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Australian Politicians Still Playing Politics On Global Warming - Richard Curchin

While the G20 met in New York and the world prepares for the Copenhagen climate change meeting, Australian politicians are still playing party politics on climate change.

Malcolm Turnbull, the leader of the Australian Liberal Party, says that Kevin Rudd, the Australian Prime Minister, is more interested in playing politics with the proposed emissions trading scheme (ETS), than saving the 'polar bears or the barrier reef.' Mr Rudd has said that if the Liberals block the ETS bill Mr Rudd will use it as a trigger for a general election.

Unfortunately Mr Turnbull thinks that the Great Barrier Reef and the survival of polar bears is what global warming is all about. He just hasn't 'got' global warming. As the world draws nearer to climate disaster, drought, flood, famine and energy shortage, a lot of Australia's elected representatives and most of the electorate still thinks that global warming means that they could keep our current way of life at the expense of isolated environmental losses like polar bears and the Great

Barrier Reef.

Luckily the world's top investors are better informed. They realise that global warming will affect the survival of the whole human population as well as polar bears and coral polyps. They also realise that the changes that will be forced upon us all by climate change are an opportunity to improve technologies, our economies and even our way of life.

Now it's up to the electorate to ensure that our elected representatives understand the consequences of climate change and the consequences of government inaction. It may well be too late for the polar bears and the coral polyps but it isn't too late for us or our children providing we act now. We have to have elected representatives that understand the seriousness of the situation and that acceptable and exciting solutions are available. We have to have elected representatives who understand the problem and can be part of the solution. ✍

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