

## WRITTEN SUBMISSION FROM ROSALIND HENDERSON

Dear Convener of the TICC Committee

I would be grateful if you and your Committee would consider my views in relation to the Climate Change (Scotland) Bill.

2009 is a critical year for climate change, as internationally we seek to create a new global deal to tackle this massive threat to our planet, and here in Scotland there is a huge opportunity to enact the most progressive climate change legislation in the world.

I've looked at the Climate Change Bill and note the following points:

Re - 58 Deposit and return schemes

(c) ensure that some or all of such packaging is recycled.

I'm just wondering what is the point of a deposit and return scheme if only some of the packaging is recycled. Surely the requirement would be for most to be re-used where appropriate, or recycled then re-used by the manufacturer where appropriate. Surely it is generally better to recycle at the point of use (unless the manufacturer has set up a system specific to their product), otherwise the only benefit of returning packaging to a manufacturer would be to re-use it.

Re -59 Charges for supply of carrier bags

There doesn't seem to be any differentiation between types or size of carrier bag. Are paper bags or bags made from natural/readily bio-degradable materials to be treated the same as bags made from non-renewable resources? Are crates and boxes used for carrying goods included?

Things I would have expected to see in the bill...

Energy self-sufficiency for Scotland could and should be achieved as soon as possible. Scotland could be world leaders in new energy and needs urgent investment in wave, hydro, and wind power (renewable resources we have aplenty).

Action on other disposable 'one-use' products - e.g. plastic cups, disposable nappies, polystyrene packaging.

Some Cradle to Cradle thinking.

Action on product labelling, regarding environmental impact of product life cycle, to give consumers a more enlightened choice.

The updating of recycling facilities and transparency of information regarding what happens to recycled material, and who benefits financially from re-use of materials.

Requirement for new buildings to be zero carbon - the technology is available now so there is no need to delay on this.

Substantial investment for public buildings to be more energy efficient - (or even energy producing)

Water metering and use of grey/rain water.

My overall impression of the bill is that it seems rather half-hearted and narrow, and does not reflect the urgency and importance of this issue.

I know that the legislation can be strengthened or weakened as it goes through the Scottish Parliament. I welcome the long-term target of at least an 80% reduction in all greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. However the Bill needs to be strengthened further to ensure the action it prompts will tackle emissions and avoid dangerous climate change.

I hope you can make sure Scotland gets a strong Climate Change Act that ensures:

- Serious action to reduce emissions - starting now. The time for action must be now, so the Bill must require at least 3% annual reductions in emissions year-on-year (in line with the SNP Manifesto commitment), starting immediately and not just in ten years time. Delaying a requirement for at least 3% reductions in emissions until 2020 means action will be too late.
- All emissions are addressed from the start. Ministers have made this commitment, yet the Bill says emissions from international aviation and shipping will only be included after more consultation and legislation. The Bill should make sure all emissions are included from the start.
- Scotland gets a Scottish Climate Change Commission that understands the unique Scottish context, data and policies. The Commission will advise and support delivery of the emissions reduction targets in Scotland, and critically will support their scrutiny in the Scottish Parliament.
- A limit on carbon trading. A limit on the amount of emissions reductions that Scotland can buy from overseas. This is vital if the Bill is to ensure Scotland benefits from real domestic emissions reduction and does its fair share to tackle climate change.
- Robust reporting to help Parliament hold Scottish Ministers and Government to account. The spirit of the Bill is good, but the mechanisms and processes need to be strong, transparent and ensure accountability, with scrutiny always in the public domain.
- Scotland counts all its emissions. As well as direct emissions we should also be reporting on consumption-based emissions - those arising in another country when they produce the goods that we buy.
- All public bodies have a duty to deliver the targets set out in this Bill from the start Public bodies have a critical role to play in delivering the necessary emissions reductions and a duty within the Climate Change Bill would ensure they take the appropriate action to deliver their fair share.

I am willing to play my part in reducing emissions and believe Scotland can lead the way in tackling climate change. Now I am looking to the Scottish Parliament to deliver strong climate change legislation that must be implemented urgently, could be the best in the world and could be a blueprint for other developed nations.

I am a partner in a fledgling environmental design/retail company.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Rosalind Henderson