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Hon. Scott Morrison MP
Prime Minister of Australia
House of Representatives
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

22 October 2021

RE: CLIMATE ACTION - AN OPEN LETTER FROM AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS

Dear Prime Minister,

We the undersigned 117 Australian businesses are calling on the Australian Government to harness the unique opportunities Australia has to become a world-leading renewable energy export superpower.

In the last 18 months, Australian businesses have faced unprecedented uncertainty and hardship. But what we've seen, is that when businesses like ours thrive, so does the whole of Australia.

For Australia's economy to grow and for businesses like ours to prosper into the future, we cannot risk being left behind if we do not join the rest of the world racing to grow their renewable industries.

Australia already has a natural head start in a global renewable-powered economy. We have some of the best wind and solar resources in the world, abundant land and the critical minerals needed to make renewable energy technologies such as batteries. We also have the skills, expertise and strong trading relationships needed to develop a thriving clean energy export industry. However Federal Government action is critical to unlocking Australia's renewable advantage. We are already being outspent as other global economies invest at a rate far greater than us.

It doesn't matter how we start the race, it only matters how we finish it.

Therefore, we are joining WWF-Australia to call on the Australian Government to step up and announce the vision, policies and investment we need to position ourselves as a world-leading renewable energy exporter at the upcoming Climate Change Conference of Parties in Glasgow (COP26). Specifically, we're calling on the Federal Government to commit to:

1. **Creating Regional Renewable Energy Industrial Precincts:** to enable clusters of traditionally hard-to-decarbonise industries to be powered with renewables and clean heat.
2. **Developing Bold Renewable Export Plans:** that put us on a path to creating enough renewable energy to power our domestic needs with enough left over to sell to our neighbours.
3. **Delivering a Fair Transition:** ensure First Nations, workers and regional communities benefit from the renewables race.

Serious action on climate change looks like taking these steps to ensure Australia can become a renewable superpower.

A range of studies have found that becoming a renewable energy export superpower could grow Australia's economy by up to \$333 billion per annum and create hundreds of thousands of jobs, particularly in regional areas. Businesses like ours can support these industries to grow – we will benefit directly from Australia growing as a renewable export powerhouse.

Australians invented the first solar cell, which is now used all around the world. But we didn't implement the policies to commercialise this technology and ensure that the Australian economy grew from doing so. We cannot afford to lose opportunities like this again, we need to act now.

This is a critical moment in our nation's history. As leaders gather for COP26, we urge you to send a clear signal and put Australia on the world map as a leading renewable energy export superpower to show the world that we are open for business.

Investing in Australia's renewable energy export potential means that as the world comes together to act on climate change, our economy, and Australian businesses will be able to thrive for generations to come. We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

WWF-Australia & the following Australian businesses

CC: Minister Dan Tehan
Minister Angus Taylor



Dermot O'Gorman
CEO
WWF-Australia



Nicky Sparshott,
CEO
Unilever Australia and
New Zealand



Mirja Viinanen,
Country Retail
Manager,
IKEA Australia



David Masters,
Head of Global Policy
and Regulatory Affairs,
Atlassian



Alex Hewitt,
CEO,
CWP Global



Simon Sheikh,
CEO & Founder of
Future Super



James Thornton,
CEO,
Intrepid Travel



John McMurdo,
Chief Executive Officer,
Australian Ethical
Investment



Benn Lim,
Chief Operating &
Impact Officer,
Arowana



Samantha Hurley,
CEO,
25eight



Chris McGrath,
Co-Founder & CEO,
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Head of Vena Energy
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Daniel Zelcer,
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Corinne Bot,
CEO of Anávo



Frank Rosol,
Owner,
Australian Tree Care



Craig Laren,
Owner,
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Andy Fallshaw,
Bellroy Co-Founder &
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BENEDICTUS MEDIA

Phil Benedictus,
Founder & CEO,
Benedictus Media



It doesn't cost the earth

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Founder & Non
Executive Director,
BioPak

B E A R™

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C O M P A S S

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Dumbo Feather

Nathan Scolaro,
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Ben Hutt,
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Director,
Evergen



Megan Fisher,
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EnergyLab



Tracey Tran,
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Calvin Tan,
Electrical Engineer,
Exploren



Maria Petkovic,
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Carola Jones,
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Co-Founder,
First Ray



Cedar Anderson,
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Flow Hive



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Chief Executive Officer
& Chief Listener,
Forward Thinking
Design



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Managing Director,
Greenfield Energy



Michelle Thomas,
CEO of GECA



Paul Hellier,
Founder,
Fair Food Forager



Anthony Broese van Groenou, Co-Founder & Director, The Good Car Company



Abigail Forsyth, Co-Founder & Managing Director, KeepCup



Timothy O'Brien, Founder, Hatched



Danielle King, Director, Sustainability Advisor, Educator, Green Moves Australia



Jess Lees, Executive, Humanitarian Advisory Group



Saxon Wright, CEO, Huskee



Max Hewitt, Division Manager for Hydrogen Australia



Liam Wallis, Founder, Hip V. Hype



Robin Power, Head of Business Development, Insitutek



Paul Brown, Managing Director, Ironbark Sustainability



Sasha Tichkosky, CEO & Co-Founder, Koskela



Todd Beavis, Founder & Principal, i.e. Community



Damien Chappell, Managing Director, Landserv



Andrea Christie-David, Managing Director, Leor In Home Learning



Sophia Davis, Community Guide, Lively



Anthony Vippond, CEO, Lotus Energy



Karl Tischler, Founder & Managing Director, Marlin Communications



Law, done differently

Kiera Peacock, Partner, Marque Lawyers



Matt Drum, Managing Director, Ndevr Environmental



Jed Durdin, Director, Maximum Energy



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Andrea Spencer-Cooke,
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Matthew Nation,
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Saxon Wright,
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Pablo & Rusty's Coffee
Roasters



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Peloton Against Plastic



Danielle Duell,
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People With Purpose



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Larah Kennedy,
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David Ireland,
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Radian Energy



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Karsten Home,
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Danny Almagor,
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Small Giants



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CEO,
SwitchDin



Ben Peacock,
Founder,
And everyone at
Republic of Everyone



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CEO for Smart Energy
Council



Clark Butler,
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