



CLIMATE  
COUNCIL

# CREATING A CLIMATE ACTION LEGACY

Powering a bright and renewable  
Australia for generations to come



# A Gift for Future Generations

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The Climate Council is the number one climate science communications organisation in Australia. **And that is all thanks to you.**

Our community is vocal in demanding what is just and sustainable for our future; quick to stand up against vested interests; and willing to push boundaries to do whatever it takes to build the future we desire.


**The simple act of leaving a gift in your will to the Climate Council will have a powerful impact on climate action and on future generations.** It allows your voice, your legacy, to live on for many years to come and it can help secure a better future for the loved ones you leave behind.

Climate change is supercharging our atmosphere and as we saw during the 2019-20 summer, creating the perfect conditions for extreme weather events.

A gift in your will can play an important role in shaping Australia's energy and climate future.

**The Climate Council is independent and remains so, thanks to the funding and support of donors like you.**

Thank you for creating a legacy that safeguards Australia's climate future.



A gift in your will can help to protect your community and the people you love into the future

# Our Challenge

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As we entered the new decade, Australians experienced an unprecedented national bushfire crisis, cyclones and flooding. Lives have been lost, homes and communities destroyed and billions of animals killed or injured. **These are the impacts of climate change. This is our new normal.**

The Climate Council, together with our passionate supporters, has seen great progress towards climate action. But it's not enough.

Already, with a little over 1C of warming globally, the impacts of climate change are being felt strongly in Australia and around the world. The risks of future climate change – to our economy, society, environment and health – are serious, and grow rapidly with each degree of further temperature rise.

Minimising these risks requires rapid, deep and ongoing reductions to global greenhouse gas emissions. We must begin now if we are to decarbonise our economy and move to clean energy sources by 2050.

As we enter the new decade, we have a clear mission to catalyse the rapid reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, implement a strong national climate policy and engage all sectors of society and industry in a clean energy future.



**Climate change is a present and serious danger to Australians; threatening our health and safety, livelihoods, infrastructure, economy, wildlife and natural wonders.**



# Our Ongoing Impact

## INDEPENDENT CLIMATE SCIENCE

In just over seven years, the Climate Council has published over 120 reports, briefing papers and fact sheets. **This work creates a resounding drumbeat of information in the community and the national political discourse, pushing the dial towards greater awareness and action.**

We have a proven track record of influencing climate action in Australia in three important ways:

1. Changing the public narrative, the operating environment for decision makers. During the bushfire crisis our spokespeople, particularly Greg Mullins and the Emergency Leaders for Climate Action, have been critical to framing the fires as driven by climate change and the Federal government response as inadequate.

2. Driving scalable, replicable emissions reductions projects and policies. We support local

governments to implement projects that are driving down emissions, as well as focusing on targeted state government advocacy (including policy wins).

3. Empowering constituencies to lead, act and advocate. We have built up a range of influential constituencies, including farmers, firefighters, mayors and health professionals.



## CITIES POWER PARTNERSHIP

The Cities Power Partnership (CPP) is Australia's largest climate program for local government. **It currently represents over 140 local councils and 50% of Australians.**

The CPP supports local councils on their pathway to net zero emissions. Across Australia, we have seen our members take tangible action and launch exciting projects across renewable energy, energy efficiency and sustainable transport.

The CPP continues to show us that despite the lack of Federal Government action on climate change, local communities can still have a significant impact, filling this leadership void and implementing practical, localised solutions.

Collectively members have pledged to take over 710 actions that support climate change solutions, 48% of members have a Renewable Energy Target and 33% have a Net-Zero Emissions Target.

Image: CPP members at Bungala Solar Farm. Photo credit Andrew Correll





## CLEAN JOBS PLAN

COVID-19 has had a dramatic impact on global society, precipitating the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression. The pandemic has forced economies around the world, including Australia's, into hibernation, and decision makers are now tasked with ensuring their rapid revival.

This presents Australia with a critical opportunity to tackle both the economic and climate crises together, by investing in policy solutions that will drive down emissions and help Australians build resilience to climate impacts, while also generating jobs and economic growth.



To capitalise on this moment, the Climate Council released our Clean Jobs Plan, a piece of detailed economic modelling from AlphaBeta, co-designed with State and Territory Governments. This modelling provides a clear roadmap for how governments can generate tens of thousands of jobs across Australia right now, while also setting the nation on the path to net-zero emissions.

Our next steps include: identifying new voices to bring to the conversation from the business sector; ensuring that key government decision makers are briefed on the Plan; coordinating with other climate groups in each state and territory to ensure our work amplifies existing tactics; and mobilising local councils, especially in regional areas where investment in line with the Clean Jobs Plan could have a substantial impact on the local economy.



**Solar costs have fallen 82% since 2010**

## DISCREDITING GAS

Gas in Australia is dangerous, expensive and unnecessary and is one of the principal fossil fuels driving Australia's contribution to climate change. The gas industry is expanding rapidly around the country, with major developments in the pipeline.

The climate, health and economic impacts of gas are poorly understood by the public, as well as the media and politicians. This is exploited by the gas industry, who run organised misinformation campaigns - promoting gas as a 'clean alternative' to coal.

Through a consistent drumbeat of media coverage, producing science based research, supporting communities threatened by gas developments and behind the scenes stakeholder engagement, the Climate Council, along with our allies in the climate space, are working to shift the tide on this narrative.

## EMPOWERING DIVERSE VOICES

The Climate Council's media team has supported hundreds of everyday Australians with lived experience of climate impacts and solutions, tell their stories in the media.

We've supported people including drought-affected farmers, firefighters who are facing increasingly dangerous bushfires, doctors seeing the health impacts of climate change, and tourism operators witnessing devastating impacts on the places we love. We also highlight the businesses working on solutions including electric vehicle enthusiasts and community energy groups.

Through the support we provide—from training and pitching their stories to the media, to providing strategic communications advice to other climate organisations—we are driving a sea change in the quality and quantity of climate change coverage in the media.

## EMERGENCY LEADERS FOR CLIMATE ACTION

Emergency Leaders for Climate Action (ELCA) carefully executed media strategy has had a transformative impact on the public debate around climate change. The scale and ferocity of Black Summer catapulted ELCA voices to front page news - meaning the message could no longer be ignored; **worsening extreme weather events are being aggravated by climate change.**

In 2020, ELCA ran a successful Bushfire & Climate Summit, bringing experts and bushfire affected community members together to discuss how Australia can prepare in the face of worsening bushfire

seasons. Several ELCA members were asked for expert comment at parliamentary inquiries, including the Bushfire Royal Commission. ELCA will continue to be an influential voice in the national climate conversation, to directly influence decision makers to implement effective climate change mitigation and adaptation policies, including implementation of the 80 recommendations put forward by the Royal Commission. And also to provide current fire and emergency service organisations with relevant climate change information to assist them in preparing for worsening bushfire seasons.





# How do I leave a gift in my will?

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Organising your will protects your family and loved ones, and ensures that your estate is divided among the people and causes you love, in the way you intend. Your will is a powerful way to ensure your values live on.

## How do I leave the Climate Council a gift in my will?

Making the decision to leave a gift in your will (a bequest), to the Climate Council can be an easy one. Once you have let your family and loved ones know of your intent, it is simply a matter of updating your will, with your solicitor.

You'll also need to consider what kind of gift to leave;

- **A Residual Gift** - Leaves the whole, or a percentage of, your remaining (residue) estate after all provisions have been made for your loved ones, and expenses have been paid. This is a practical way to give and allows for inflation, therefore, not decreasing over time.
- **A Percentage Gift**- Leaves a percentage or nominated portion of your whole estate. For example you can divide your estate between a number of people or charities. This is another flexible way to give as you do not have to adjust the value of your gift to account for inflation, or changes to your total assets.
- **A Fixed Amount** - Leaves a specific sum. This type of gift may need to be changed over the years to account for inflation and changes to your circumstances. It is likely to diminish over time.

# Contact your solicitor

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It is important to seek professional legal advice when updating or writing your will. Your solicitor will be able to advise the best way for you to leave a gift to the Climate Council. Example wording is shown here;

'I (insert name here) GIVE to Climate Council Australia Limited of 8 Short Street, Surry Hills, NSW. ABN 91130 79 3 725 for its general purposes;

[Choose and insert the appropriate statement from the list below]

- the whole of my estate
- (insert number) percentage of my estate
- the residue of my estate
- (insert number) percentage of the residue of my estate
- the amount of \$ (insert the value of your gift in cash)

free of all duties, and I DECLARE that the receipt of the authorised officer for the time being shall be a complete and sufficient discharge for the Executor(s).'

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For more information about your lasting legacy, or if you or your solicitor have any questions, please contact:

Amanda Howle  
 Gifts in Wills Coordinator  
 Ph: (02) 9356 8531  
 E: [legacy@climatecouncil.org.au](mailto:legacy@climatecouncil.org.au)

# Join our community

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Letting us know that you have left a gift in your will to the Climate Council gives us the confidence to plan for our future. It also gives us the opportunity to thank you!

We understand that making a will is a very personal matter and we will respect your confidentiality at all times. If you would like to get in touch, whether to advise us of your intentions, or to ask more questions about leaving a gift to the Climate Council, please contact our Gifts in Wills team on 02 9356 8531 or via email [legacy@climatecouncil.org.au](mailto:legacy@climatecouncil.org.au)

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"I shudder to think of the future my children could inherit. Thank you for supporting independent climate action and the Climate Council's vision for a bright future."  
- Amanda McKenzie CEO

I'm leaving a bequest to the Climate Council because **nothing is more important**. My husband and I chose not to have children in order to lessen our impact on this wonderful planet, so consequently I have no dependents to whom to leave it. But I am confident that the Climate Council will use it well.  
- Rosie, Willunga SA





# Thank you for supporting the Climate Council.

The Climate Council is an independent, crowd-funded organisation providing quality information on climate change to the Australian public.

ABN - 52 165 914 303 8

The Climate Council of Australia holds Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) Status and is fully Tax Exempt

## **CLIMATE COUNCIL**

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