



*****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - 18 JUNE 2012*****

Environmental groups welcome ACMA finding against 2GB over climate science

The Climate and Health Alliance (CAHA) and Climate Justice Programme (CJP) welcome findings by the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) that 2GB breached the Commercial Radio Australia's Codes of Practice and Guidelines by failing to use reasonable efforts to ensure that factual material was reasonably supportable as being accurate. The investigation was launched after CAHA and CJP, represented by the Environmental Defenders Office, made a joint complaint to ACMA in 2011.

The investigation concerned material that was broadcast during *The Alan Jones Breakfast Show* on 15 March 2011 when Mr Alan Jones stated that "human beings produce 0.001 per cent of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere".

"These statements were grossly inaccurate and contrary to clear scientific facts," stated Keely Boom, Executive Officer of the CJP. "Human emissions of CO₂ make up about 28% of the CO₂ in the atmosphere – not 0.001%."

"The Climate Justice Programme is pleased that ACMA has indeed found that Mr Jones' comment was made in breach of the media codes. There was no evidence that reasonable efforts had been taken to ensure that the comment was reasonably supportable as being accurate."

"The findings by ACMA demonstrate that the public are being misled by some media commentators who refuse to accept the scientific evidence of climate change," said Fiona Armstrong, Convener of CAHA.

"Climate change poses serious and increasing risks to people, and misleading people about the science is no small matter. CAHA welcomes the findings of ACMA that substituting facts with opinion about the science of climate change in the interests of 'hyperbolic gesture' is in breach of the radio Codes of Practice."

Further comments:

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