*Dear WCC member,*

*Welcome!*

*The purpose of this letter is to bring the WCC to the attention of your representatives – be they in federal, state or local government. It is also to begin making a connection that may develop through further letters, phone calls and meetings with you, individually or as part of a group, into a conversation on things that matter.*

*Please use this template to create a letter about yourself and the things that are important to you so that your representative can begin to understand your genuine concern and your desire for positive action.*

*Good luck,*

*The WCC team*

*womensclimatecongress@gmail.com*

Women’s Climate Congress

(Name of your Representative including correct title, eg ‘The Hon….’)
(Address of your Representative)
You can look up the correct title and salutation [here](https://www.aph.gov.au/Senators_and_Members/Guidelines_for_Contacting_Senators_and_Members/How_to_address_Senators_and_Members).

Dear (Salutation)

**WCC and opportunities for women’s voices in (name of electorate)**

I am a resident in your electorate, having lived here in (name of city/town/community) for (XX) years. I’m writing to let you know that I have recently joined the Women’s Climate Congress and to explore the opportunity to speak with you about what spurred me to join.

The WCC was formed to achieve balance in the climate by 2030, to promote women’s voices in political decision-making and to put nurture of life and care for the Earth at the centre of every government decision.

The values of WCC that appeal to me are: (choose the most important ones that appeal to you and feel free to change the words so they better reflect your thoughts.)

* To set aside combative politics, so that we can talk about important issues and move forward on them together. It’s important to focus on the problem and the future we want to create for the children, and to put aside judgement and blame.
* To bring together people of different views and life experiences so we can draw on diversity to solve difficult problems.
* To approach the uncertain future in a spirit of collaboration and mediation. When we are determined to work together and approach conflict as an opportunity to transform rather than destroy our relationships, we can find exciting solutions.
* To have systems in place by 2030 to restore balance to the climate so that we are on target achieve zero emissions by 2050 at the latest.
* To protect future generations, it’s our responsibility to take difficult decisions about climate and how we use resources. We benefit hugely from current policies and have benefited from them in the past. But they are now sacrificing the lives of today’s children.
* The burden carried by the people who will lose their livelihood because of the changes that must be made, must be shared by everyone.
* We must place our natural environment at the heart of all decisions, at every level of government. The human race can’t continue for millennia to come if we continue to extract and consume Earth’s resources as if we are the only generation who needs to survive.
* We can learn a lot from indigenous Australians. We owe them thanks for their guardianship of the land for tens of thousands of years. We also owe our care and respect so that we can stand as equals.
* Leaders in government, industry, academia and elsewhere must do the “right” thing, not the politically expedient thing. We can find innovative, equitable and sustainable solutions for the problems that will arise from this approach. We can find these solutions in science, in the examples of others around the world and through our collective imagination.
* Elevate the values of compassion, empathy, love and forgiveness that are usually associated with women, confident that these values, fiercely held, lead to positive change.

I am in contact with a number of other women from the WCC (who live in [your electorate]) OR (from around Australia). We will be talking about these and other topics together and we’re looking for ways to build collaborative relationships in the (name of your electorate/town/etc) OR (Australian) community.

We think our ideas may be of particular interest to you because (if possible add something you know about the member/senator: eg as a farmer yourself, you care for your land/ you have been very engaged with young people in the electorate/ you have expressed support in Parliament for climate action/ you know about the concerns of miners in this electorate/etc.)

As we meet more often and with more members, we will be in touch to look for an opportunity to speak with you. It may be possible for us to support you in your work in (electorate) or to develop the ideas of the WCCC.

I look forward to speaking with you in the future,

With kind regards,

(Your name)

(Your address/contact details)
Member, Women’s Climate Congress
Visit our website: <https://womensclimatecongress.com/>