

Transcript of Flannery speaking:

http://fora.tv/2010/05/12/Tim_Flannery_Now_or_Never

The relevant section of interest starts around the 31 minutes and 30 seconds mark.

"I would love to see some political leader commit to a ban on the building of any new conventional coal-fired powerplants or any enhancement of existing conventional coal-fired powerplants in Australia.

That wouldn't be such a radical move. The reason being that we have a 20% renewable energy target which under current settings is unlikely to be met but anyway it's in there as policy which goes a lot of the way towards that end in any case.

(This man seems to be saying we should rely on renewables even though we cannot rely on renewables.)

The government of Queensland has already introduced legislation that goes a long way to banning conventional coal-fired powerplant construction in future.

For the federal government to do that is not such a great leap and it would show their bonafides on this issue. I very much fear that the Labor party won't do that because the sort of policy settings we're seeing actually implemented in the climate change area now are not those of the climate minister, they're not Penny Wong's way forward, they're Martin Ferguson's vision of the future of Australia, Martin Ferguson has been a climate sceptic for a long time. He may still be a climate sceptic. He believes very sincerely that coal is the future. That's what the future of the world is going to be.

And if you believe coal's the future you spend a lot of money on carbon capture and storage but nothing on other options, or very little. As little as you can do politically on other options."