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SCIENTISTS NEED TO "GET REAL" ABOUT CLIMATE

The "more than 150 scientists" writing an open letter in 'The Conversation' newsletter last week, calling on Malcolm Turnbull to "tackle the root cause of an unfolding climate tragedy" need to explain how the Prime Minister of Australia, which emits less than 1.2% of the world's carbon emissions, can possibly address the problems they supposedly identify.

The report in the 'the Conversation' magazine is ridiculous in its expectation that Malcolm Turnbull can do anything to address the outputs of carbon from the rest of the world - if those emissions are the cause of the crisis they continually publicise.

I also wonder how many of those 150 scientists rely on Government Research grants for their on-going livelihoods? And those who do should be declaring any grants they receive directly or indirectly.

Both these scientists, and the media who happily report their predictions, need to take a dose of reality.

I keep asking and keep waiting for an answer to the question: why it is that Australia which emits less than 1.2 per cent of the world's carbon emissions, can possibly do anything to limit the emissions from the rest of the world.

We could shut Australia down completely - that is no coal fired electricity, no vehicles, no factories, no farming - and this would still make no impact on the world's emission, and not one iota of difference to the changing climate of the globe.

I say to those scientists - explain yourselves and get real.

*Senator Ian MacDonald
Townsville*