

# THE TIME TO ACT IS NOW. WE NEED TO DECLARE A CLIMATE EMERGENCY IN AUSTRALIA.

Thank you for taking action for our climate. Only with the support of thousands of people like you will we be able to make this coal hugging government take the climate crisis seriously.

We have an ambitious goal to pass a climate emergency declaration through Australia's parliament before the end of the year. We only have a few months to win the votes we need in parliament, but we have a plan.



## THE PLAN

Throughout August and September, we'll collect petition signatures online and in-person around the country, calling on Parliament to support the declaration. Our campaign will doorknock across the nation, so MPs know that their communities want them to support the declaration. By strategically applying pressure, we can build the momentum we need to win.



## HOW YOU CAN HELP

The first step is to build public support for declaring a climate emergency. The best way you can help us do this is to have conversations with your friends, families and local communities about the need for action and encourage them to sign our petition by before the 30th of September 2019.

## WHO CAN YOU GET SIGNATURES FROM?

Collecting signatures is easy, and the best place to start is close to home: your family, friends and neighbours. You can also take the petition to work, to your study group, to your sports team, or even take it along to your local shopping centre or farmers markets. All you will need is a printed copy of the petition and some pens!



## FAQS

Here are some commonly asked questions people might have about why they should sign this petition.

## HOW WILL SIGNING THIS PETITION HELP?

People power is the best tool we have to convince politicians to do something they otherwise wouldn't. Just look at marriage equality – ultimately, it was people voting for change that forced those in Canberra to change the law.

We've seen it countless times before. The more people who demand our government take action, the more likely they are to actually do it.

## WHY DO YOU NEED MY EMAIL ADDRESS AND POSTCODE?

Your email address will help us keep you up to date with what is happening in the campaign, how else you can get involved, and what action the government takes when we ask them to declare a climate emergency in parliament later this year.

Your postcode helps us tell the MPs and Senators in parliament how many of their own constituents are calling for a climate emergency to be declared. Nothing persuades polities like knowing those who vote for them are demanding action!

**TAKE ACTION: [greens.org.au/emergency](https://greens.org.au/emergency)**

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# TALKING ABOUT THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY

If people haven't heard of the Climate Emergency Declaration, they might have some questions. Here is some more information about the declaration to help you in your conversations.



## WHAT IS A CLIMATE EMERGENCY?

A Climate Emergency is what we are currently facing, at home and around the world. Australia is in the grip of the worst drought in recorded history, while temperature records are broken around the world every year as global warming intensifies. The polar ice caps are melting and sea levels are rising, all of which is undermining food and water security for every single one of us.

The climate emergency is already here. Just look at the devastation caused by more frequent and more intense natural disasters over the past year, like floods in Queensland, fires in Tasmania and drought in New South Wales. The impact will only get worse unless urgent action is taken.



## WHAT IS OUR GOVERNMENT CURRENTLY DOING?

Not nearly enough. In fact, Scott Morrison would rather wave a lump of coal around the Parliament while falsely claiming "it won't hurt you" than take action on the climate crisis.

The Coalition government's climate record is a disgrace, with the destruction of our Great Barrier Reef and Murray Darling Basin happening on their watch. If they had their way, Adani would already be mining in the Galilee.

Many Liberal MPs still deny the existence of climate change and are not at all interested in taking action. Only people power can change a system where both major parties accept millions of dollars in donations from the coal, oil and gas industries and refuse to address the mining, burning and exporting of coal.



## WHY IS IT IMPORTANT THAT OUR GOVERNMENT DECLARES A CLIMATE EMERGENCY?

Right now, the Morrison government is not taking action on the climate crisis, putting all of us at risk. On the other hand, declaring a climate emergency would clearly demonstrate that our political leaders take the climate threat seriously.

Once a climate emergency has been declared it will elevate the climate crisis to the centre of all policy, economic and planning decisions and begin the whole of government and whole of society mobilisation effort required to protect Australia's people and ecology.



## WHO ELSE HAS DECLARED A CLIMATE EMERGENCY?

Globally, 935 jurisdictions in 18 countries (and counting) have declared a climate emergency, including the United Kingdom, Canada, Portugal, Ireland, Argentina and cities such as New York.

More than 160 million people live within areas where a climate emergency has been declared.

In Australia, the cities of Sydney, Melbourne, Darwin, Hobart and Fremantle have declared a Climate Emergency, and regional councils including Wollongong, Upper Hunter, Ballarat, Clarence and the Blue Mountains.

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