



# Fossil Fool Bulletin

Fossil fools in the spotlight this week: A resource for people working to end the fossil fuel era in Australia

Published by Eve Sinton • fossil.fool.bulletin@gmail.com

FFB 1:45 • 9 OCTOBER 2018

## Lock the Gate demands release of secret Shenhua mine deed

*Lock the Gate is calling on the NSW Premier to make public the details of a secret deed with coal mining company Shenhua to renew its coal exploration licence in the midst of the fertile Liverpool Plains and give the company \$262 million dollars.*

This follows the release of a letter by local farmers, obtained under freedom of information law, from the company to the Premier demanding the renewal be finalised.

In July 2017, the NSW Government announced it was giving Shenhua Australia \$262 million dollars in exchange for the company relinquishing half the area of its Liverpool Plains coal exploration licence.

This was despite mining law in NSW providing for exploration licence areas to be halved upon renewal at no cost to the taxpayer.

Caroona Coal Action Group used Freedom of Information law to obtain a letter the company sent the NSW Premier, Gladys Berejiklian, on 9 July this year, citing a Deed of Settlement and demanding that the exploration licence be renewed. The renewal took place four days later.

Lock the Gate Alliance spokesperson Georgina Woods said, "It took the Premier of NSW just four days to capitulate to the demands of a coal mining company to renew its exploration licence on the Liverpool Plains citing the terms of a secret deed that has never been made public.

"The public has a right to know about the NSW Government's secret deal to renew Shenhua's coal exploration licence on the Liverpool Plains and hand



Sunflowers on the Liverpool Plains.  
Photo: Lock the Gate

the company more than a quarter of a billion dollars.

"Shenhua's Watermark coal mine should never have been approved and this licence should never have been renewed, but this Government doesn't have the gumption to stand up for farmland and farming communities and secure the future of agriculture in regions threatened by coal mining.

"The whole process of coal and CSG exploration licence renewal is shrouded in secrecy and in need of broom and disinfectant.

"It's time to choose whether we want productive farmland and clean water, or whether we'll let the demands of coal companies continue to compromise this state's future." **FFB**

## PHOTO ESSAY from the gasfields

By Karen Auty

*Despite living here, it still shocks me to see how huge the footprint of the CSG industry really is.*

These pieces of infrastructure have a negative impact on all residents, not just the landholders who have it on their properties. It's a Ponzi scheme of mammoth proportions.



The former Linc Energy site at Hopeland (mis-spelt on the government warning sign above), and over 300sq kilometres of adjacent farmland is now contaminated after criminal acts by the company. It is dotted with monitoring equipment such as water monitoring bores (below).



• Continued pages 2-3

• P 4: Pipeline work starts before approval

• P 4: Former Lib leader calls for climate action

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<https://knitting-nannas.org/bulletins.php>

# Gasfield infrastructure industrialises the landscape



• Continued from p1

**TOP LEFT:** *The Reverse Osmosis plant at QGC's Kenya gas facility. The plant has an enormous flare which causes light pollution and air pollution for many kilometres.*

*Surrounding residents have suffered stress and ill-health. Some families have left the district.*

**MIDDLE LEFT:** *A high point vent, emitting contaminants that are unmitigated and unmonitored. These include the potent greenhouse gas, methane.*

*Thousands of vents litter the agricultural land in Queensland.*

**INSET:** *One of thousands of low point drains – complete with corrosion. They can also leak gas and liquid.*

**BOTTOM LEFT:** *More venting equipment junking the landscape.*

**BELOW:** *A typical CSG well pad.*

**BOTTOM:** *Part of a well pad, with additional equipment. It is sited on one of highest points in the district, with multiple vent points on Greenswamp Road, very near a huge cattle feedlot.*

*Photos: Karen Auty*



• Continued p3



# Western Darling Downs turned into massive factory

• Continued from p2

**TOP RIGHT:** Power pylons criss-crossing the countryside. The majority of the power stations in our region are for the sole purpose of powering CSG processing facilities. Yet another incursion that landholders must deal with.

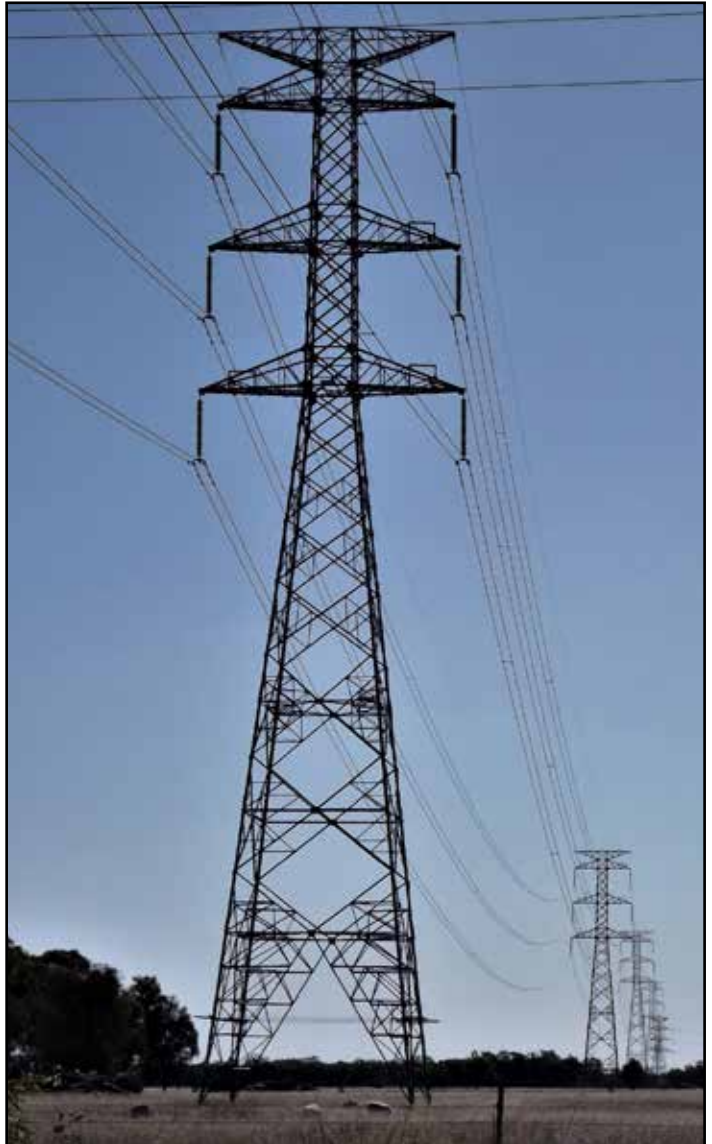
**MIDDLE RIGHT:** Multiple large trucks carrying out a rig mobilisation on grazing land.

**BELOW:** Water monitoring bore on Greenswamp Rd. Thousands dot the landscape, some within a few metres of homes.

**BOTTOM LEFT & RIGHT:** Farms and State Forest are carved up with huge pipeline corridors (and wells). Decorated with ex-trees piled up with what gasco's call 'wildlife habitat' but locals and firies call 'fuel load'. Note the noxious fireweed, and regrowth that would make it impossible for fire-fighting appliances to negotiate. Along with the subsidence problem, they form hundreds of kilometres of corridors throughout the region, also facilitating the movement of wild dogs.

Photos: Karen Auty

**FFB**



## Pipeline work begins before government approval



**Save Westernport member Julia Stockigt has raised the alarm that a drilling rig began work on Saturday in Warringine Park, Hastings, in preparation for the new gas pipeline which AGL wish to build from Crib Point to Pakenham.**

The pipeline, to be constructed by APA, will link AGL's proposed Crib Point gas import terminal to a gas hub at Pakenham.

Julia said, "What is surprising is that the State government has not announced any decision regarding the AGL gas import proposal, or the pipeline to Pakenham. It would appear that AGL are so confident of being granted approval for their development, that they are beginning test drilling works already!"

The rig from Star Drilling is next to Reid Parade, close to the bank of Warringine Creek. The pipeline company APA informed members of the public at community meetings last month that they intend to drill under Warrenquite Creek for the gas pipeline.

In a phone call to AGL on Saturday, a community member was told that the drilling rig was "testing soil".

"In our opinion, such activity blurs the lines, especially in the public's eyes, about what constitutes 'works' and makes obvious how much confidence these companies have that environmental studies will not have any effect on their plans," Julia said.

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## Farmers fundraising for expert report on salt dump

**Darling Downs farmers are fighting plans to dispose of up to 15 million tonnes of toxic CSG salt waste just 100m from Stockyard Creek in the headwaters of the Murray Darling Basin.**

There are fears that salt could make it into the river systems, groundwater or onto farmland.

They are asking people to chip in so they can get an expert in landfill operations to review the company We Kando's plans, and identify any risks to local water sources.

Dr Stuart Khan from the University of NSW has reviewed the waste plan and said that:

"From a water quality management perspective, I would consider an operation such as this to be a high-risk operation. The likelihood of contaminating groundwater and surface water over the long term is considerable."

There is a legal cloud over this salt dump because it is going ahead without any assessment under the water trigger in the Federal environment law.

There is more information in the news item on page 8.

**Donate here:**

<https://chuffed.org/project/dont-dump-toxic-waste>

## Former Lib leader urges Wentworth people to send message on climate change



**John Hewson, Liberal Party leader from 1987-1995, urged people to make a protest vote over climate change in this month's by-election. Photo: Galilee Blockade**

**Former Liberal party leader, John Hewson, campaigned with Stop Adani activists in Bondi on Saturday.**

Hewson, who held Sydney seat between 1987 and 1995, said the byelection was ripe for the taking by a "significant independent".

The candidate considered best placed to claim the seat from the Liberals is independent Kerryn Phelps.

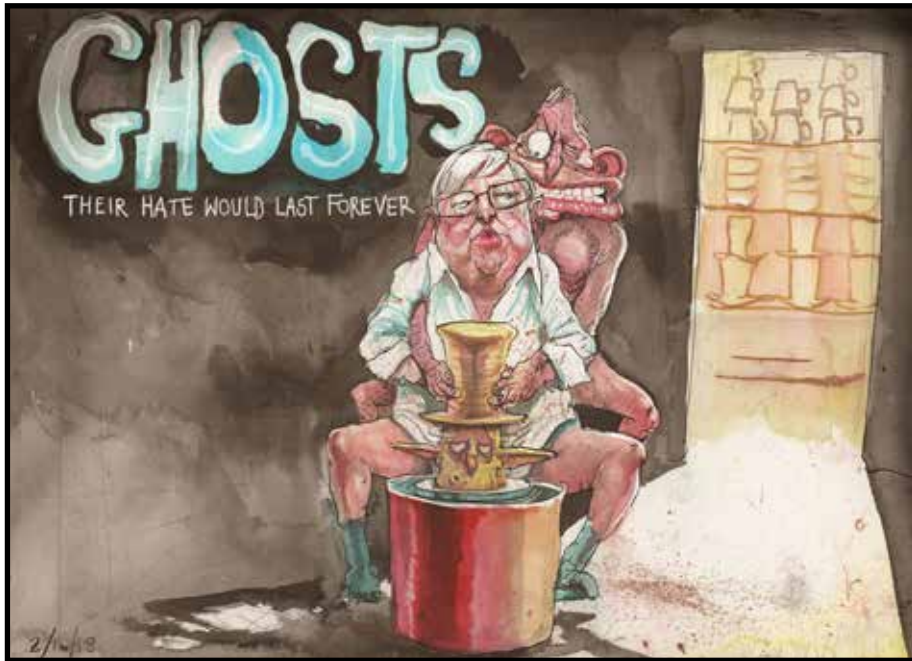
"This by-election is a unique opportunity to register a protest vote," he said.

Hewson said the Wentworth electorate, considered progressive on environmental and social issues, wanted a decisive emissions strategy.

"They want a transition from coal and fossil fuels to renewables."

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David Rowe reproduced with permission: <https://www.facebook.com/david.rowe.5070>



## Inside the news

PM Scott Morrison is not telling the truth about fossil fuel and **climate change**. He has been caught out with **fact checking** from *The New Daily* (“either being blindly optimistic or he is an outright liar”) and *The Saturday Paper*: “With Morrison at the helm, we are headed towards a world where **food security** is diminishing, where **drought** is the new normal and where our **basic requirements** of shelter from the elements, water and food security increasingly hang in the balance.” – see pages 12 and 13.

It is good to see another prominent **Liberal**, former party leader **John Hewson**, helping the **Stop Adani** movement to encourage people to vote anything but Liberal at the coming **Wentworth** by-election (p4).

Meanwhile, Liberal backbencher and coal devotee, **Craig Kelly**, had a **huge dummy-spit** on Facebook after the *Sydney Morning Herald* reported on his speech to 100 of the party faithful (p12-13).

Kelly said party members should not worry about climate change and that **fossil fuels protect us from the climate**. He described the *SMH* article as an explosion of ‘**lefty heads**’ who were ‘**brainwashed into climate cults**’.

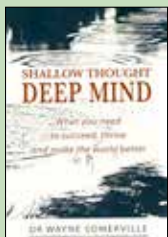
**Uranium miners** lost a bid to dig up nuclear fuel near the **Grand Canyon**. They failed to overturn an Obama-era protection law, but we can be sure they have not gone away (p11).

Energy dealers continue to talk up their proposed **gas import terminals**, with four projects in their sights (p10). **AGL** and pipeliner **APA** are so sure their **Crib Point** terminal will get government approval, despite residents’ objections, that they are already test-drilling for the pipeline.

The **import insanity** was underlined by a report in *The Australian* that gas drilling in Queensland has jumped back to boomtime levels (p10). “Gladstone Port data shows the \$70 billion of LNG projects exporting gas through six big Curtis Island freezers boosted August **exports** by 6 per cent to a **seven-month high** of 1.76 million tonnes.”

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## Shallow Thought, Deep Mind



What you need to succeed, thrive and make the world better

<https://www.drwaynesomerville.com>  
\$24.99 inc. postage • E-book on Amazon.

## Friends of Felton

How a small farming community stood up to Big Coal and won

The story of the successful community campaign to stop Ambre Energy’s coal-to-liquids operation at Felton, on Queensland’s Darling Downs.



On sale via the facebook page:  
**Rob McCreath** author (S21 + P&P).

<https://www.facebook.com/mccreathrob/>



# STOP THE PILLIGA GAS PIPELINE

Protest at the APA Group AGM



**OCT 25**

**Stop the Pilliga Gas Pipeline**  
Public · Hosted by Sydney Knitting Nannas And Friends and 3 others

Thursday, 25 October 2018 from 09:30-10:30,  
InterContinental Sydney, 117 Macquarie Street, Sydney

# In the news this week

This week Fossil Fool Bulletin has summarised 24,300 words of news for your convenience. [Click on the links](#) to view original articles. (Subscriptions may be required)

## THE ADANI SAGA

<https://independentaustralia.net/environment/environment-display/book-review-adani-and-the-war-over-coal-a-pox-on-both-their-parties.11949>

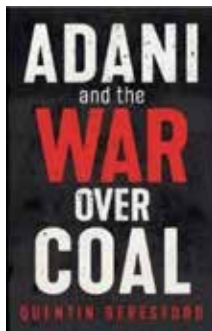
### Adani and the war over coal – a pox on both their parties

John Biggs, *Independent Australia*, 30/09/2018

The Australian Galilee Basin contains huge deposits of quality low ash coal and several companies fought for the privilege of extracting it, including Adani, another Indian company in cahoots with Gina Rinehart, a Chinese company and Clive Palmer. ...

In this book, Dr Beresford brings his sharp research and writing skills to tell this story of the war over coal. ...

While much of this is due to the shocking judgement and wickedness of individual people, Beresford sees as even more important the way in which the coal wars have transformed politics:



'The political ties ... between the fossil fuel power network and the Liberal/National parties has meant the rise of anti-environmentalism as a mainstream feature of Australian political debate along with the sidelining of science in the debate over policy' ...

This book should be of extreme interest to concerned citizens, while all politicians should be locked in a room to read it, not to be let out until they can pass a comprehension test on its contents.

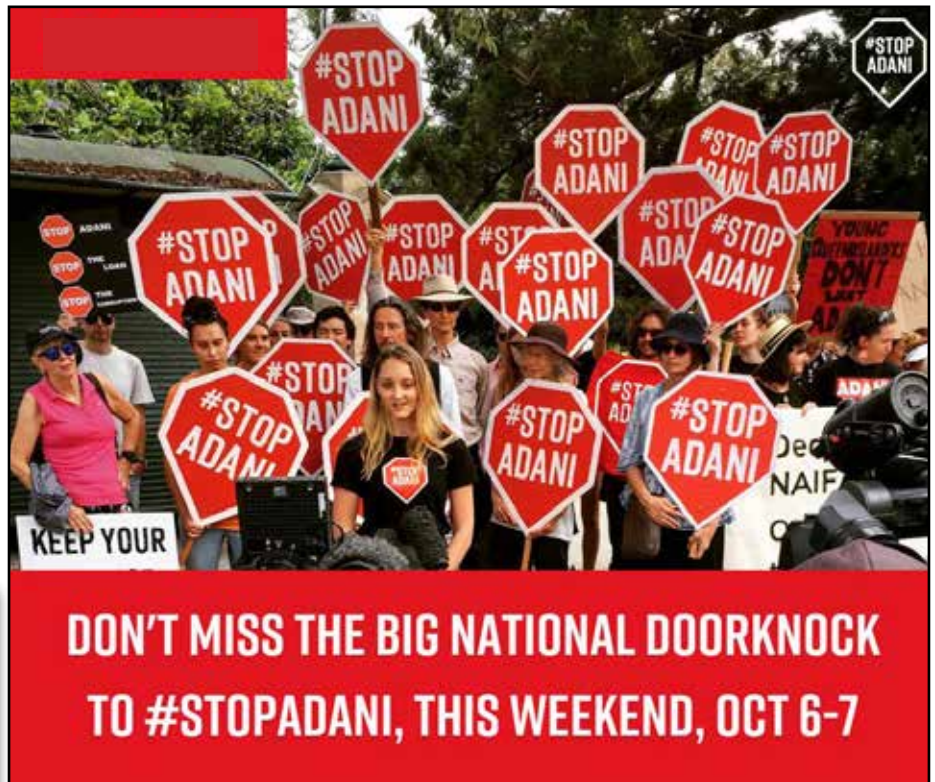
• *Adani and the War Over Coal*, by Quentin Beresford, NewSouth Books, August 2018 (Paperback, 416pp, RRP \$34.99).

<https://www.smh.com.au/politics/federal/documents-show-australian-and-south-korean-officials-discussed-financing-adani-mega-mine-20181004-p507r9.html>

### Documents show Australian and South Korean officials discussed financing Adani mega-mine

Nicole Hasham, *SMH*, 05/10/2018

Australian and South Korean officials have discussed drumming up investment in the controversial Adani



**DON'T MISS THE BIG NATIONAL DOORKNOCK TO #STOPADANI, THIS WEEKEND, OCT 6-7**

*A national doorknock was held over the weekend, with 60 events in 53 electorates triggering thousands of conversations about Adani's Carmichael coalmine.*

*Graphic: Galilee Blockade*

mega-mine, according to official documents that appear to throw into doubt claims by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade that it has not helped secure finance for the project. ...

[A] heavily redacted DFAT document, dated November 4, 2016, was obtained by environmental campaign group Market Forces. The title refers to "Adani engagement" and refers to a known meeting between DFAT and the Korea Export-Import Bank. ...

Resources Minister Matt Canavan travelled to South Korea in January. Asked if he had advocated for Adani during the trip, he told Fairfax Media "I don't want to go into details of private discussions I have with other countries" but said he regularly promoted resource sector investment opportunities, including the Adani project. ...

Former head of equity research at Citigroup, Tim Buckley, now a director at the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis, questioned why the federal government was "promot[ing] a foreign private billionaire's interests". ...

## COAL ROCKS ON

<https://www.gladstoneobserver.com.au/news/peabody-develops-plan-to-extinguish-underground-fi/3538191/>

### Peabody develops plan to extinguish underground mine fire

Cas Garvey, *Gladstone Observer*, 01/10/2018

Mining giant Peabody has developed a "multi-tiered plan" to extinguish a fire that's been burning underground at its North Goonyella mine for weeks. ...

<https://www.gladstoneobserver.com.au/news/industry-body-optimistic-mine-fire-fallout-will-be/3539504/>

### Industry body optimistic mine fire fallout will be limited

Luke Mortimer, *Gladstone Observer*, 03/10/

Mining workers and businesses connected to North Goonyella Mine remain in limbo as a fire continues to rage in its depths. ...

If the fire, sparked by the spontaneous combustion of coal, is not able to be extinguished and the mine is not able to reopen in coming months, it's expected most Peabody Energy employees should be able to find new work. ...

<https://www.gladstoneobserver.com.au/news/revealed-250b-mining-industry-back-from-the-dead/3539692/>

## Revealed: \$250B mining industry back from the dead

Andrew Jefferson, Gladstone Observer, 03/10/2018

With Australia's mining industry set to deliver a record \$250 billion in exports to the economy this year, Resources Minister Matt Canavan said mining wasn't dead yet.

Senator Canavan said the current estimate would contribute well over half of Australia's total exports of goods and services, highlighting the fact the mining boom in this country was far from over. ...

Minister Canavan was commenting after the release today of the September 2018 "Resources and Energy Quarterly", compiled by the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science, and providing in-depth analysis of commodity markets and detailed forecasts for production, exports and prices. ...

The September 2018 "Resources and Energy Quarterly" is available at:

<https://www.industry.gov.au/data-and-publications/resources-and-energy-quarterly-september-2018>

<https://www.gladstoneobserver.com.au/news/coal-industry-booming-following-surge-in-exports/3539697/>

## Coal industry booming following surge in exports

Maddelin McCosker & Leighton Smith, Gladstone Observer, 03/10/

The release of a new federal government report has sparked hope that regional areas will soon be reaping the benefits following an upsurge in the coal industry.

The in-depth report, released yesterday by Minister for Resources and Northern Australia Matt Canavan showed a \$250 billion increase in the Australian economy, delivered by the mining industry. ...

Michelle Landry, Federal Member for Capricornia said the 'massive' increase in exports proves that plays a vital role in Australia's economy,

"We have the nay-sayers saying that coal is gone, well no it's not," Minister Landry said. ...

She went on call out Labor and the Greens for their constant attacks on the coal sector ...

<https://www.smh.com.au/environment/conservation/major-hazards-ash-dam-expansion-over-old-coal-mine-gets-agency-tick-20181002-p50781.html>

## 'Major hazards': Ash dam expansion over old coal mine gets agency tick

Peter Hannam, SMH, 05/10/2018

A plan by Australia's largest coal-fired power station to expand its ash dam over a disused coal mine has won approval by the environment watchdog even as consultants identify potential "major hazards".

Origin Energy's Eraring power station wants to "augment" its ash dump by 5 million cubic metres to accommodate much of the 1.3 million tonnes of ash produced at the Lake Macquarie plant each year.

The dam would extend over the abandoned Awaba Colliery, parts of which extracted coal to within 20 metres of the surface. At least one sinkhole has

already opened up within the area earmarked for the expansion. ...

Heavy metal contamination – including selenium, cadmium, and lead mercury – from industry in the region has already prompted the NSW EPA to advise people against consuming more than 1.35 kilograms of fish caught in Lake Macquarie per week. ...

Brad Smith, a senior energy campaigner with the Nature Conservation Council, said the single-page EPA submission meant it "blithely rubber-stamped the expansion". ...

<https://www.stockjournal.com.au/story/5683157/secrets-shroud-shenhua-exploration-licence/>

## Secrets shroud Shenhua exploration licence deal

Mike Foley, Stock Journal, 04/10/2018

NSW Government's dealings with Chinese miner Shenhua are so tightly-held even the state's Mining Minister can't clarify when his government sealed a deal to extend the controversial Watermark coal project on the Liverpool Plains.

The Watermark project is one of the most controversial in NSW's history. Opposition centres on risks to prime agricultural land surrounding the mine.

On July 9 this year the miner wrote to NSW Premier Gladys Berejiklian demanding its licence be renewed. ...

The letter was obtained by the Caroon Coal Action Group under freedom of information laws. ...

Lock the Gate has launched legal action to obtain legal documents relating to government dealings with Shenhua. ...

*Resources minister Canavan and Capricornia MP Landry fly over coal country.*



<https://www.northerndailyleader.com.au/story/5686724/height-of-arrogance-minister-blasted-for-calling-4000-page-document-short/?cs=12>

## Planning Minister Anthony Roberts blasted over short Vickery coal mine comment by The Greens

Jamieson Murphy, Northern Daily Leader, 06/10/2018

The Greens have condemned NSW Planning Minister Anthony Roberts and called his decision to ignore the plea of drought-stricken farmers "the height of arrogance".

The spraying follows comments Mr Roberts made to The Leader yesterday, where he referred to the 4000-page Vickery coal mine extension report as a "relatively short document", as he knocked back the request of farmers for more time to read the submission. ...

Greens resource spokesman Jeremy Buckingham wrote to Mr Roberts in September, seeking to extend the public consultation time from 42 days to 90 days, however is yet to receive a response.

“Minister Anthony Roberts has displayed the height of arrogance in ignoring local farmers and communities and failing to give them a fair chance of responding to a 4000-page document on Vickery coal mine,” Mr Buckingham said.

“Minister Roberts has failed to acknowledge that many local folks are flat out keeping their livestock and farms alive in drought conditions. ...

## GAS, GAS, GAS

<https://www.smh.com.au/business/the-economy/sun-shines-on-csiro-s-cheap-hydrogen-industry-20180928-p506px.html>

### Sun shines on CSIRO's cheap hydrogen industry

Cole Latimer, SMH, 30/09/2018

Curtin University researchers have developed a cheaper and safer way to bottle and store Australian sunshine as hydrogen fuel.

Researchers from Curtin University's School of Molecular and Life Sciences have created a lower-cost and less toxic method of developing hydrogen fuel from solar energy, paving the way for the growth of a hydrogen industry in Australia.

Hydrogen is currently being touted by the CSIRO and the government as Australia's next major energy export industry, valued at up to \$1.6 billion by 2025, and as a potential replacement for natural gas and petrol. ...

<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2018/sep/30/dumping-15m-tonnes-of-salt-at-queensland-creek-considerable-risk-to-water>

### Dumping 15m tonnes of salt at Queensland creek 'considerable' risk to water

Ben Smee, The Guardian, 01/10/2018

Plans to dump up to 15m tonnes of salt and other waste near a creek in drought-stricken Queensland carry a “considerable” risk of water contamination, a new study has found.

Approved plans to expand a dump near the town of Chinchilla allow salt waste from coal seam gas operations to be stored fewer than 100 metres from Stockyard Creek, in the headwaters of the Murray-Darling Basin. ...



**We Kando's waste management facility near Chinchilla accepts CSG gasfield waste and wants to stockpile 15 million tonnes of toxic salt near the headwaters of the Murray-Darling basin.**

Local graziers, community groups and environmentalists are now pushing for the federal environment minister to assess the project, under the provisions of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act.

Stuart Khan, an environmental engineering professor at the University of New South Wales, has completed a study for the NSW Environmental Defender's Office that concludes there is considerable risk of water contamination.

“From a water quality management perspective, I would consider an operation such as this to be a high-risk operation,” the report says.

“The likelihood of contaminating groundwater and surface water over the long term is considerable. The responsibility for managing these risks over the long term will likely be inherited by future generations.”

Khan told Guardian Australia salt “does not biodegrade in the environment and has an infinite environmental residence time”. He said the stockpile in close proximity to Stockyard Creek would “need a management plan that runs for centuries”. ...

The company that runs the dump, We Kando, has not yet sought an assessment under the EPBC act. ...

The national coordinator of Lock the Gate, Carmel Flint, said ... “the approval of the salt dump is typical of state and federal approaches to coal seam gas development”.

“The big problem with the coal seam

gas industry is they've never had a viable plan to deal with their waste, yet they were approved to proceed without that.

“Now farmers ... end up with this salt dump proposal next door to them. What's needed now is an urgent review of waste management by the coal seam gas industry in Queensland.” ...

<https://www.theaustralian.com.au/business/more-gas-on-tap/news-story/b44d6b41670fa069165f930c44d7806d>

### LNG exporters agree to supply more domestic gas in a crunch

Matt Chambers, The Australian, 01/10/2018

Queensland's three LNG export plants have agreed to extend a commitment to supply extra domestic east coast gas into 2020 if there is a shortage.

Federal Resources Minister Matt Canavan said the government had signed a “heads of agreement” (effectively a letter of intent) with the Santos-led GLNG project, Origin Energy's APLNG and Shell's QCLNG, who all export from Gladstone.

“LNG exporters have agreed to offer uncontracted gas to the domestic market on reasonable terms in the event of a shortfall,” Senator Canavan said. ...

<https://www.gladstoneobserver.com.au/news/gladstone-lng-projects-sign-new-deal-with-pm/3539424/>

### Gladstone LNG projects sign new deal with PM

Tegan Annett, Gladstone Observer, 03/10/2018

Gladstone's three liquefied natural gas exporters renewed a deal with the



Prime Minister to help support the domestic gas supply. ...

The industry also recommitted to the Peak Electricity Demand Gas Supply Guarantee to ensure gas was available during high demand times.

Minister for Resources and Northern Australia Matt Canavan said concerns for a supply shortfall within the next two years had been laid to rest. ...

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/rural/2018-10-02/inpex-first-shipment-of-condensate-from-ichthys-field/10329774>

### Historic moment for Inpex as first condensate shipment leaves Ichthys LNG project in Browse Basin

Matt Bran, ABC, 02/10/2018

Japanese oil and gas giant Inpex has reached a major milestone with the departure of its first shipment of condensate from its Ichthys LNG project in Western Australia's Browse Basin.

The cargo – a light crude oil that will be refined and turned into fuels – is destined for markets in Asia and signifies the start of the multi-billion-dollar project generating revenue. ...

<https://www.ntnews.com.au/business/first-shipment-of-condensate-from-inpex-operated-ichthys-lng-project-leaves-browse-basin/news-story/eda2999be424e372ad7695b751d14332>

### First shipment of condensate from Inpex-operated Ichthys LNG project leaves Browse Basin

Gary Shipway, NT News, 02/10/2018

The first shipment of condensate from the Inpex-operated Ichthys LNG project has departed from the project's massive offshore floating production, storage and offloading facility – the Ichthys Venturer – moored in the Browse Basin.

Inpex president director Australia, Seiya Ito, said the departure of the first condensate cargo from the Ichthys LNG project demonstrated the Japanese company's commitment to be a reliable, global energy supplier. ...

The project is Japan's largest foreign investment ever. Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe is due to inspect the Ichthys project next month during a historic Darwin visit.

<https://www.beefcentral.com/news/while-other-govts-try-to-save-it-qld-offers-unlimited-gab-water-to-miners-bsa/>

### While other Govts try to save it, Qld offers unlimited GAB water to miners: BSA

Beef Central, 30/09/2018

While the Federal Government continues to invest in projects designed to protect Great Artesian Basin water, the QLD Government gives gas and mining companies unlimited water take rights from the resource, the only Australian state to do so. Queensland's policy will be a key focus of the Basin Sustainability Alliance's AGM in Chinchilla next

<https://www.westernmagazine.com.au/story/5681821/lock-the-gate-alliance-calls-on-the-government-to-ban-csg-exploration-in-nsw/>

### Lock the Gate Alliance urged polities to ban CSG exploration in NSW

Taylor Jurd, Western Magazine, 03/10/2018

On Thursday a community action group organised a state-wide action against their local MPs to draw attention to a campaign that calls for the banning of coal seam gas exploration in NSW. ...

This vision includes stopping the Narabri CSG gas project and the Western Slopes pipeline, rejecting the Bylong

and Hume coal projects, extinguishing the Shenhua exploration licence. ...

A group of Dubbo locals convened on Dubbo MP Troy Grant's office on the Thursday.

"Our message to Troy is to listen to regional communities. They feel betrayed by the National Party, they feel that they are pro-mining and they are not pro-farming," Gasfield Free Dubbo convener Sally Fosstrom said. ...

<https://coastcommunitynews.com.au/central-coast/news/2018/10/decision-brings-an-end-to-gas-exploration-on-the-central-coast/>

### Decision brings an end to gas exploration on the Central Coast

Coast Community News, 03/10/2018

The Australian Coal Alliance, the first community group in Australia to fight coal seam gas exploration and drilling, has welcomed the NSW Government's buyback and cancellation of Petroleum Exploration Licence (PEL) 461, bringing an end to gas exploration on the Central Coast.

The ACA's, Alan Hayes, said it was an excellent thing for the community to stop Coal Seam Gas. "The Dooralong and Yarralong communities were the first people in Australia to fight Coal Seam Gas 14 years ago," Hayes said. "We were successful, we were the first people in this country to bring a halt to Coal Seam Gas." ...

[https://coastcommunitynews.com.au/central-coast/news/2018/10/deadline-extended-on-wallarah-2-coal-mine-decision/?utm\\_source=eBulletin+list+June+2018&utm\\_campaign=817de76ae7-eBulletin5Oct2018&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_0aa74baca5-817de76ae7-100949](https://coastcommunitynews.com.au/central-coast/news/2018/10/deadline-extended-on-wallarah-2-coal-mine-decision/?utm_source=eBulletin+list+June+2018&utm_campaign=817de76ae7-eBulletin5Oct2018&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_0aa74baca5-817de76ae7-100949)

### Deadline extended on Wallarah 2 coal mine decision

Coast Community News, 03/10/2018

The recently appointed Federal Environment Minister, Melissa Price, has extended the deadline for her decision on whether to give the Wallarah 2 coal mine the green light under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act ... until November 9.

The extension was put in place "to enable Minister Price to consider the implications of legal proceedings currently before the NSW Land and Environment Court that appeal the NSW Government's decision to approve this project", according to a statement from the office of the Member for Robertson, Lucy Wicks. ...



The first cargo has departed from the Ichthys Venturer floating gas plant off Darwin. Photo: Inpex

<https://www.theaustralian.com.au/business/queensland-gas-drilling-at-record-levels/news-story/dad-33517787d831e53d80170ad37b0a6>

## Queensland gas drilling at record levels

*Perry Williams, The Australian, 05/10/2018*

Queensland gas drilling has jumped back to boomtime levels as production rises to a new record and Asian LNG prices trade at four-year highs.

On September 15, gas output from the state surpassed 4000 terajoules a day for the first time, according to market adviser Energy Edge, with the three big LNG export ventures shipping at their strongest rates in seven months. ...

“The importance of the drilling activity should not be understated as all gas fields have an underlying decline rate and there is a need to arrest the decline before a net positive supply is added to the market,” EnergyEdge managing director Joshua Stabler said.

The latest Gladstone Port data shows the \$70 billion of LNG projects built to export gas through six big Curtis Island freezers boosted August exports by 6 per cent to a seven-month high of 1.76 million tonnes. ...

<https://www.chinchillanews.com.au/news/bushfire-alert-western-downs-town/3540102/>

## Bushfire alert for Western Downs town

*Chinchilla News, 03/10/2018*

Multiple Queensland Fire and Emergency Services crews are on scene at a bushfire burning near Joseph Rd and Chinchilla Tara Rd, Tara. ...

Residents are asked to close windows and doors and if suffering from a respiratory condition, keep medications close by.

## LEIGH CK STINK

<https://www.fool.com.au/2018/10/05/why-wesfarmers-ltd-asxwes-and-these-shares-are-in-trading-halts-today/>

## Why Wesfarmers Ltd (ASX:WES) and these shares are in trading halts today

*James Mickleboro, The Motley Fool, 05/10/2018*

Leigh Creek Energy Ltd ... This energy producer’s shares have been halted to assist it in managing its continuous disclosure obligations ahead of a material announcement in relation to the initiation of gasification at the Leigh Creek Energy Project. If it has successfully initiated gasification it will be a major milestone for the company and a big step towards commercialisation. Its shares were expected to return to trade on Monday.

## IMPORT INSANITY

<https://www.theaustralian.com.au/business/mining-energy/gas-price-surge-could-shut-heavy-industry-accs-sims-warns/news-story/27589dc83bf3ed4bc12fb557da08eb63>

## Gas price surge could shut heavy industry, ACCC’s Sims warns

*Perry Williams, The Australian, 03/10/2018*

Gas prices on Australia’s east coast are set to surge up to four times higher than historical levels this summer, forcing manufacturers and heavy industry to potentially shut operations, the competition watchdog has warned. ...

Australia’s gas-intensive industries including petrochemical and fertiliser companies would struggle to compete with their international rivals on costs in the early to mid-2020s as gas prices increase further, consultancy Wood Mackenzie has said. ...

The most realistic way to cut prices is to boost production of locally produced gas in the southern states to help cut the cost of paying for supplies piped down from Queensland or imported from overseas ...

AGL, which plans to start importing LNG to Victoria’s Crib Point by 2020-21, acknowledged the price of gas for Australian manufacturers had significantly increased but said imposing new restrictions on the export or import of gas may drive away much needed investment in the sector. ...

<http://mpnews.com.au/2018/10/02/agl-board-told-of-gas-plan-fears/>

## AGL board told of gas plan fears

*Keith Platt, Mornington Peninsula News, 02/10/2018*

The gas import terminal proposed at Crib Point is part of power company AGL’s \$2 billion “electricity generation projects aimed at modernising and improving energy supply”.

AGL chairman Graeme Hunt last Wednesday (26 September) named Crib Point as being one of these projects, along with wind farms at Coopers Gap and Silvertown, gas-fired power stations at Barker Inlet and Newcastle and a coal-fired power station at Bayswater.

A protest against the Crib Point floating storage regasification unit (FSRU) was held outside while Mr Hunt was speaking to shareholders at the company’s annual general meeting in the Melbourne Recital Centre.

Several members of the Save Westernport group along with Environment Victoria’s Mark Wakeham, using proxy

votes, were able to raise questions at the meeting about safety aspects of the FSRU.

“This allowed us all, for the first time, to take our case directly to the whole AGL board, they were a captive audience,” Rod Knowles, a retired MFB firefighter and Save Westernport member, said.

“Concerns were raised with the board over the safety of the floating gas terminal and the impact it will have on [Western Port’s] internationally recognised Ramsar-listed wetlands.” ...

AGL and APA Transmission are still waiting for Planning Minister Richard Wynne to say if they will have to undertake full environment effects studies for the FRSU and a gas pipeline from Crib Point to Pakenham. ...

<http://www.petroleum-economist.com/articles/politics-economics/asia-pacific/2018/australias-gas-race-has-begun>

## Australia’s gas race has begun

*Sally Bogle, Petroleum Economist, 02/10/2018*

Western Port in the Mornington Peninsula is an unlikely spot for a transformational liquefied natural gas facility which could prise open eastern Australia’s notoriously opaque, illiquid and under-regulated gas market. ...

Beach shacks line the sleepy, tree-fringed lanes which back onto scrub and a network of sandy paths down to the placid, muddy waters of Western Port Bay. ...

AGL’s import concept isn’t the only one on the drawing board. ...

ExxonMobil says it’s “actively considering” a potential import project at an as-yet-unspecified location in Victoria. ...

Just south of Sydney, in Wollongong’s industrial zone of Port Kembla in New South Wales, the Australian Industrial Energy (AIE) joint venture is also developing an FSRU import point to bring in gas for industrial consumers. ...

Meanwhile, in South Australia, the Venice Energy JV set up by ex-BHP executives and IG Partners is looking at installing an FSRU at Pelican Point in Adelaide’s Outer Harbour. ...

Up to one cargo a month of LNG—equal to nearly 1m tonnes a year—would be imported to fire a new 500-megawatt gas-fired power station at Pelican Point. ...

The LNG import concept is a strange one for Australia which is awash with conventional and unconventional

gas, both onshore and offshore. But the profit margins are attracting the attention of LNG traders, who see it as a high-value, low-risk market. ...

There's also the rising risk that tougher new gas reservation policies will be introduced if a Labour government wins the next general election. This could make it challenging for any LNG import concept to get off the ground and may mean residents of Western Port will not end up seeing a 270-metre FSRU as they look up from their beach picnics.

<https://www.smb.com.au/business/the-economy/gas-import-terminals-inevitable-but-won-t-lower-prices-say-analysts-20181005-p507yo.html>

### Gas import terminals 'inevitable' but won't lower prices, say analysts

*Cole Latimer, SMH, 05/10/2018*

Gas import terminals will become a permanent fixture along Australia's coastline as rising demand puts too much pressure on existing gas pipeline supplies, energy analysts say.

These import terminals have been touted as a temporary fix to the forecast gas shortages as well as helping lower prices but bankers and analysts say large gas users won't see dramatically lower prices. ...

Macquarie said gas pipeline company APA and upstream producers – companies producing gas – will be the main winners from the terminals as APA gains access to more gas volumes, and upstream producers are able to sell at international prices. ...

## NUKE MADNESS

<https://www.theaustralian.com.au/business/mining-energy/mining-industry-loses-bid-to-overturn-grand-canyon-ban/news-story/caef840f552dc07caaccd8ac6faa56a>

### Mining industry loses bid to overturn Grand Canyon ban

*AP, The Australian, 02/10/2018*

The US Supreme Court won't review an Obama-era action that put land around the Grand Canyon off-limits to new mining claims, ending the legal battle as environmentalists keep a close eye on actions by the Trump administration that they fear could lead to more access for the mining industry.

The Obama administration put about 4,045 square kilometres outside the boundaries of the national park off-limits to new hard rock mining claims until 2032. ...

Much of the land in the withdrawal area is north of the Grand Canyon and

has some of the richest deposits of uranium ore in the US. ...

## RENEWABLES

<https://www.northqueenslandregister.com.au/story/5676629/kidston-renewable-energy-hub-fast-tracked/>

### Kidston Renewable Energy Hub fast tracked

*Derek Barry, Nth Qld Register, 01/10/2018*

Genex Power's Kidston Renewable Energy Hub has been fast tracked with the \$330 million Kidston Pumped Hydro Storage project declared a coordinated project.

The project ... proposes an innovative use of two water-filled mine pits to generate hydroelectricity.

Minister for State Development Cameron Dick said the project could employ 370 people during the two-year construction and have a minimum lifespan of 50 years. ...

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-10-05/port-augusta-becomes-australian-renewable-energy-hub/10338812>

### 'Renewables capital of Australia'? Port Augusta shows off its green energy credentials

*Stephen Long, ABC, 05/10/2018*

"In 2015 when they announced the closure of the [Northern] coal-fired power station, I said that Port Augusta would become the renewables capital of Australia," Sam Johnson, the mayor of Port Augusta, said.

"Three years on, I think we have." ...

Thirteen renewable energy projects are underway or under consideration – from wind farms and pumped hydro-electric power to solar with storage that can shift electricity made when the sun's shining to meet peak demand in the evening. ...

<https://www.greenbiz.com/article/fossil-fuel-industrys-dirty-secret-climate-action-or-not-things-look-bad>

### The fossil fuel industry's dirty secret: Climate action or not, things look bad

*Jeremy Deaton, Greenbiz, 28/09/2018*

Wind turbines, solar panels and electric vehicles are getting cheaper and more abundant by the day, which is hurting demand for coal, oil and natural gas. As demand falls for conventional fuels, so will prices. Companies that laid claim to coal mines or oil wells won't be able to turn a profit by digging up that fuel. They will default on their loans, pushing banks to the brink of failure. Prices are

likely to crash before 2035, costing the global economy as much as \$4 trillion, according to a new study published in the journal Nature Climate Change.

## FOSSIL POLITICS

<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2018/sep/30/the-day-an-aboriginal-march-stopped-the-miners-and-gave-birth-to-a-land-council>

### The day an Aboriginal march stopped the miners and gave birth to a land council

*Dylan Storer, The Guardian, 01/10/2018*

Hundreds of Aboriginal people from across the Kimberley have recreated the historic Noonkanbah march, to mark the 40th anniversary of the protest that led to the formation of the Kimberley Land Council, in the Fitzroy valley community of Ngumpun.

Forty years ago, the Western Australian premier Sir Charles Court enforced oil exploration by American company Amax on the Aboriginal-owned cattle station Noonkanbah and its sacred sites, despite strong objections from traditional owners.

Forty-five non-unionised drilling rigs were stopped in their tracks when Aboriginal people from across the Kimberley marched ...

The protests didn't halt the exploration, but it was a pyrrhic victory for Amax and the Western Australian government: no oil was found on Noonkanbah station.



[https://www.gladstoneobserver.com.au/news/resources-and-energy-sector-on-track-for-record-3538381/?utm\\_campaign=%5B%27Mailchimp+Morning+News%27%5D&utm\\_medium=%5B%27email%27%5D&utm\\_source=%5B%27Gladstone+Observer%27%5D](https://www.gladstoneobserver.com.au/news/resources-and-energy-sector-on-track-for-record-3538381/?utm_campaign=%5B%27Mailchimp+Morning+News%27%5D&utm_medium=%5B%27email%27%5D&utm_source=%5B%27Gladstone+Observer%27%5D)

### Resources and energy sector on track for record earnings

*Leighton Smith, Gladstone Observer, 02/10/2018*

The resource and energy market is going from strength to strength with the Australian Government boldly predicting record earnings over the coming year.

Released today, the July-September 2018 edition of the Resources and Energy Quarterly, which was produced by

the Office of the Chief Economist in the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science, predicts a strong Australian resource and energy exports in the short-term. ...

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2018/oct/02/value-of-australian-coal-exports-tipped-to-decline-sharply-over-next-18-months>

### Value of Australian coal exports tipped to decline sharply over next 18 months

Gareth Hutchins, *The Guardian*, 02/10/2018

The value of Australia's coal exports is forecast to decline sharply over the next 18 months as thermal coal prices drop 25% and metallurgical coal prices fall 23%. ...

The figures raise questions about the claim made by the resources minister, Matthew Canavan, in June that "market conditions are right" for Queensland's Galilee basin to start digging up large amounts of coal.

The Department of Industry, Innovation and Science released the September quarter figures for Australia's resource and energy exports on Tuesday. ...

The shadow energy minister, Mark Butler, said the figures from the June report were being misrepresented.

"Minister Canavan and [the then prime minister, Malcolm Turnbull] may think it's their job to present this as a booming market but the Australian people, especially those living and working in thermal coal communities, deserve to be treated with respect and intelligence," Butler said. ...

<https://www.theaustralian.com.au/business/mining-energy/export-bonanza-wont-last-long/news-story/ed707c1fb7f6d19a7d4c59edfc182cfd>

### Export bonanza won't last long

Perry Williams, *The Australian*, 02/10/2018

A surge in Australia's commodity exports to record levels will be short-lived, with falling iron ore and coal prices in 2019-20 to reverse growth and dampen the impact of rising output and a leap in LNG earnings, the federal government's forecaster says. ...

LNG export revenue expectations will jump by 57 per cent to \$48bn in 2019, boosted by new capacity due online and the recent rally in oil prices beyond \$US80 a barrel, which could lift prices to \$12.30 a gigajoule from \$8.50 a gigajoule last year. ...

Despite that big supply jump from Australia, the forecaster sees the chance of overcapacity in global LNG markets as

shorter-lived than previously expected by market analysts.

"LNG markets could potentially face a hard landing in the early 2020s with spot prices increasing rapidly," the report states. ...

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-10-02/tesla-battery-proves-a-leading-source-of-dispatchable-power/10326420>

### Tesla battery proves a leading source of dispatchable power, AEMO says

Stephen Long, *ABC*, 02/10/2018

Scott Morrison said it would be about as useful for the electricity system as the Big Banana at Coffs Harbour or the Big Prawn at Ballina in NSW.

"By all means have the world's biggest battery, have the world's biggest banana, have the world's biggest prawn like we have on the roadside around the country," he mocked when the Tesla big battery in South Australia was commissioned.

"But that is not solving the problem."

Resources Minister Matt Canavan reportedly dismissed the big battery as "the Kim Kardashian of the energy world: it's famous for being famous [but] doesn't do very much".

Yet no less an authority than the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) disagrees.

"Its ability to respond very, very quickly to the different types of conditions that we see on the power system has been very encouraging for us," AEMO's executive general manager of operations Damien Sanford told the ABC. ...

Politicians and others hostile to renewable energy feed a constant message that wind power and solar power are a threat to reliable energy supply, yet their output is highly predictable.

But Mr McConnell said the bigger threat came from coal-fired power stations suddenly and unexpectedly breaking down — something that has happened on numerous occasions in recent times, particularly in hot weather.

In these circumstances, the Tesla battery has helped to play a role in stabilising the grid, according to AEMO and other experts. ...

<https://thenewdaily.com.au/money/finance-news/2018/10/02/scott-morrison-carbon-emissions-claim-not-true/>

### Scott Morrison is either lying about carbon emissions, or just plain ignorant

James Fernyhough, *New Daily*, 02/10/2018

Prime Minister Scott Morrison says Australia is on track to meet its 2030 emissions reduction target "in a canter". But it's not, and Mr Morrison is either being blindly optimistic or he is an outright liar. ...

How does Mr Morrison justify this wild optimism?

*The New Daily* put all this to the Prime Minister's Office, and asked Mr Morrison to answer the charge that he was lying to voters. No response was received by deadline. ...

<https://www.smh.com.au/environment/climate-change/fossil-fuels-craig-kelly-liberals-climate-20181003-p507ia.html>

### 'Fossil fuels protect us': Liberal backbencher tells party not to worry about climate

Peter Hannam, *SMH*, 03/10/2018

Craig Kelly, a prominent Liberal Party backbencher, has told party members in Sydney they should not worry about climate change and that fossil fuels were among the reasons "we are so safe".

Addressing a gathering of members last week at the Middle Harbour Yacht Club, Mr Kelly said "we've always had dangerous weather" and that "even the climate has changed in space". ...

"The climate was always dangerous. We didn't make it dangerous, [and] it's fossil fuels that protect us from that climate."

Mr Kelly's comments come as scientists from around the world gather in South Korea before next Monday's release of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's special report into the effects of a 1.5-degree warming.

The report is expected to detail likely impacts, including that as much as 90 per cent of the world's coral reefs will die at that threshold. ...

The Bureau of Meteorology and other international agencies estimate the planet has already warmed more than 1 degree in the past century. ...

Mr Kelly, though, told his audience - that he numbered at about 100 people - "30 years ago, the temperature was the same globally about where it was today". ...

Among [Kelly's] sources was a 2011

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# News this week ... from previous page



**Craig Kelly**  
21 hrs · 🌐



LEFTY HEADS EXPLODE AT INCONVENIENT TRUTH THAT TODAY WE ARE SAFER FROM EXTREME WEATHER THAN AT ANY TIME IN HUMAN HISTORY.

That 'popping' sound you heard yesterday wasn't just drought breaking rains - it was green/lefty heads exploding while they were reading the SMH article quoting the inconvenient truth, that today are safer from extreme weather (floods, droughts, storm, heat waves, etc) than at any other time in human history.

The reason why such historical truths upset those brainwashed into climate cults, is that it's long been a grooming technique of recruiters to spread the myth that the climate of the past used to be 'safe & stable', and through indulging in 'evil' fossil fuels we made it dangerous !!

*Liberal MP for Hughes, Craig Kelly, had a Facebook rant about Sydney Morning Herald journalist Peter Hannams account of a speech Kelly gave, to about 100 party faithful at Middle Harbour Yacht Club. Kelly's facebook page is largely devoted to pro-Trumpian news and climate denialism.*

report by the US-based Reason Foundation ...

The foundation has close links to David H. Koch, one of the billionaire Koch brothers who have been big backers of the fossil fuel industry...

Senator Jim Molan, who was also present, described Mr Kelly's speech to party members as "absolutely fabulous".

<https://www.smh.com.au/environment/climate-change/australians-the-frog-in-the-saucepan-as-world-warms-up-20181004-p507nu.html>

## Phelps would ban fossil fuel firms' political donations, oppose Adani

*Peter Hannam & Latika Bourke, SMH, 01/10/2018*

Kerryn Phelps, the independent candidate for Wentworth, would push to ban political donations from fossil fuel companies and require federal MPs disclose their meetings with such firms and their lobbyists if elected. ...

Dr Phelps would also oppose subsidies for the proposed giant Adani coal mine in Queensland, reject government support for new coal fired power plants, aim for 50 per cent renewable energy by 2030 and restore credibility to the Climate Change Authority that has largely been gutted by the Turnbull government. ...

<https://www.smh.com.au/environment/climate-change/australians-the-frog-in-the-saucepan-as-world-warms-up-20181004-p507nu.html>

## Australians the frog in the saucepan as world warms up

*Peter Hannam, SMH, 04/10/2018*

In decades to come, historians wondering how Australians found themselves with dangerous climate change may well be puzzled.

How was it that inhabitants of a continent prone to wild swings in annual rainfall, severe heatwaves and bushfires weren't more wary of greater climate chaos? ...

Another [alert] will be issued on Monday when the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change releases its assessment of the impacts on the world of 1.5 degrees of global warming. ...

But when was the last time you heard the Coalition governments tout climate change as a reason for any policy? Labor governments do on occasion

but are wary of taking steps that might push up energy prices. ...

Warming in the order of 3.5 degrees is more likely on current global policies – assuming they are implemented ...

<https://www.thesaturdaypaper.com.au/news/environment/2018/10/06/fact-checking-morrison-climate-change/1538748006957>

## Fact-checking Morrison on climate change

*Tim Flannery, Saturday Paper, 06/10/2018*

On his first official trip as prime minister Scott Morrison set off on a "drought tour" ... Morrison acknowledged "the climate is changing" – a step forward in comparison with some of his predecessors – but dodged any potential link between that fact and his tinder dry surrounds. ...

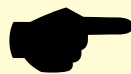
A few days later, speaking at a Menzies Research Centre forum in Albury, New South Wales, Morrison suggested praying for rain. ...

When asked on the ABC's Insiders program last weekend about Australia's efforts to meet its Paris climate agreement targets, Morrison replied: "We're going to meet those in a canter." Yet even the government's own modelling has us on track for a mere 5 per cent reduction by 2030. ...

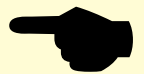
Between now and 2050 we'll need to transform our carbon-emitting economy into a carbon-absorbing one. ... With Morrison at the helm, we are headed towards a world where food security is diminishing, where drought is the new normal and where our basic requirements of shelter from the elements, water and food security increasingly hang in the balance. Time is now so very short to act that, if the rest of the world was performing as poorly as Australia is in reducing its emissions, all hope would already be lost.

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