



from the

PRESIDENT'S DESK



THE PGA REPRESENTS THE INTERESTS OF FARMERS AND PASTORALISTS FROM ALL AGRICULTURAL AREAS OF WA, FROM ESPERANCE TO THE KIMBERLEY. PGA MEMBERS ARE MAJOR PRODUCERS OF AGRICULTURAL EXPORT COMMODITIES – INCLUDING GRAIN, BEEF, SHEEP AND WOOL – AND BELIEVE IN FREE TRADE, OPEN MARKETS, PROPERTY RIGHTS AND PRIVATE ENTERPRISE.

FAILURE BY DESIGN

VLADIMIR Lenin once described communism as "socialism with electrification."

Even in the old Soviet Union material improvements that meant a rise in living standards for the population were regarded as essential for society's progress.

It is a pity that Lenin's socialist heirs in the Australian Parliament fail to follow his advice. Their benchmark for societal progress is how much CO₂ can be eliminated from the atmosphere.

And what a brilliant plan- restrict the use of fossil fuels, upon which our prosperity completely depends, until the economy suffocates.

Supposedly, this is a small price to pay to be spared the misfortune of bad weather. The CSIRO has advised the Government that the weather can be reliably predicted and controlled by political means, if only the citizens would stop messing about trying to improve their lot in life.

Strangely, neither "temperature" nor "global warming" is mentioned in the Clean Energy Bill 2011, which is to be tabled in Parliament soon. The 340 page Bill details a complex network of regulations more extensive and intrusive than any Australian has ever experienced.

It seems that the Government is wholly concerned with controlling the people, not the climate, and to this end, business and economic failure is the desirable objective.

The more successful and wealth-generating the business is, the greater the triumph when it fails. The more people who once supported themselves but are now forced to rely upon Government aid, the greater the wisdom and worthiness of our leaders.

Vaclav Klaus, first Prime Minister of Czechoslovakia after the fall of the Soviet Union and twice President of the Czech Republic, recently visited Perth. As a dissident who spent decades under surveillance and the continual threat of persecution and imprisonment, Klaus is well aware of the types of economic controls forced by a Government on its people.

According to Klaus "Global warming alarmists want to change us. They want to change our behaviour...our way of life...our values and preferences. They want to restrict our freedom because they believe they know what is good for us. They are not interested in the climate. They misuse the climate in their goal to restrict our freedom; therefore, what is in danger is freedom. Not the climate."

We may soon be wishing that Mark Twain was right when he quipped, "Everyone complains about the weather but nobody does anything about it!"

Rob Gillam

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