

SALLY COSTELLA

Senate Candidate for Tasmania

THE CLIMATE SCEPTICS PARTY

sallycostella[REDACTED].com costella@[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

BY EMAIL: [REDACTED]

3 August 2010

Re: Senate Tasmania

Dear Mr. [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 3 August 2010, seeking my position on Internet filtering and Internet censorship.

The Climate Sceptics Party does not have specific policies on these issues, although a central plank of the Party's philosophy is the right of all Australians to freedom from unjustifiable interference by governments.

In all cases, candidates from our Party that are successful in being elected to Parliament have three guiding principles:

1. Obtain the best possible scientific evidence.
2. Ensure that the views of ordinary Australians are sought and heeded.
3. Allow our Members of Parliament to facilitate or lead the public debate, regardless of any differences of opinion they may have.

I am happy to provide my own personal opinions on the issues you raise. As noted above, these do not necessarily represent the views of The Climate Sceptics Party or any of its endorsed candidates.

My position is simple to state: I am absolutely opposed to Senator Conroy's proposed Internet filter, and I am absolutely opposed to any form of Internet censorship.

I hold these views not only as a matter of principle, but also as a matter of practicality. My husband is an electrical engineer and physicist who has used the Internet since 1988, and the World Wide Web since its inception in the early 1990s. I trust his advice that any attempt to filter or censor the Internet in this way:

- will utterly fail to prevent criminals from easily circumventing any such attempt;
- will cause enormous disruption and discrimination to ordinary, law-abiding Australians going about their daily lives; and
- will grossly distort and impede the proper functioning of a network specifically designed by the U.S. Department of Defense to be impervious to such forms of centralised control or disruption.

Rather, I express my deep admiration for the members of the Australian Federal Police in investigating and tracking down perpetrators of the heinous crimes ostensibly targeted by Senator Conroy's flawed Bill, and believe that such methods are the appropriate manner of tackling such crimes.

If elected as a Senator for Tasmania, I will vote against any Bill seeking to filter or censor the Internet in any way.

Again, I thank you for seeking my views on these important issues. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

A black rectangular box redacting the signature of Sally Costella.

Sally Costella