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is in the hands of up to five individuals. Greens MP Adam Bandt and Independents Bob Katter, Tony Windsor, Andrew Wilkie and Rob Oakeshott could ultimately decide who will be our next prime minister. Not surprisingly, both Julia Gillard and Tony Abbott have begun courting the gang of five. As they are being called at the moment. So which side of politics will these MPs back? Independents Rob Oakeshott and Andrew Wilkie join us. Good morning to you both. Rob, I'll start with you. We understand you have spoken to Julia Gillard and Tony Abbott. Have you heard anything from either side that you like? What have they been saying to you?

Hello, Rob? Rob Oakeshott?

Hello. You had phone calls from Julia Gillard and Tony Abbott. What have they been saying to you? Have you been impressed?

Yes, I have been impressed that the conversations are happening. It does say people are putting their political parties in the back pocket and try to work on a commitment to stable government and outcomes-focused government for the next three years. Those conversations happening now, everyone is heading to Canberra, which is probably a good thing because it is raining here. We will start to get to face-to-face meetings and down to some of the detail. It is very early days, by the way, as you were just saying we don't know what final seat make-ups are. So realistically, we can't even get into negotiations let alone come out of negotiate eggs until we finalise that make-up of the parliament. But the discussions at the moment really are time-table discussions, frame working of nation tphoegsations, and discussions tphoegsations, and discussions and it is very healthy in these days.

What will win you over? You are quoting as saying emissions trading, national Broadband are important to you? Would you consider a portfolio?

I saw it in the paper today. It is a complete speculation piece, Julia Gillard has offered nothing, nor Tony Abbott and that is quite right, and quite appropriate by everyone involved. This is a time not for self interest by anyone. This is not a time for political party interests by anyone, this is a time for the national interest. I would hope everyone involved in the political process, including newspapers, focus on the country for couple of weeks, let's get something that potentially is very exciting, Saturday spoke very loud and clear in my mind that Australia has been underwhelmed by the political process for the last six or six or nine months. We all need to listen on that and reflect on that and try and establish something for the next parliament that might impress some people.

Andrew, your seat in Tasmania is yet to be decided but a lot of the smarties are saying you have won it. If you do win, what will you look for on either side?

I haven't won it yet but I am heartened by the credible analysts giving it to me. I want the public interests to be addressed here, I want a stable, competent and ethical government and coming from that will be good outcomes for this electorate, hopefully my electorate. hopefully my electorate. Dennison has been taken for granted for 23 years, and people here are sick of being taken for granted and sick to death of the antics of the big parties. Australians who might be saying, "Gee, we didn't vote for these five and they are going to run the country. How can we have a stable government in the hands of just five really powerful

people? first thing I would say, what we have got here, the result we have almost got, there almost got, this is what the result of the election is. It is not a bad result, it is the result. It is up to all of us now to make it work. to all of us now to make it work. I have been very heartened by the comments by the other three independents and the greens member Adam Bandt and that we are committed to one thing only, the public interest. It is what sets independence apart. We are focused on the public interest, not the political interests of parties. There couldn't be a better group of men to rely on.

Can I comment

It is an important point, because it isn't just five people with power. What happened on the weekend happens after election. 150 people got election and 150 could be established in picking the government and the Prime Minister. It is a pretty simple job in the end. The fact that 145 people are opting out is where the real questions lies. Why are they opting out and putting their party interests ahead of the interests of the country. suggested another poll if it doesn't work out. We put it to our viewers, and 70 per cent of callers are saying yes. Now, what is your reaction to that result?

We are taking all advice from all sources so we will have a look at that poll as well as everything else. But I would hope, even those that have participated in the polls, even if they are in political parties would have a stop and think about the cost involved, the difficulties involved and really sniff the opportunity for Australia that is before us. Yes, it is that is before us. Yes, it is going to be a challenging week or two but we could deliver something exciting, consensus politics is what the best politics is about. Here is a chance to try to achieve it. I hope everyone acts with good will, goes for it, and from what I have for it, and from what I have heard from the last 48 hours from from the last 48 hours from both Julia Gillard and Tony Abbott we might be able to pull off something pretty special. today, seeing Bob Katter last night and Tony Windsor last night on the Sun. Program you get heartened you are sensible blokes and taking it seriously, thank you both for joining us.

Thank you