



Media Release

Senator Mathias Cormann

Shadow Assistant Treasurer

Senator for Western Australia

11/1012/SB

12 October 2011

Stephen Smith breaks faith with the people of Perth

Today Stephen Smith had the opportunity to restore faith with the people of Perth WA Senator Mathias Cormann said.

“Stephen Smith had the opportunity to stand up for the people of Perth, honour his word and stop the carbon tax that the Prime Minister promised we wouldn’t have.”

“Stephen Smith has betrayed the people of Perth today by voting for the carbon tax,” Senator Cormann said.

“On the government's own figures, 3 million Australian households will be worse off under the carbon tax. On the Government's own figures, dual income families will be worse off once they have the income of a school teacher and a shop assistant; or that of a policeman and a part-time nurse. Where are these families expected to find the money to pay for Julia Gillard’s carbon tax?”

“Today, Stephen Smith voted for this job-destroying carbon tax and abandoned jobs and industries in Perth,” Senator Cormann said.

“This fundamental betrayal is going to impact on peoples’ cost of living and it is going to make their jobs less secure.”

“When the Prime Minister said five days before the last election “there will be no carbon tax under the government I lead” she was giving a commitment on behalf of every Labor member of parliament,” Senator Cormann said.

“If Labor members of parliament were serious about keeping faith with their electorates they would have opposed the carbon tax.”

“The Coalition’s commitment to the Australian people is that we will continue to do everything in our power to fight this toxic tax,” Senator Cormann said.

“If we are going to take the cost of living pressures off Australian families and if we are going to give Australian manufacturing industry a fighting chance, then we must fight the carbon tax.”

“The Coalition will oppose Labor’s toxic carbon tax in opposition and we will rescind it in government,” Senator Cormann concluded.

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