Constraining Supply

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Australian national GHG emissions

Emissions in MtCO$_2$eq

- National emissions

Year:
- 1980
- 1990
- 2000
- 2010
- 2020
- 2030
- 2040
- 2050
• **Claim**
  - Current and likely future methods for dividing emissions inadequate. We should count ‘exported emissions’.

• **Prima Facie case for:**
  - carbon budget
  - moral responsibility for consequences
  - responsibility for scope 3 emissions
Analogy with other commodities

- **Analogy with other commodities**
  - **Analogy:** Tobacco, Medical waste, Uranium

- **Claim:** “We should not knowingly contribute to situations that harms the significant interests of others where we can avoid doing so.”

- **Consequences:**
  - Morally responsibility
  - Cease causing harm

- **Causing harm to the significant interests of others should provide a powerful and important constraint on our actions.**
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Economic

- They can have lower administrative costs than demand side policies such as cap and trade or carbon taxes
- Avoids lock in of infrastructure (pipelines, ports etc)
- Might avoid ‘Green paradox’, where anticipation of a future carbon tax leads to increased short term production of fossil fuels.
Political benefits

- Perceived to be fair (green). Typical climate policies are their effects are directed at disparate people and over varying degrees of time.
- Targetting actual fuels, evidence suggests, this gives people a more immediate sense of their effectiveness is more likely to be supported.
- Overcome the distortions that stem from territorial bias in emissions counting.
- Addressing the problem of the over supply of fossil fuels, which might in turn produce lock in effects.
- They might increase public support by targeting the right actors—political acceptance of action on CC.
Moral advantages

- Best reflects the injunction of the harm principle
- Ranking supply side constraints
- Exporters
- Targeting the right agents