson, Policy Advr., Aus. Agency for Intl. Devel.; 68. Andrew Leigh Clarke, Dep. Sec., Dept. of Res. Devel., Western Aus.; 69. Bruce Wilson, Gen. Mgr., Envir. Energy & Envir. Div., Dept. of Resrc. Devel., W. Aus.; 70. Jill McCarthy, Policy Advr., Dept. of Resrc., Energy & Tourism;

71. Simon French, Policy Advr., Dept. of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry; 72. Ian Michael Ruscoe, Policy Advr., Dept. of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry; 73. David Walland, Acting Supt., Nat. Clim. Centre, Bureau of Meteorology; 74. Damien Dunn Sen. Policy Advr., Aus. Treasury; 75. Helen Hawka Fuhrman, Policy Offr., Renewable Energy Policy & Partnerships; 76. Scott Vivian Davenport, Chf., Economics, NSW Dept. of Industry & Invest.; 77. Graham Julian Levitt, Policy Mgr., Clim. Chg., NSW Dept. of Industry & Invest.; 78. Kate Jennifer Jones, Minister, Clim. Chg. & Sustainability, Qld. Govt.; 79. Michael William Dart, Princ. Policy Advr., Office of Kate Jones, MP, Qld. Govt.; 80. Matthew Anthony Jamie Skoien, Sen. Dir., Office of Clim. Chg. Qld. Govt.;

81. Michael David Rann, Premier, S. Aus. Dept. of Premier & Cabinet, S. Aus.; 82. Suzanne Kay Harter, Advr., Dept. of Premier & Cabinet, S. Aus.; 83. Paul David Flanagan, Mgr., Comms., Govt. of S. Aus.; 84. Timothy O'Loughlin, Dep. Chf. Exec., Sust. & Wkfc. Mgmt., S. Aus. Dept. of Premier; 85. Nyla Sarwar M.Sc, student, Linacre College, University of Oxford; 86. Gavin Jennings, Minister, Envir. & Clim. Chg. & Innovation, Victorian Govt.; 87. Sarah Broadbent, Sustainability Advr.; 88. Rebecca Falkingham, Sen. Advr., Victoria Govt./Office of Clim. Chg.; 89. Simon Camroux, Policy Advr., Energy Supply Ass. of Aus. Ltd.; 90. Geoff Lake, Advr., Aus. Local Govt. Assoc.;

91. Sridhar Ayyalaraju, Post Visit Controller, Dipl. Miss. of Aus. to DK; 92. Tegan Brink Dep. Visit Controller & Security Liaison Offr., Dipl. Miss. of Aus. to DK; 93. Melissa Eu Suan Goh, Trspt. Liaison Offr. & Consul, Dipl. Miss. of Aus. to DK; 94. Lauren Henschke, Support Staff, Dipl. Miss. of Aus. to DK; 95. Maree Fay, Accommodation Liaison Offr., Dipl. Miss. of Aus. to DK; 96. Patricia McKinnon, Comms. Offr., Dipl. Miss. of Aus. to DK; 97. Eugene Olim, Passport/Baggage Liaison Offr., Dipl. Miss. of Aus. to DK; 98. Belinda Lee Adams; 99. Jacqui Ashworth, Media Liaison Offr., Dipl. Miss. of Aus. to DK; 100. Patricia Smith, Media Liaison Offr., Dipl. Miss. of Aus. to DK;

101. Martin Bo Jensen, Research & Public Dipl. Offr., Dipl. Miss. of Aus. to DK; 102. Mauro Kolobaric, Consular Support, Dipl. Miss. of Aus. to DK; 103. Susan Flanagan, Consular Support, Dipl. Miss. of Aus. to DK; 104. Stephen Kanaridis, IT Support Offr., Dipl. Miss. of Aus. to DK; 105. George Reid, Support Staff, Dipl. Miss. of Aus. to DK; 106. Ashley Wright, Support Staff, Dipl. Miss. of Aus. to DK; 107. Jodie Littlewood, Support Staff, Dipl. Miss. of Aus. to DK; 108. Thomas Millhouse, Support Staff, Dipl. Miss. of Aus. to DK; 109. Timothy Whittley, Support Staff Driver, Dipl. Miss. of Aus. to DK; 110. Julia Thomson, Dipl. Miss. of Aus. to DK;

111. Donald Frater, Chf. of Staff to Minister Wong Office of Clim. Chg. & Water; 112. Jacqui Smith, Media Liaison, Dipl. Miss. of Aus. to DK; 113. Greg French, Sen. Legal Advr. (Envir.), Dept. of Foreign Affairs & Trade; 114. Jeremy Hillman, Advr., Prime Minister's Office.



Source: http://sppiblog.org/news/lord-monckton-replies-to-australias-canting-ranting-prime-minister.

