



Thank you for supporting the Climate Council.

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

The Climate Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we live, meet and work. We wish to pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging and recognise the continuous connection of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to Country.

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Thank you for your support

The Climate Council continues to be Australia's leading climate communications organisation thanks to a growing community of supporters powering our work. With more than 520,000 supporters backing us, our voice has never been louder. We are able to call out misinformation, advocate for science-based solutions, produce hard-hitting reports, and elevate climate change in the media.

2021 has revealed some hard truths about the crisis we face: climate change is accelerating, with global warming of 1.5°C expected to be breached in the coming decades. This crisis is unfolding before us, with extreme weather events worsening around the world and at home. Off the back of the 2019/20 Black Summer bushfires, and the ongoing global pandemic, this has been a trying year for many.

But from the ashes we have seen Australians rise, more determined than ever to defend their communities from the greatest threat of all: climate change. The Climate Council is constantly galvanised by the passion and dedication of our community who are fighting for a better future, and we know that together, we are shifting the dial on climate action.

We are committed to being brave and bold in demanding science-backed climate action. From the biggest international and national media publications, to boardrooms and the general public, the Climate Council is focused on transforming what Australians think is possible when it comes to climate action in this country.

With our community standing alongside us, we've been able to combat misinformation about gas, and put forward an alternative, clean-energy recovery plan for all levels of government. We've prioritised communicating the latest science to the public, including the hard truths about the crisis we face, while remaining solutions-focused and committed to our vision of rapidly reducing emissions this decade to ensure Australia reaches net zero emissions by 2035.

We feel hope knowing we have an ever-growing community standing with us, who are prepared to raise their collective voice and fight for our future. This is the endgame - the time for climate action is now, *this decade*.

Thank you so much for all your support. As a proudly community-powered, independent organisation, our work really wouldn't be possible without each and every one of you. Whether it's reading and sharing our emails, signing petitions, or generously contributing a donation to keep our work going, **the Climate Council community is the heart of our organisation – and your support is deeply appreciated.** Every action we choose to take matters, because every degree of avoided warming matters.

Images: Clockwise from top left: The Queensland Parliamentary Showcase. Cities Power Partnership member City of Melbourne at the Melbourne Renewable Energy Project launch. One of our trained trusted voices Associate Professor Scott Heron being interviewed. Professor Will Steffen and Dr Robert Glasser at the launch of the Hitting Home report. We supported the Central Queensland Energy Summit. Dr Martin Rice at the launch of our Clean Jobs Plan report. Professor Lesley Hughes speaking at an event hosted by our partner Spell and the Gypsy Collective.



A message from the Chair

I am proud to be presenting the 2020-2021 Annual Report for the Climate Council for the first time, as Chair of the Board.

The past year has seen the world continue to be ravaged by the COVID-19 pandemic and extreme weather events, exacerbating existing inequalities across the globe. In a year of extremes and climate records, the need for urgent action on climate change has never been clearer. Climate change is affecting all of us today, and without urgent intervention its impacts will become more extreme, and many of the world's most vulnerable communities will be the hardest hit.

It has been a year of heartache, but also one of hope. I have been reflecting throughout the year on community strength, and the power of everyday people coming together. The pandemic has shown us that governments, businesses and communities can work together to listen and rapidly adapt to the latest science. When I think of the urgent action needed in the years ahead, I feel hopeful knowing that solutions are available and that communities are already collaborating for a brighter future.

There has been a noticeable shift in the climate conversation globally this year. The international landscape has continued to change, with many of Australia's most important trading partners and strategic allies ramping up their climate commitments in the lead up to COP26.

This has left Australia isolated among our international peers in having failed to increase our climate ambition.

To help build pressure and momentum at home, the Climate Council bravely put forward our own science backed net zero emissions target. In our *Aim High, Go Fast* report, our team, with the guidance of leading climate experts Professor Will Steffen and Professor Lesley Hughes, concluded that Australia must cut our emissions by 75% by 2030 and reach net zero emissions by 2035 to avoid the most catastrophic consequences of climate change. Every fraction of a degree of avoided warming matters, and will be measured in lives, species and ecosystems lost or saved. This is our guiding mantra in the years to come and these targets set the benchmark we will measure our decision makers actions against.

The Climate Council also launched the *Clean Jobs Plan* in July 2020, demonstrating the opportunities that exist to help rebuild our economy and tackle climate change. Since its release, state governments have made 80 policy recommendations in line with the report demonstrating the Climate Council's influence in transforming Australian attitudes on climate action, from the community to our highest offices. We have also seen an expansion of our local government program, the Cities Power Partnership, that now represents over 147 councils and more than 60% of the Australian population.

Throughout this year, our team has remained steadfast in their commitment to seeing urgent action on climate change, and building a safer, fairer and more resilient future. I would like to thank my fellow Directors including my predecessor, Gerry Hueston, for his leadership of the Climate Council since its inception until November 2020, and new Directors Kirsty Gold, Simon Corbell, David Atkin and Professor Will Steffen who joined the Board this year. As a representative of our expert Councillors, Professor Steffen has played an important role in building connectivity between the Board and Councillors who are critical to our success. To the Councillor group, thank you for the deep, diverse and expanding expertise you bring to the Climate Council. We are grateful for your support as we work to catalyse climate action across Australia.

I would also like to thank the staff and volunteers for their dedication and energy in all that they do. In particular, CEO Amanda McKenzie and Acting CEO Dr Martin Rice for their leadership, resilience and strategic direction over the past 12 months. I also acknowledge the significant support of Emma Pollard and Dinah Arndt who have stepped up in a variety of leadership positions in recent months, and provided wonderful continuity for the organisation.

Finally, I extend my thanks to our community of supporters - as a community powered organisation, you make our vital work possible and your passion for change gives us hope for the future.

This decade is the most important yet in the fight to mitigate climate change. I know that we, the Climate Council and our community, are an undeniable force for change and are up to this challenge. Our independent voice is more important now, than ever, and I look forward to us continuing to increase our impact in catalysing action across Australia.



Sam Mostyn AO
Climate Council Chair

A message from the CEO and Chief Councillor

This year certainly threw up its fair share of challenges, but in looking back on what our organisation has done, we have managed to carry out some of our most powerful interventions.

Despite significant momentum for climate action following the Black Summer bushfires of 2019-20, the COVID-19 pandemic drew national attention away from the climate crisis, and made it a lot easier for the federal government to justify its dangerous spending on new fossil fuel projects. **But it didn't stop us.**

While much of the world's attention has focused on COVID-19, the climate crisis shows no signs of slowing down. Temperature records continue to tumble, and communities both here and overseas have been hit again and again by devastating extreme weather events, such as floods, bushfires and heatwaves.

Time is running out to avoid locking in the most catastrophic climate impacts. That's why here at the Climate Council, we have worked tirelessly all year to put climate change back at the top of Australia's priority list.

Together, we have solidified the Climate Council's position as Australia's leading climate change communications organisation, providing authoritative, expert advice on climate impacts and solutions based on the most up-to-date science. We have empowered thousands of trusted Australians to speak up and call for stronger climate action, and championed smart solutions that address the climate crisis, rebuild our economy and get people back to work.

Now, one of Australia's biggest ever climate polls has revealed that a majority of voters in every single federal seat support stronger action on climate change (Australian Conservation Foundation, 2021).

At the beginning of 2021, we re-imagined what we want Australia to look like in 2025 and designed a new strategy. This vision was underpinned by a significant intervention: the publication of our *Aim High, Go Fast* report. Led by Professor Will Steffen and Professor Lesley Hughes, this report concludes that our greenhouse gas emissions must be on a steep, downward trajectory this decade, with Australia well on its way to net zero emissions by 2035. It was released in advance of the latest science update from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), which also found that climate change is accelerating – and labelled the situation a '*code red for humanity*'.



Image: The Climate Council released nine publications in 2020-21.

Turning Australia into a climate leader will require a transformation in action and attitude from all levels of government, industry, business and community. That's why our research, campaigns, and communications teams have been working harder than ever to produce nine hard-hitting, informative and strategic reports, undertake high-level briefings with key political decision makers, and accelerate the uptake of replicable, scalable climate solutions in cities and towns all over the country.

Over the past year, we've made significant inroads in our efforts to expose gas as the harmful, polluting fossil fuel that it is. This included our *Kicking the Gas Habit* report, which highlighted the harms gas poses within our homes and on human health. This report was covered extensively in the media, including an exclusive report on *A Current Affair*. We have welcomed three new Councillors with expertise in gas, economics and business (Nicki Hutley, Dr Madeline Taylor and Martijn Wilder), and have secured more than 19,500 media items featuring our spokespeople. This high volume and consistent media coverage not only informs Australians about climate change, its impacts, and many solutions, it also builds public pressure on governments of all stripes to act.

Now as many nations, including a majority of our key trading partners and allies, begin to rebuild their economies by investing in clean, zero-emissions technologies, we are pushing the federal government to aim higher and go faster when it comes to our national emission reduction targets.

We know most Australians are with us. More than 45,000 people have so far signed our petition calling on the federal government to slash emissions this decade.

While the past year has been extremely challenging, we hope you take comfort in the work that we're doing together, the nationwide momentum we are building and the powerful impact that we are having.

We are so proud to present the Climate Council's Annual Report for 2020-21. We couldn't have achieved everything we have this year without the strategic guidance of our Board and Councillors, the dedication of our staff and volunteers, and the incredible support of our 520,000-strong Climate Council community. **Thank you for enabling us to be the boldest, bravest versions of ourselves each and every day.**



Prof. Tim Flannery
Chief Councillor



Amanda McKenzie
CEO



Dr Martin Rice
Acting CEO

2020-21

IMPACT SNAPSHOT



OVER
19,500+

MEDIA ITEMS

FEATURING THE
CLIMATE COUNCIL



RELEASED
9

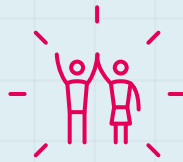
**LANDMARK
PUBLICATIONS**



10
**FORMAL
SUBMISSIONS**
TO INQUIRIES



WITH AN EQUIVALENT
ADVERTISING SPACE
VALUE OF
\$58.2M



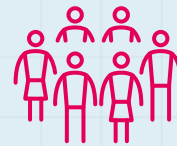
A COMMUNITY OF OVER
520,000
SUPPORTERS



22,200
MEDIA ITEMS
ELEVATING
TRUSTED VOICES



147
**CITIES POWER
PARTNERSHIP MEMBERS**



200
**SPOKESPEOPLE
TRAINED**

Impact Summary

In the past year, our independent voice has been critical in combating misinformation about gas, putting forward an alternative, clean-energy recovery plan for governments, and acting with integrity to educate the Australian public on the hard truths about the crisis we face.

Guiding us has been our vision that by *2025 Australia's emissions are on a steep downward trajectory with projects and policies in place to see us cut emissions by 75% by 2030, and reach net zero by 2035.* Through a year of disruption, wins and challenges for climate action, this vision has anchored our work.

We are clear on why we need to act, where we can influence change, and how Australia can achieve net zero emissions. We have a proven track record of driving climate action in Australia in three important ways:

1. Fundamentally altering the operating environment for decision makers by changing the public narrative.

In the past year, we have been combating misinformation and arming Australians with science-based information to influence the way people view climate impacts and solutions.

One of the biggest threats to climate action in Australia right now is gas, with a disturbing 28% of Australia's land mass subject to gas exploration or live applications (Climate Council, 2021).

For decades, the gas industry in Australia has promoted its product as a “*natural*” and “*necessary*” fuel. In response, our campaign is focused on demonstrating that gas is a polluting, expensive and dangerous fossil fuel that contributes to climate change. To that end, we've released a number of publications, briefed decision makers and led a drumbeat of media coverage.

Our Climate Media Centre team has also trained many Australians on how to speak publicly about their opposition to the gas industry's expansion, and has briefed journalists to bring them up to speed on the many dangers of gas.

Throughout the year, we have seen Prime Minister Scott Morrison publicly oppose a permit extension for PEP 11 (joining other Liberal National Party MPs, the New South Wales Government, and much of the local community). We've also seen AGL's Cribb Point gas terminal in Victoria stopped, and widespread outrage when federal subsidies for the Kurri Kurri gas-fired power station were announced. For more on our gas campaign, please see page 16.

We have also worked hard to communicate the role of climate change in driving extreme weather. After our consistent advocacy during and after the 2019-20 Black Summer bushfires, the Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements acknowledged the role of climate change in fuelling the fires, and creating worsening bushfire seasons into the future: *“As the events of the 2019-2020 bushfire season show, what was unprecedented is now our future.”* Our project, Emergency Leaders for Climate Action (ELCA), is closely tracking the federal government's response to the Royal Commission. ELCA will continue to advocate for the protection of Australians from the worsening impacts of climate change, and for helping communities to prepare and recover from such disasters. For more on our work with ELCA, please see page 27.

2 ■ Driving scalable, replicable emissions reductions projects and policies.

For four years, the Cities Power Partnership (CPP) has been supporting councils across Australia – from large regional centres, to the smallest rural shires – to reduce emissions and move their communities closer to a net-zero emissions future.

The greatest strength of this 147-member network has been councils' passion to collaborate and scale up proven solutions. For example, the Hunter Joint Organisation and its eleven member councils have joined the CPP to address the challenges of industrial transition, emissions reduction and regional climate impacts. CPP is supporting this group by providing tailored access to relevant case studies, expertise and training. For more on the CPP, please see page 22.

In July 2020, the Climate Council launched our *Clean Jobs Plan*; a pathway for an economic recovery that creates tens of thousands of jobs, while tackling climate change. We've been leading an ongoing campaign to build public support for these solutions and working behind the scenes with decision-makers in many states and territories to encourage their uptake of these policies. So far, 80 policy announcements have been made in line with our recommendations, including announcements by governments to invest in utility-scale renewable energy and renewable hydrogen. For more on the clean jobs campaign, please see page 12.

3 ■ Empowering constituencies to lead, act and advocate.

Over many years, we have supported individuals and organisations to become influential voices on climate change – including farmers, firefighters, mayors and health professionals. Through direct media, communications, research and advocacy support we empower them to lead, act and advocate within their own communities. Increased resourcing made available in the past year has enabled us to step up this work. We've trained 200 people on effective communications, media and interview skills, and have helped to align and amplify climate communications across Australia. Read more about our work with trusted voices on page 29.

2020-2021

Program Review



**GOAL 1: GROWING
THE GOOD**



**GOAL 2: STOPPING
THE BAD**



**GOAL 3: TRANSFORMING
THE LANDSCAPE**

GOAL 1: GROWING THE GOOD

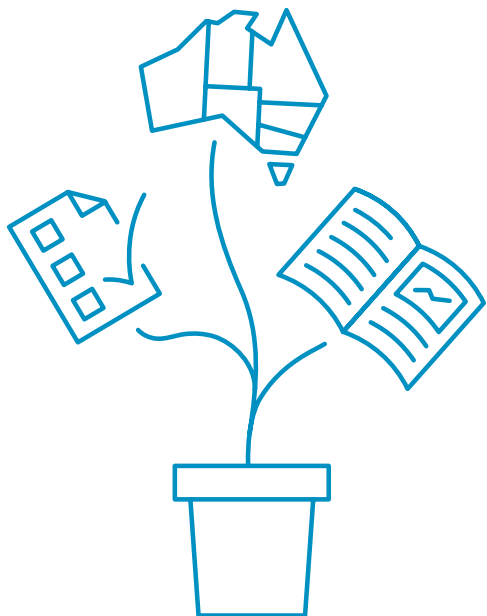
To catalyse action from state and local governments and business and industry that can be replicated, scaled and will build momentum for more; with actions that result in plummeting emissions during the 2020s prioritised.

KEY NARRATIVE SHIFT

Climate action makes dollars and sense: A growing number of politicians, political parties, businesses and unions publicly recognise the economic opportunities of climate action. As the Opposition spokesman on climate change and energy, Chris Bowen, put it: climate action is “*an enormous economic opportunity*” (February, 2021).

HIGHLIGHTS

- Consulted with seven out of eight state and territory governments around the country to co-design the *Clean Jobs Plan* modelling.
- Shared our *Clean Jobs Plan* with over 100 Federal and State politicians, business and industry leaders as well as treasury, environment and energy departments tasked with drafting stimulus policies.
- 80+ policy announcements aligned with the *Clean Jobs Plan* and subsequent policy recommendations.



CLEAN JOBS CAMPAIGN

The Climate Council launched the clean jobs campaign in July 2020, in the wake of the first wave of COVID-19, to create a pathway for an economic recovery in Australia that also tackles climate change.

Clean Jobs Plan

Initially, our campaign focused on influencing federal, state and territory governments to adopt economic stimulus packages that slash emissions, offer great “bang for buck” and generate thousands of clean jobs. We sought to shift the political policy debate squarely on the benefits of a clean economic recovery. At the heart of this work was our July 2020 report, the *Clean Jobs Plan*, developed in partnership with Alpha Beta and co-designed in consultation with state governments. The plan identified policies that could generate 76,000 new jobs for Australians, help rebuild our economy and tackle climate change.

The *Clean Jobs Plan* attracted significant media coverage from coast to coast when launched, with 854 broadcast and online media items and paid advertising value of \$2.7 million. Our Climate Media Centre mobilised 56 spokespeople, from Australian manufacturers to business owners, economists, investors and finance leaders, who could talk to the enormous economic opportunity that climate action presents for our country.

Thousands of our supporters emailed their MP, asking for the *Clean Jobs Plan* to be rolled out in their state. We conducted extensive message testing among the public around economic recovery, which underpinned *Just Get on With It*, a communications guide. We also briefed key stakeholders on our research findings and trained others on how to communicate effectively about climate change and economics.

As a result of the first phase of this campaign, we saw policy announcements made by state governments from around the country that aligned closely with our *Clean Jobs Plan*. This included the \$60.3 million Western Australia Green Jobs Plan, Renewable Energy Zones, reverse auctions and utility-scale renewable projects announced in Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria, and sustainable transport and energy efficiency programs rolled out in the Australian Capital Territory, Victoria and South Australia.



Image: The *Clean Jobs Plan* report, which identifies policies that could generate 76,000 new jobs for Australians.

Target States

The second phase of our clean jobs campaign involved looking beyond immediate stimulus policy, towards longer-term economic recovery. We focused on four key states: South Australia, New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland. Our objectives were to:

- ensure the clean job policies announced by these states in 2020 were implemented,
- see these policies continue to be scaled up as part of longer-term recovery, and
- position a clean energy recovery, rather than a gas-fired one, as possible, desirable and already underway in communities around the country.

Image: The Clean Jobs Plan was launched in Sydney as well as the key renewable energy hubs of Orange, New South Wales and Toowoomba, Queensland.



We maintained a constant drumbeat of media coverage on clean jobs and the economic benefits, held a range of political briefings with key ministers, developed tailored policy packages for each state, and mobilised our community's support. As a result, policy momentum has continued: the New South Wales Government announced a \$750 million Net Zero Industry and Innovation program, increased Energy Savings Scheme and a renewable hydrogen hub in the Hunter Valley. In Victoria, the state government is aiming for half of all new cars sold to be zero-emission vehicles by 2030.

Such state government momentum not only drives a race to the top between states, but also pushes for climate action federally. We produced a 2021-22 pre-budget submission that laid out our federal asks on clean jobs across energy efficiency, sustainable transport, utility-scale renewables and action on the land. We have seen federal commitments from the Australian Labor Party, such as proposals to slash taxes on electric vehicles and fund new energy apprenticeships, and the release of the federal government's Minerals Processing Roadmap that creates more opportunities for clean mining and manufacturing.

State government momentum not only drives a race to the top between states, but also pushes for climate action federally.



FEATURE INTERVENTION: QUEENSLAND

Since 2018, the Climate Council has been working on the ground to shift the conversation on climate change and energy in the sunshine state. Queensland has incredible potential to be a renewables powerhouse, thanks to its abundance of wind and solar resources.

As part of a broader movement, the Climate Council has worked in Queensland to secure a series of landmark climate and energy commitments totalling more than \$2.5 billion in expenditure. These commitments will create thousands of clean jobs. This work involved:

- Leading Queensland-focused research and policy recommendations including the report *Leaders & Legends: Thousands of Clean Jobs for Queenslanders*, which highlighted that Queensland is perfectly positioned to become a clean industrial superpower.
- Executing cutting-edge communications advocacy with Climate Media Centre media advisors based on the ground in Queensland.
- Building collaboration for smart solutions among all sides of politics through briefings and the publication of *Smart Policy Solutions to Supercharge Queensland*, a policy-focused report with proposed initiatives for the Queensland Government.
- Two roundtables attended by approximately 100 representatives from industry, government and communities in Cairns and Townsville, focused on the benefits of local climate solutions.
- A sold-out business and climate roundtable in Brisbane in April, for more than 60 business representatives from across the state.

- Six months of intensive political engagement and repeated stakeholder meetings.
- A Parliamentary showcase event with 100 attendees, including 30 Members of Parliament from across the political spectrum and 15 exhibitors showcasing local climate solutions.
- A clean economy workshop for local governments in Brisbane.

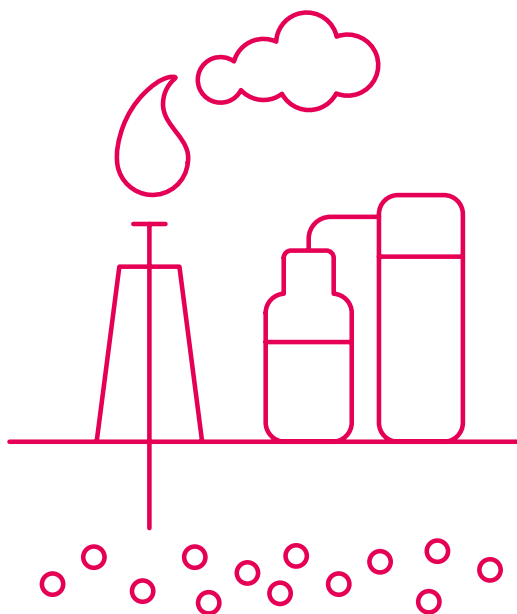
We developed and tested new messages on climate impacts and clean recovery via our Climate Media Centre (CMC). The CMC drew on this testing and baseline polling to seed this new narrative in the media, achieving 2,490 media hits for our spokespeople, both nationally and in Queensland. The CMC trained 85 influential spokespeople from across Queensland to ensure a range of voices, from farmers to local business owners, were equipped to talk about the importance of climate action.

Billions of dollars have since been invested in utility-scale renewables, rooftop solar, storage technologies such as batteries, renewable hydrogen and ecosystem restoration. These solutions will not only help reboot Queensland's economy, but will also reduce emissions and create thousands of jobs across the state.



GOAL 2: STOPPING THE BAD

Prevent the expansion of gas in Australia and enable a transition away from domestic fossil fuel use.



KEY NARRATIVE SHIFT

Gas is dangerous - for our health and economy: In the wake of the first COVID-19 lockdowns, the federal government claimed gas was the key to our country's economic future. This is a myth, since gas is a fossil fuel that worsens climate change. It is also expensive, economically risky, harms our health and environment, and creates few jobs. As energy expert and Climate Councillor, Andrew Stock, summed up: *"Renewables are the cheaper, smarter choice to meet future energy demand compared to gas, which is expensive, polluting and worsens climate change."* Many energy, economic and health experts are speaking out against further investment or expansion of the gas industry, and this issue is coming under increasing scrutiny in the media.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Public outrage over the \$600 million public subsidy for the Kurri Kurri Gas Power Station, which prompted almost 10,000 Climate Council supporters to sign onto our submission opposing the project.
- Strong improvement in the accuracy and quality of media reporting on gas. The most significant win was a piece on how using gas at home can harm our health, on Channel 9's *A Current Affair*.
- A groundswell of public and community opposition in response to the gas threat, spanning surfers concerned about offshore drilling, to farmers wanting to protect their land and waterways.
- Consistent and strategic campaigning, that led to widespread public and political opposition for an offshore gas project planned between Manly and Newcastle, New South Wales (known as PEP-11).

GAS CAMPAIGN

The Climate Council's gas campaign focuses on ensuring gas is widely seen as a polluting, expensive and dangerous fossil fuel that contributes to climate change. It also aims to prevent harmful gas projects in New South Wales and Western Australia from proceeding, and ensure the Federal Government is held accountable for policies and investment decisions that provide ongoing support for the fossil fuel industry.

Launched in mid-2020, our gas program has gained significant momentum, demonstrably shifting the media narrative on gas, contributing to the delay of harmful gas projects and building the literacy of decision-makers and key segments of the Australian public on the economic, health and climate risks of a gas-led recovery.

Independent research

Two landmark reports were released as part of the gas campaign this year that helped significantly shape the narrative and the views of decision-makers. *Passing Gas: why renewables are the future* serves as an important foundational report for the campaign, revealing the extent to which gas is driving climate change. *Kicking the Gas Habit: how gas is harming our health* outlines the increasing body of evidence of the adverse impacts on our health.

Kicking the Gas Habit was one of the Climate Council's most successful media interventions, gaining a record amount of commercial media. It received coverage on Channel 9's *A Current Affair*, Channel 10's *Studio 10*, and generated 960 media items (see page 18 for further details). These reports also provided an opportunity to brief approximately 40 federal and state decision-makers, as well as banks and businesses.

Shifting the narrative

We continue to publicly influence the narrative by explaining how gas power stations are rarely used, how burning gas contributes to climate change, myth-busting, and holding the federal government to account for poor policies and investment decisions, like wasting \$600 million on the Kurri Kurri gas power station. We celebrate the decision-makers and technologies that enable us to move away from gas. To support this media work, we regularly analyse OpenNEM data on gas electricity generation, which shows that gas generation has consistently fallen over the past 18 months.

We have also produced explainers on the federal government's National Gas Infrastructure Plan, arguing against new subsidies for gas pipelines, and have made submissions focused on preventing more of Australia's offshore waters being opened up to gas exploration.

We've mobilised spokespeople – from local surfers to community groups – who oppose local gas projects, and translated complex data from our energy regulators to show journalists, decision-makers and the public how a much-touted gas “shortfall” doesn't exist. Our work hasn't gone unnoticed, with gas industry lobby group, The Australian Petroleum Production & Exploration Association, responding to a number of our public interventions in an attempt to defend the industry. We have also identified how state governments can support the transition away from gas and have worked with key state governments to demonstrate how policies can make this possible.

Whilst our gas campaign has ramped up in Australia, the world has continued to move away from gas, with the International Energy Agency announcing there can be no new fossil fuel extraction projects beyond 2021 if the world is to reach net zero by 2050, and Japan releasing its new draft energy plan which envisages a significantly smaller role for gas over the next decade. As nations shift away from this polluting energy source, our work is focused on pushing Australia to catch up, until there are no new gas projects.

Whilst there is still much more work to do, our gas program has contributed to some important wins. The Prime Minister announced his opposition to the renewal of the PEP-11 offshore gas title, a number of local federal MPs have publicly called for gas exploration permits in New South Wales to be extinguished, and media literacy on gas harms has improved significantly.

Whilst our gas campaign has ramped up in Australia, the world has continued to move away from gas, with the International Energy Agency announcing there can be no new fossil fuel extraction projects beyond 2021 if the world is to reach net zero by 2050.

SOME REASONS WHY GAS IS BAD.

-  **Gas is a fossil fuel.** Fossil fuels are driving climate change.
-  Gas is dangerous and **highly polluting** - even worse than carbon dioxide.
-  It's a main reason **electricity prices have been so high** for most Australians.
-  **We don't need any new gas.** We live in the sunniest and one of the windiest countries on the planet, with outstanding renewable potential & ample storage solutions.

CLIMATECOUNCIL.ORG.AU | crowd-funded science information


Gas has been pushing up power prices for most Australians.



CLIMATECOUNCIL.ORG.AU | crowd-funded science information

GAS IS A FOSSIL FUEL.

It is dangerous, polluting and driving climate change.



CLIMATECOUNCIL.ORG.AU | crowd-funded science information



FEATURE REPORT: KICKING THE GAS HABIT: HOW GAS IS HARMING OUR HEALTH

The climate and health impacts of gas are generally poorly understood and this lack of literacy has been exploited and encouraged by organised misinformation campaigns. In response, the Climate Council published *Kicking the Gas Habit*, detailing how gas extraction and gas use in the home is adversely impacting our health.

Cooking with gas is estimated to be responsible for up to 12% of the childhood asthma burden in Australia. A child living with gas cooking in the home faces a comparable risk of asthma to a child living with household cigarette smoke. Children and poorer households are at highest risk from, and most likely to be harmed by, gas production and use.

To launch the report, we partnered with Asthma Australia to drive home just how dangerous gas can be for some of our most vulnerable people. This report received record media coverage for the Climate Council, securing 960 hits across print, broadcast and online including syndications, and was the Climate Council's biggest commercial media success to date. Of particular note was the Climate Council's first ever outing on *A Current Affair*, as well as a spot on Channel 9's *The Today Show*, Channel 10's *Studio 10*, and multiple news stories on Channel 7 and Channel 9.

We'll continue to develop relationships with the stakeholders of this report, to drive home the impacts of gas, showcase solutions to transition homes away from gas and to advocate for a clean energy powered Australia.

A child living with gas cooking in the home faces a comparable risk of asthma to a child living with household cigarette smoke.



Images: Climate Councilor Dr Kate Charlesworth and Asthma Australia CEO, Michele Goldman, launch the *Kicking the Gas Habit* report.

REACTIVE COMMUNICATIONS

No one can predict when news will happen; yet the Climate Council prides itself on being a nimble organisation, designed to react quickly – and effectively – to the latest climate news and major events.

As soon as an unexpected event occurs, we're able to rapidly evaluate the potential impact or consequence and respond in kind – making best use of our in-house resources in research, digital communications, media and campaigns. Through the Climate Media Centre and Cities Power Partnership, we are able to connect to, and directly advise, a large number of constituencies who can help define the public discourse.

Worsening extreme weather

We know climate change is accelerating and with that comes worsening extreme weather events. In March, people in New South Wales and Queensland were hit by horrific floods. Experts, including Professor Will Steffen from the Climate Council and Major General Peter Dunn from Emergency Leaders for Climate Action, were at the ready to explain how climate change is worsening extreme rainfall and flood events.

The Climate Media Centre supported a number of spokespeople and groups to speak out about how they were being impacted by the floods, and our digital team posted information and graphics across social media that explained the science behind climate change and worsening floods.

The economics of climate change

For too long, we've seen emphasis placed on the so-called "*costs of acting on climate change*", but little about the serious and rising costs of *inaction*.

In politics, autumn is known as "*budget season*" because of the string of economic numbers that are rolled out by state and federal governments across the country. In May, Climate Councillor, Nicki Hutley, attended the federal budget lock up, which meant we were able to comment quickly and accurately on climate-related aspects of the budget. As a result, Nicki featured in media coverage that criticised handouts provided to the gas industry, as well as the lack of any funding for renewables.

The international story

Look beyond Australia, and you'll find momentum on climate action is growing around the world. The Climate Council has responded to – and has been a part of coverage on – a range of important international stories, such as the G7 meeting in Cornwall and the European Union's decision to introduce carbon border tariffs on imports.

One of the biggest climate stories in the first half of 2021 was the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) recommendation to place the Great Barrier Reef on its "*in danger*" list. The federal government claimed it was "*blindsided*" by this recommendation and Federal Environment Minister, Sussan Ley, went on a whirlwind tour to lobby foreign ambassadors to vote against it.

As Climate Councillor, Professor Lesley Hughes, summarised in an opinion piece published in the Sydney Morning Herald: *"the government is sparing no effort, or expense, trying to conceal the dire situation faced by the Great Barrier Reef."*

Ultimately, UNESCO backed away from placing the Reef on the in-danger list. The Climate Council responded with the message, *politics does not change the science*. This story received coverage here, and abroad.



Image: Professor Will Steffen interviewed on SBS News on the urgency of international climate action.



Image: Nicki Hutley speaks to Channel 10's *The Project* about Australia's need to rapidly reduce emissions as we're left behind on the global stage.

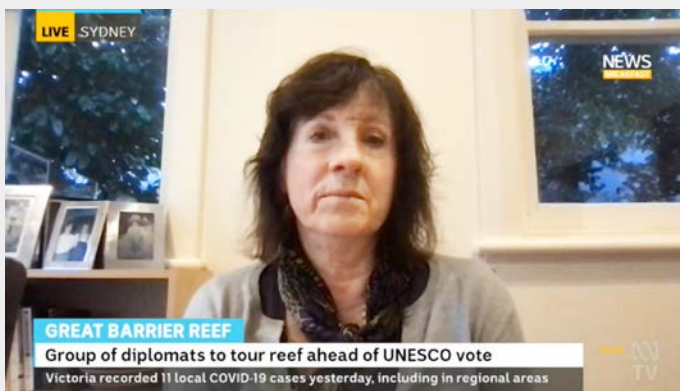


Image: ABC News Breakfast interview Professor Lesley Hughes UNESCO Great Barrier Reef recommendation.

GOAL 3: TRANSFORMING THE LANDSCAPE

Permanently transform the parameters of climate action so that a critical mass of political, business, industry and community leaders want to implement positive solutions to the climate crisis during the 2020s, and avoid being associated with the fossil fuel industry.

KEY NARRATIVE SHIFT

Redefining what credible climate action looks like: There has been little progress at a federal level on climate action in Australia, but progress is underway at a state and local level and an increasing number of businesses are also taking action. Overseas, climate action is also gaining momentum as Australia is rapidly being left behind. It is critical that all Australians understand this and recognise what credible climate action is.

HIGHLIGHTS

- 147 councils are members of the Cities Power Partnership, representing 60% of the Australian population.
- In 2020-21, the Climate Media Centre secured nearly 20,000 media items featuring our cohort of trusted voices.
- The Climate Media Centre trained more than 200 people in media and communications.



CITIES POWER PARTNERSHIP

The Cities Power Partnership (CPP) has continued to engage with councils across the country to accelerate emissions reduction. Between July 2020 and June 2021, membership grew by 18 councils, to a total of 147 councils across the country. The CPP membership now represents 60% of the total Australian population.

Getting Climate on the Economic Recovery Agenda

Local governments were struck hard by the impacts of COVID-19, with many experiencing significant budget and staffing cuts. As a result, climate projects took a backseat for many councils as they prioritised economic recovery projects and other urgent issues related to COVID-19.

To put climate back on the agenda, the CPP shifted its focus to clean economic recovery opportunities for local governments including by hosting the online summit “*Re-energise Australia: A clean jobs summit for local government*”. Bringing together local government leaders and industry experts, the event focused on solutions to address COVID-19 job losses while also tackling the long-term issue of climate change, to chart the best course for a sustainable recovery in local economies. The summit was very successful, with nearly 800 registrants from the local government and community sectors. With over 290 media hits, coverage of the event reached over 12 million Australians with an equivalent advertising value of \$115,000.

To contextualise the Climate Council’s *Clean Jobs Plan* for a local government audience, the CPP also released the *Clean Jobs for Communities* report in October 2020. The report details how local governments can deliver and advocate for opportunities to ensure an economic recovery that empowers communities and creates a sustainable and prosperous future. The report outlines the biggest impact opportunities for a local clean economy and features more than 40 on-the-ground examples for local governments that include energy, emissions and financial savings, jobs created and cost figures.

Accelerating Action in Strategic Regions

The Cities Power Partnership is committed to deepening engagement with councils to catalyse climate action in strategic regions. Areas that the CPP focuses on include the Hunter Valley in New South Wales, Queensland and Western Australia. These regions have been selected based on their climate change mitigation potential, the lack of existing state and organisational support for local governments, as well as the comparatively low percentage of CPP membership in these states.

In 2020-21, the CPP worked closely with the Hunter Joint Organisation, the statutory body for coordinating regional strategic priorities for the Hunter Valley. As of June 2021, all 10 Hunter Valley councils are members of the CPP and are committed to implementing collaborative climate action. The CPP is also prioritising deeper engagement with Queensland councils and delivered a clean economy workshop for local governments in Brisbane in May 2021.

Facilitating Advocacy

Following the success of the CPP's Re-energise Australia summit, a clean recovery joint statement was launched in October 2020 outlining a set of guiding principles for local governments to lead a sustainable and resilient economic recovery. The statement was well received and signed by mayors and councillors from 41 different councils. The joint statement was well covered by the media, securing 235 print, radio, online and tv media hits across the country. It gained most traction in Queensland, with many commercial radio stations running the story.

Another statement on extreme weather fuelled by climate change featured 17 mayors from New South Wales and Queensland representing areas impacted by recent storms, wet weather and bushfires. The statement received significant coverage across national, state and local outlets – with 605 hits across online, broadcast and print, including syndications – and helped localise the impacts of extreme weather on Australians.

Celebrating Progress and Upskilling Councils

The Cities Power Partnership *Climate Awards* are an important event in the CPP calendar that celebrate and elevate the clean energy and climate action successes of member councils. The third annual Climate Awards (2020) broke new records both in terms of the number and quality of entries, and was critical in helping to build relationships with council members across the country. Hosted by Craig Reucassel (ABC's *Fight for Planet A* and *Big Weather*), the awards had twice as many entries as previous years.

In May 2021 the biennial CPP National Summit was held, another milestone event for the CPP. Originally slated as an in-person event in Noosa, Queensland, the summit was held online for the first time. Held over two afternoons, it was a resounding success. The CPP hosted over 340 local government attendees and 23 speakers, including Climate Councillor Professor Lesley Hughes, economist Ross Garnaut, researcher and cultural burning practitioner, Bhiamie Williamson, and Chair of Farmers for Climate



Action, Charlie Prell. The attendee feedback was overwhelmingly positive and financial support from three generous sponsors allowed all attending CPP members to take part in the Summit for free.

For the first time, the CPP attended the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) General Assembly hosted in Canberra. This is a landmark event for all local governments and CPP Director, Dr Portia Odell, was invited to speak about the Cities Power Partnership and our advocacy work. Climate change has historically never made it as a primary topic on the ALGA General Assembly agenda and we were very excited to be invited to speak and participate. The Cities Power Partnership will be back at the General Assembly in 2022 to continue its work advocating for strong climate policies for local governments Australia-wide.



Image: Mornington Peninsular Cr David Gibb in front of Flinders General Store that had energy efficiency upgrades and renewable energy installed thanks to the council's Environmental Upgrade Agreement.



Images Page 23

Left: Cities Power Partnership Director Dr Portia Odell with CPP members at the ALGA conference.

Right: The Clean Recovery joint statement signed by mayors and councillors of 41 member councils.

Image Page 24

Left: CPP member Warrnambool City Council at Deakin University's hydrogen announcement.

URGENCY

Much of our work is pointedly focused on driving home the urgency of the climate crisis. We do this through a loud, constant drumbeat of communication. We translate and communicate the latest climate science for political and industry decision-makers, and key segments of the Australian public.

We mobilise voices on the frontline of worsening bushfires, heatwaves, flooding and storms, to catalyse government action on emissions reduction and shape policy to ensure we are better prepared and resourced in the face of worsening extreme weather events. Much of this work is undertaken through the Emergency Leaders for Climate Action (ELCA).

Aim High, Go Fast

Ahead of a year of sustained international focus on climate action, the Climate Council set the benchmark for where Australia's climate ambitions need to be. Launched during the same week as US President Joe Biden's Leaders Summit on Climate, *Aim High, Go Fast: Why emissions need to plummet this decade* is one of the Climate Council's most rigorous and complex reports to date.

According to the latest science, climate change is accelerating with deadly consequences. The ecological systems that have sustained human life and societies for generations are being severely damaged by increasing heat and worsening extreme weather events. Our response must match the scale and urgency of this compounding situation. Action to deeply reduce emissions this decade will determine whether the climate system can or cannot be stabilised at warming of well below 2°C.

The *Aim High, Go Fast* report concluded that Australia should aim to reduce emissions by 75% below 2005 levels by 2030 and reach net zero emissions by 2035. This is a fair and achievable contribution to the global task, and imperative given our high vulnerability to escalating extreme weather. The key message for Australia is that we have everything we need to act swiftly and decisively to help avert climate catastrophe, and prosper in a global clean economy.

The report release received significant coverage with most of the 500 media items aligned to our key findings. Report authors, Professor Will Steffen and Professor Lesley Hughes, featured in 37 News Corp publications including *The Daily Telegraph* and *WIN News*, as well as several ABC broadcasts including ABC's *RN Drive* and *The World Today*.

Since the release of the report, we have conducted extensive briefings with stakeholders within the environment movement, business and decision-makers at all levels of government on the stated emissions reduction targets. We also engaged our supporter base through a webinar analysing the report's findings – and our petition calling for a 75% reduction in emissions by 2030 has garnered over 45,000 signatures of support, a *Climate Council record!*

As domestic and international pressure mounts on Australia to increase its climate ambitions, *Aim High, Go Fast* has become the foundational scientific basis for the demands of the climate movement and the Australian public.



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Above: Professor Will Steffen at the launch of the *Aim High, Go Fast* report.

Right: Sky News interviews Professor Will Steffen about the report.



Emergency Leaders for Climate Action

Following the 2019-2020 Black Summer bushfires and federal government inaction, Emergency Leaders for Climate Action (ELCA), made up of over 33 former fire chiefs and emergency service leaders, pledged to hold a national summit on bushfires and climate change. As COVID-19 hit, the planned National Bushfire and Climate Summit moved online.

In six events held over seven weeks, ELCA brought together hundreds of stakeholders across bushfire-affected communities, fire and emergency services, volunteer and career firefighter representative bodies, the military and home affairs, industry, economists, farmers, First Nations representatives, conservationists, the health sector, veterinarians, scientists and more. Each event focused on a specific bushfire and climate challenge, including coordinating a national response and the costs of climate change.

The Summit included live public panels at the start and finish, to give Australians the opportunity to participate and hear the findings. Throughout the Summit, 165 recommendations were developed and compiled into the *Australian Bushfire and Climate Plan*. This plan formed the foundation of ELCA's advocacy to the Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements (the 'Bushfire Royal Commission').

ELCA kept the pressure on the federal government and the Bushfire Royal Commission, via briefings with decision-makers, media, submissions, Royal Commission testimony and an open letter signed by over 9,000 community members. The Bushfire Royal Commission handed down its final report in November 2020, with climate mentioned nearly 100 times and an excellent set of 80 recommendations, many of which ELCA had called for.

In response to the Royal Commission's final report, ELCA launched an extensive media and campaign plan. This included sending rapid-fire analysis of the final report to 150 decision-makers to inform their response and launching an accountability tracker on the ELCA website to track key recommendations in real time.

This year, the New South Wales and Victorian bushfire inquiries also released their final reports, and the Senate's Finance and Public Administration References Committee released an interim report that included references to ELCA submissions and testimony. All bushfire inquiry reports were explicit in the link between the 2019-2020 bushfires and climate change, as well as the increasing future risks.

The Bushfire Royal Commission handed down its final report in November 2020, with climate mentioned nearly 100 times and an excellent set of 80 recommendations, many of which ELCA had called for.



Images: A growing number of Federal MPs are signing onto the Community Protection Pledge.

Below: The *Australian Bushfire and Climate Plan*.

First Nations Climate Justice Panel 2021.

Broadening its advocacy work, ELCA hosted a First Nations Climate Justice panel event in April 2021. Rae Johnston of NITV facilitated, with panellists Mibu Fischer (CSIRO), Tishiko King (Seed Indigenous Youth Climate Network) and Bhiemie Williamson (researcher and cultural burning practitioner). The panel was an opportunity to focus on the climate impacts on First Nations communities, solutions being proposed by those same communities and how First Nations peoples are leading the fight for climate justice. Following the panel, the Climate Council and ELCA released a key findings report.

ELCA's latest initiative has been to localise the *Australian Bushfire and Climate Plan* by launching the Community Protection Pledge: 10 commitments that a Federal MP can agree to for keeping Australians safe. A growing list of Federal MPs are showing their commitment to their communities by adding their name to the pledge.



TRUSTED VOICES

**Our story begins with a missing person.
Or, rather, missing people.**

When Australians used to read, watch or listen to news stories on climate change, everyday people were often missing from the conversation. Six years ago, most Australians could dismiss climate change as impersonal, distant or unrelatable.

The Climate Media Centre (CMC), an independent project of the Climate Council established in September 2015, is changing this story. First, by helping to change *who is telling it* and second, by changing *how it is told*.

Trusted, engaged and effective voices

The CMC works with hundreds of trusted voices, individuals and organisations across the country, to speak out about climate change impacts and solutions. Farmers, firefighters, doctors, bushfire survivors, energy analysts, First Nations voices, athletes, business owners, investors and more – these trusted voices are all using their inspiring tales, big or small, to shift the public discourse on climate change and ultimately, drive better decision-making from our governments.

The Climate Media Centre continues to provide free, specialist communications advice to other NGOs and campaigns. From the rising tide of students on the frontline, to those working to highlight the jobs and economic opportunities in key regions such as Central Queensland and the Hunter Valley, the CMC's advice is underpinned by the latest research and the experience of its highly-skilled media and communications staff.

Of course, media stars don't always happen by accident. In 2020-21 alone, the CMC provided media and communications training to more than 200 people directly. We have worked with voices including:

- Energy expert Dr Madeline Taylor, who has gone on to become a regular in the media debunking myths around gas, as well as a Climate Councillor.
- Athletes who have banded together to call out how climate impacts are affecting how we play and enjoy sport, and the need to take action.
- Students and their parents concerned about the future that is being created for them.
- North Queensland tourism operators looking to ensure the unique ecosystems they work in will be here for generations to come, ensuring the sustainability of their businesses.

Increase the quality and effectiveness of climate change communications

In 2020-21, the CMC's focus pivoted from the devastating impacts of the Black Summer bushfires, to the hardships of COVID-19 and the silver-lining for Australia to rebuild its economy back better, and cleaner. In that time, the CMC has supported dozens of organisations and hundreds of individuals taking climate action to broadcast their successes far and wide. All up, the CMC secured nearly 20,000 mentions for its spokespeople in the Australian media.

The media acts as a gatekeeper, between the stories we wish to tell, and our audience. That's why the CMC provides them with fact-based information and connects journalists with local, trusted voices.

Highlights of the CMC's drumbeat of media coverage include:

- **Profiling climate solutions:** The CMC has driven consistent coverage that profiles and celebrates climate solutions. For example, celebrating the clean energy wins of state governments and industry, and joining the dots between economic opportunities for Australia and major events like the Biden Climate Summit.
- **Debunking mistruths around fossil fuels:** Helping to shift the national conversation on energy and fossil fuels, such as calling out mistruths and highlighting the dangers, and costs, of gas.
- **Reaching new audiences:** Providing the media with the right messengers, at the right time, to reach audiences that otherwise would not be talking about climate and the urgency of this issue. This includes regional Queensland, where the CMC has worked to highlight the plight of the tourism industry, and in agriculture with farmers fighting for their industry to be included in net-zero policies.

You won't read about the Climate Media Centre in the news, because our story isn't about us. It's about people like you. People who have stood up, and stood out in front of the news. People who have shared their story, and altered the way we understand and feel about climate change.

It's been a privilege to help share your stories with the rest of Australia - and we can't wait to write the next chapter with you.

You won't read about the Climate Media Centre in the news, because our story isn't about us. It's about people like you.



Images - top: CMC organised a panel interview on ABC Queensland Drive to discuss the Queensland Government's \$2 billion renewable energy and hydrogen fund announcement.

Bottom: CMC media training session on the Gold Coast.



FEATURE REPORT: GAME, SET, MATCH: CALLING TIME ON CLIMATE INACTION

To launch the Climate Council's report, *Game, Set, Match: Calling time on climate inaction*, we worked with athletes with lived experience of climate impacts – such as playing games during heatwaves. Well-known sporting heroes, such as former Wallabies player, David Pocock, swimming star, Bronte Campbell and Australian cricket Vice-Captain, Pat Cummins, asked Australians to go for gold on climate change, joining the national conversation on climate and reaching Australian media once thought impossible.

Our report explained how climate change disrupts sport in Australia, and how sport can be a powerful force for change. It found that **Australia's summer of sport is under threat from climate change**, and that by 2040, heatwaves in Melbourne and Sydney could reach highs of 50°C.

The report received solid coverage across national and state outlets, with 575 hits across online, broadcast, and print, including syndications. Notably, sports outlets that don't usually report on climate change covered this report. Among them were the influential ESPN Australia (and Global), Channel 9's *Wide World of Sports* and sports radio channel, SEN111. The report also got a mention on the ABC's *Outsiders* program.



Image: CEO Amanda McKenzie and athlete Sharni Norder (née Layton) at the *Game, Set, Match* report launch.



Climate Council Community

The work of the Climate Council would not be possible without the support of our incredible community. We are deeply grateful for your ongoing commitment and dedication.

The Climate Council's work only gets such wide distribution because our supporters, social media followers, email subscribers and other organisations read and share that information. Added together, these daily

shares and interactions are changing the conversation on climate change.

Without your support, the Climate Council simply wouldn't exist. Together, we have made a significant and important impact in Australia – and will continue to do so. As an independent, community-powered organisation, **we thank you sincerely for chipping in what you can to support climate action.**



From our wonderful community of supporters about why they support the Climate Council:

"I am very concerned about the impact of climate change on the natural world and being able to make a small contribution to the great work being done by the Climate Council feels like a positive step. I am very impressed by the work and energy of the Climate Council and I think the organisation has provided great leadership at many levels."

Cliff, New South Wales

"I am an environmental scientist and support the Climate Council in their work and education of the Australian Public. They are a trusted source of information. Their work is ... crucial to the world's future. I find comfort and support being part of the community."

Chantelle, New South Wales

"The Climate Council turns single voices which are easily ignored, into a large community voice which is getting much harder to ignore."

Daryl, Queensland

OUR SUPPORTERS

Just over half of our funding comes from our community donors, which includes our Members, Founding Friends, Champions, fundraisers and other supporters. The remainder of our funding comes from generous philanthropists and grants from foundations. Thank you to all of our generous supporters and donors for building the Climate Council into a high impact organisation!

Founding Friends, Champions & Members

Our special thanks goes to our incredible community of Founding Friends, Champions and Members. More than 6,000 Members made a regular weekly or monthly donation in the last financial year. Our passionate Champions, whose donations of \$1,000 or more each year, are vital to powering our ongoing research and communications.

Gifts In Wills

Leaving a gift in your will is an incredible way to power climate action into the future. We would like to acknowledge and thank our supporters who have chosen to leave a gift in their will to the Climate Council, creating a legacy that will support future generations.



Partnerships

The Climate Council is grateful for a number of corporate partners and sponsors who share our vision for climate action and the transition to a clean energy future. We would especially like to thank our partners who have contributed to a number of great successes this year, we look forward to inspiring further climate action together:

- › Azility
- › Ben and Jerry's
- › Curated with Conscience
- › Ironbark Sustainability
- › Pottery for the Planet
- › Snapchat
- › Spell and the Gypsy Collective
- › Sunspot
- › WAH-WAH Australia
- › World Surf League (WSL) and WSL Pure

Supporter Fundraising

The trials we've faced through the global pandemic have not deterred passionate Climate Council supporters from taking on challenges or hosting events to raise critical funds for climate action. Collectively, our supporters raised over \$20,000 by taking on fun runs, such as our team who entered the City2Surf, asking for donations in lieu of birthday gifts and setting goals to collect rubbish in their community, helping to preserve the local environment.

Thank you to all our supporters for the time and effort you have put into making your events and fundraising such a fabulous success.

PHILANTHROPY AND GRANTS

The Climate Council would like to acknowledge and thank the following generous donors and foundations who donated \$10,000 or more in the last year. As a major donor to the Climate Council, these supporters have access to numerous engagement opportunities and the ability to support specific projects.

- › ACME Foundation
- › The Aethra Project
- › Alan Schwartz
- › Anna Josephson Foundation
- › Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) Advancing Renewables Program funding for the Cities Power Partnership
- › Beverley Jackson Foundation
- › Bluesand Foundation
- › Carol Gibson
- › Catherine Babidge
- › Clem Davis
- › Diversicon Environmental Foundation
- › Grow Corp Foundation
- › Ian Landon-Smith
- › Jocelyn Luck
- › Johnny Abegg
- › Kerry Gardner AM and Andrew Myer AM
- › Koorabup Trust
- › Koshland Innovation Foundation
- › Letcombe Foundation
- › The Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation
- › Morris Family Foundation
- › Myer Foundation
- › Natasha and Dirk Ziff
- › Pace Foundation
- › Peter Hayes
- › PK Gold Family Foundation
- › Reichstein Foundation
- › Rendere Trust
- › Rod Johnson and Kerry Jamieson
- › The Sunrise Project
- › Trine Barter
- › Vibrant Oceans Initiative, a program of Bloomberg Philanthropies
- › Vicki Olsson
- › Vincent Chiodo Foundation
- › Vine Foundation
- › Wiggs Foundation

The Climate Council has approved deductible gift recipient (DGR) status and donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

COMMUNITY ACTION

When the climate conversation is really heating up or a new threat emerges, the Climate Council collaborates with our community to push for action together. We've narrowed down our top three most impactful community actions from the past year.

Kurri Kurri Gas Power Station Submission

In May 2021, the Federal Government announced its decision to fund a gas power station in Kurri Kurri, in the Hunter region of New South Wales. The \$600 million announcement was made on the same day the International Energy Agency advised that there can be no new gas, coal, or oil projects if the world is to achieve net zero emissions by 2050.

Our team of expert researchers and Councillors wrote a submission to the project's Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), calling on the New South Wales Government to reject the project on climate and environmental grounds. Almost 10,000 of our supporters added their name to our submission in a clear demonstration of public sentiment.

We're now awaiting the outcome of the EIS process to determine our next move.

Community Protection Pledge

Australian communities have been battered by compounding extreme weather events from the 2019-20 Black Summer bushfires, to one-in-a-hundred-year flooding events, cyclones and heatwaves. Since 2019, Emergency Leaders for Climate Action

(ELCA), a project supported by the Climate Council, has called on decision-makers to protect communities from increasingly frequent and destructive extreme weather events, and provide adequate resourcing to our most vulnerable communities.

In June 2021, ELCA stepped up this call, asking every Federal MP to sign onto a *Community Protection Pledge*, containing 10 key commitments. We called on our supporters to ask their MPs to sign onto the pledge with over 5,000 people using our tool to ask their MP to sign the pledge, resulting in 19 MPs committing to protect their regions. ELCA will continue to advocate to MPs to sign the pledge, particularly in the lead up to expected extreme weather events in summer.

Emissions Reduction Target Petition

Our report, *Aim High, Go Fast: Why emissions need to plummet this decade*, put forward a science-based emissions reduction target of 75% below 2005 levels by 2030, far higher than the Federal Government's current weak commitment. We asked our community to back our call for a strengthened target, and were overwhelmed by the support of more than 45,000 people.

As we look toward COP26 in November 2021, we will continue to communicate the need to drive down emissions this decade, and use this petition to demonstrate public support for ramping up Australia's contribution to climate action.

TASSIE TREK FOR CLIMATE ACTION

In April and May 2021, 29 passionate Climate Council supporters took on a trekking challenge in the Tasmanian wilderness and raised critical funds for the Climate Council's extreme weather work and Emergency Leaders for Climate Action.

The treks, led by Professors Will Steffen and Lesley Hughes, ventured into the Tarkine, trekking along the mighty Pieman River, along the rugged coastline, through mud, up mountains and to incredible waterfalls.

In amongst the hikes, the teams were able to come together, share their passions and their stories about what they are doing to support climate action in their own communities. Will and Lesley each hosted Q&A nights and talking circles for the groups to ask questions and share their own knowledge about the opportunities and challenges ahead.

It was an uplifting experience for all, with Will reflecting that standing on the summit of Mt Donaldson with the team, with the view of Granville Harbour wind farm in the distance, put the pieces together: modern technology and committed people, a good combination to save the ancient forests of northwest Tassie and accelerate climate action.

We would like to thank our incredible trek participants for creating such a memorable experience – and for taking the passion and energy from the trip back home, to keep pushing for action. Collectively, you raised over \$145,000, a truly tremendous effort that reflects the hope and strength you brought to the challenge.

OVER
\$145,000
RAISED



Image: Professor Lesley Hughes and her team of dedicated Climate Council supporters who took on the Tassie Trek for Climate Action.

2020 - 2021

Finances



The Climate Council employs robust financial and donor management systems overseen by the Finance and Risk-Subcommittee of the Climate Council Board. The Committee is chaired by Treasurer Matt Honey, and includes a number of senior team members. We maintain strong financial and compliance controls as well as prudent budgetary and cash management review processes on a monthly basis. These measures are intended to ensure the financial sustainability of the Climate Council while maximising our impact in accordance with our Strategic Plan.

The financial information in this annual report has been extracted from the Annual Financial Report which has been audited by Thomas Davis & Co, Chartered Accountants. The auditor provided an unqualified audit report. Our accounts are general purpose financial statements that are prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards - reduced Disclosure Requirements of the AASB and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) Act 2012. We comply with the ACNC requirements in relation to disclosure of our company and financial information on an annual basis, including publication of our Annual Report and Annual Financial Statements on the ACNC website. We also comply with reporting requirements of the Register of Environmental Organisations and state fundraising licence regulators.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

Income

In the 2020-21 financial year the Climate Council received income totalling \$6,098,162. Income received was used to support the Climate Council's core research and communications activities, as well as critical projects including Emergency Leaders for Climate Action and the Cities Power Partnership in the same period. It will also be allocated to Climate Council activities in the next two financial years.

Significantly, the number of regular (weekly and monthly) donors to the Climate Council grew from 5,250 Members to 6,000 Members in the 2020-21 financial year. Members make an average monthly contribution of \$28 and provide a critical base of funding that powers our work.

Expenditure

Climate Council expenditure in the 2020-21 financial year was \$5,651,310. This was in the following areas:

Transforming the landscape on climate change (53%) – includes expenses associated with our communications work such as the development, writing and distribution of research reports and scientific content including to the media. Costs also include programs that educate the community or specialised target groups, in addition to distribution of our information via online, digital and social media platforms.

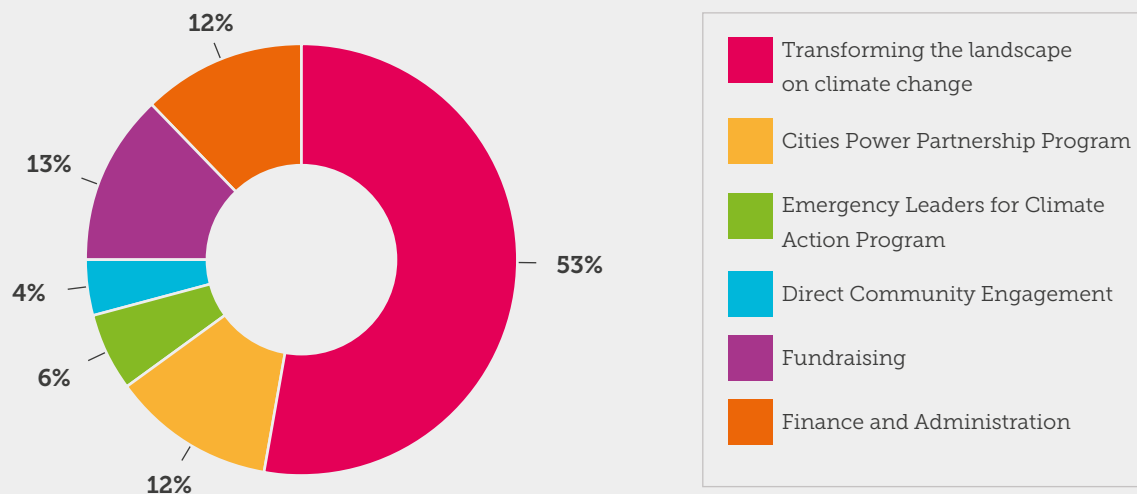
Cities Power Partnership Program (12%) - expenses incurred to give local government the tools, the connections and the momentum to capitalise on the global shift to a clean economy. These include expenses associated with the operation of the Cities Power Partnership as Australia's largest network of local councils working actively toward a clean energy future.

Emergency Leaders for Climate Action Program (6%) - expenses associated with the media and digital interventions, stakeholder briefings, submissions and the online National Bushfire & Climate Summit which received 3,410 registrants and over 9k views on social media.

Direct Community Engagement (4%) - expenses incurred to communicate with a broad range of audiences including the delivery of speeches and engagements by our CEO, research team and Councillors. This included online events such as the First Nations Climate Justice Panel which received 2,401 registrants and 5,800 views on social media.

Fundraising (13%) - expenses associated with fundraising campaigns and donor and community management systems.

Finance and Administration (12%) - includes costs associated with the efficient operation of the Climate Council in a manner that adheres to relevant laws and regulations (e.g. operational management, accounting, audit, compliance, human resources, insurance, workers compensation and legal).



Note: Salary and wage costs are allocated to the appropriate area of expense.

PRO BONO GOODS AND SERVICES

We aim to reduce our costs by accepting pro bono and discounted goods and services. This year we have received pro bono (or discounted cost) goods and services for legal, graphic design, conference attendance, venue facilities, consulting fees, administration resources, creative resources as well as not for profit charity discounts for IT services and hardware.

Volunteers

In the 2020-21 financial year, volunteers contributed to the Climate Council in a number of important ways.

- › A team of volunteers who participated in the Actuaries Institute Hackathon prepared a report for the Climate Council outlining a methodological approach for investigating

the additional benefits of accelerated climate action in Australia.

- › Volunteers working across the community, research, digital and campaigns teams provided support for key projects including the National Bushfire and Climate Summit 2020, report preparation, digital content creation and supporter communications.
- › Cities Power Partnership volunteers contributed to social media content development and regional analysis and profiling for member recruitment and events planning.



Please see our appreciation pages for a full list of volunteers who have contributed to the Climate Council over the past 12 months.



Image: 2020 National Bushfire and Climate Summit.

Our Team

Councillors & Board Members

BOARD AND COUNCILLORS

Samantha Mostyn AO

Director and Chair of Board



Samantha is a businesswoman and sustainability advisor with a long history of executive and governance roles. Samantha is Chair of Citibank Australia, the Australian National Research Organisation

for Women's Safety, Foundation for Young Australians, Ausfilm and Alberts. She is president of CEW. She also serves on the boards of Mirvac Group, Transurban Group, Tonic Media, Sydney Swans, GO Foundation and the Centre for Policy Development. Sam has been a Director of the Climate Council for a number of years and was appointed as the Chair in November 2020.

Samantha is a member of the Business and Sustainable Development Commission. Samantha was previously Chair of Carriageworks, Deputy Chair of the Diversity Council of Australia, Director of Virgin Australia, Director of the Australian Council of the Arts, Director of ClimateWorks Australia and a Member of the Advisory Council: Crawford School of Economics and Governance at ANU. Samantha was a Member of the Women's Advisory Panel for the Australian Chief of Defence, served on the Human Right Commission Review of the Treatment of Women in the ADF, was a Member of the National Mental Health Commission and is a former AFL Commissioner.

Matthew Honey

Director



Matt is Partner at Ernst & Young. He provides a range of assurance services to a variety of clients in the resources, utilities and technology sectors. He is an Associate of the Institute of Chartered Accountants

in Australia and New Zealand and a Registered Company Auditor. Matt has over 20 years of experience providing financial reporting, governance, risk management, transactional and climate change related advice to his diverse client base both in Australian and internationally. Matt is also a Director of the Group of 100, Australia's peak body for Chief Financial Officers.

Robert Purves

Director



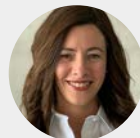
Robert is both a businessman and environmentalist, who, having had an active business career in public companies, now spends much of his time on environmental issues. He is currently a Director of

Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists while being involved in several other non-for-profit organisations. He is the immediate past President of WWF-Australia and a former board member of WWF-International.

In 2004, Robert established the Purves Environmental Fund, which funds numerous environmental initiatives. In 2008 Robert was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for service to conservation and the environment, and awarded an Honorary Fellow from the University of Sydney. Robert was also awarded the Australian Geographic Society's Lifetime of Conservation Award in 2015. Robert lives in Sydney and has farms in the Southern Tablelands of New South Wales.

Kirsty Gold

Director



Kirsty is an investor, project accelerator and philanthropist focused on climate solutions in Australia. She is Co-founder of Assembly Climate Capital, which brings together people and capital to accelerate companies,

teams and ideas for significant climate impact. Kirsty is a Director of her Family Office Foundation. She previously worked in business within Qantas' management team and as a chartered accountant at PricewaterhouseCoopers. Kirsty is involved in various community climate projects and initiatives focused on climate engagement and solutions in Australia.

David Atkin

Director



David Atkin is a global and national industry strategist and advisor in responsible investment, previously holding the position of Deputy CEO at AMP, CEO at Cbus Super, ESSSuper and JUST SUPER.

David is sought after for his expertise and advice in responsible investing and assisting companies and asset owners adopting integrated thinking and reporting, which focuses on how organisations identify materiality and use that knowledge to create long term sustainable value for their customers and other stakeholders.

David has been awarded La Trobe University's 2013 Distinguished Alumni Award for Sustainable Finance, in 2017 was awarded the FEAL Fund Executive of the Year and in 2019 the Sovereign World Fund Institute (SWFI) ranked him third in their top 100 most significant, resilient and impactful asset owners globally.

Professor Will Steffen

Director/Councillor



Will Steffen is a climate change expert and Emeritus Professor at the Australian National University, Canberra. He was on the panel of experts supporting the Multi-Party Climate Change Committee, has

served as the Science Adviser to the Australian Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency, and was chair of the Antarctic Science Advisory Committee.

From 1998 to 2004, Professor Steffen served as Executive Director of the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme, an international network of scientists studying global change. His research interests span a broad range within the fields of climate change and Earth System science, with an emphasis on sustainability, climate change, incorporation of human processes in Earth System modelling and analysis; and on sustainability and climate change. In addition, Steffen has been active on the climate change science-policy interface for three decades and has played a leading role in the development of Earth System science internationally.

He is the author of numerous publications on climate science, including contributing as an author and reviewer to five IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) assessments and special reports between 2000 and 2018.

Simon Corbell

Director



Simon is the CEO and Chair of the Clean Energy Investor Group, representing institutional investors with wind and solar assets worth \$9 billion across the national electricity market. He also advises the clean

energy and accelerator business, Energy Estate and is an Adjunct Professor at the University of Canberra.

Simon has more than two decades of senior experience in public policy leadership, governance and implementation. Between 2017 and 2019 he was the Victorian Renewable Energy Advocate, advising the Victorian state government on renewable energy policy and projects, including the Victorian renewable energy auction scheme.

From 1997 to 2016, Simon was a Member of the ACT Legislative Assembly, serving as Deputy Chief of the Australian Capital Territory and in a wide range of ministerial portfolios including climate change, energy, water and the environment. In 2019, he received the Clean Energy Council's recognition for Outstanding Contribution to Industry by an Individual for his advocacy of sub national government renewable energy auction schemes.

Professor Tim Flannery

Chief Councillor



Professor Tim Flannery is one of Australia's leading writers on climate change. An internationally acclaimed scientist, explorer and conservationist, Professor Flannery was named Australian of the Year in 2007.

Professor Flannery has held various academic positions including Professor at the University of Adelaide, director of the South Australian Museum in Adelaide, Principal Research Scientist at the Australian Museum and Visiting Chair in Australian Studies at Harvard University in the Department of Organismic and Evolutionary Biology.

A well known presenter on ABC Radio, NPR and the BBC for more than a decade, he has also written and presented several series on the Documentary Channel including The Future Eaters (1998), Wild Australasia (2003), Islands in the Sky (1992) and Bushfire (1997). His books include Here on Earth (2010), The Weather Makers (2005) Sunlight and Seaweed (2017) and The Climate Cure - Solving the Climate Emergency in the era of COVID-19 (2020).

Professor Lesley Hughes
Councillor



Professor Lesley Hughes is a Distinguished Professor of Biology and Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research Integrity & Development) at Macquarie University. Her research has mainly focused on the

impacts of climate change on species and ecosystems.

She is a former federal Climate Commissioner and former Lead Author in the IPCC's 4th and 5th Assessment Report. She is a founding Councillor with the Climate Council of Australia, a Director for WWF Australia, and a member of the Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists.

Greg Mullins AO, AFSM
Councillor



Greg Mullins is an internationally recognised expert in responding to major bushfires and natural disasters, with over 50 years' experience as a firefighter. He coordinated responses to many major

natural disasters over more than two decades and retired as Commissioner of Fire & Rescue New South Wales in January 2017. On retirement, he immediately rejoined the rural fire brigade where he started as a volunteer in 1972, and fought fires throughout New South Wales during Black Summer.

During his 39 year career with Fire & Rescue New South Wales, he served as President, Vice President and Board Chair of the Australasian Fire & Emergency Service Authorities' Council, Deputy Chair of the New South Wales State Emergency Management Committee, Australian Director of the International Fire Chiefs Association of Asia, New South Wales representative on the Australian Emergency Management Committee, Australian representative on the UN's International Search & Rescue Advisory Committee, and as a member of the New South Wales Bushfire Coordinating Committee. He is currently Chair of the New South Wales Ambulance Service Advisory Board.

Greg worked with bushfire fighting authorities in the USA, Canada, France and Spain during a Churchill Fellowship in 1995, and studied at the USA National Fire Academy in 2001-02. In 2019, he formed Emergency Leaders for Climate Action, a group of former fire and emergency service chiefs from every state and territory concerned about the impacts of extreme weather driven by climate change.

Greg Bourne
Councillor



Greg Bourne has worked at the nexus of climate change, energy business and policy for over 30 years.

With BP he lived and worked in the UK, Middle East, USA, Canada, Ireland, Brazil, China, Venezuela and Australia. For two years he was Special Adviser on Energy and Transport to Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. He returned to Australia in 1999 as Regional President, BP Australasia and worked with business and governments on the Climate Change agenda.

Greg was CEO WWF Australia for six years and later a non-executive director of Carnegie Wave Energy. He is the former Chair of the Australian Renewable Energy Agency.

A Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, he was awarded the Centenary Medal for services to the environment and an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Western Australia for services to international business.

Professor Hilary Bambrick
Councillor



Hilary is an environmental epidemiologist and bioanthropologist researching the health impacts of global heating, especially on more vulnerable populations, and has expertise in the development,

implementation and evaluation of adaptation strategies.

She has consulted for WHO and UNDP on risk assessments and climate adaptation strategies for health, and for governments in Australia and overseas, and she led the health impacts assessment for Australia's national climate change review (The Garnaut Review, 2008). She is a lead author on the joint Medical Journal of Australia - Lancet 'Countdown on Health and Climate Change' series.

At sub-national scale, Hilary has worked on national health systems resilience and community-based adaptation projects, including in the remote Pacific, Asia, and in the Ethiopian Rift Valley. Areas of expertise include extreme weather, vector-borne disease, food safety and security, health systems and resilience. Hilary advocates for rapid and managed energy transition away from fossil fuels to protect health, now and in the future.

Gerry Hueston
Councillor



Gerry Hueston is a prominent businessman who retired as President of BP Australasia in 2011 after a career with BP spanning 34 years in a variety of management and senior executive roles in Australia, New

Zealand, the United Kingdom and Europe.

Mr Hueston's previous roles include Chairman of the Business Council Sustainable Growth Taskforce, Chairman and Board Member of the Australian Institute of Petroleum, Board Member of the Business Council of Australia, Member of the Chairman's Panel of the Great Barrier Reef Foundation, Commissioner with the Australian Climate Commission, Board member and Treasurer Plan International. Gerry was also Chair of the Climate Council Board from the organisation's inception until November 2020. He is currently Chairman of Plan International Australia and Chairman of the Melbourne Rugby Football Club Foundation.

Martijn Wilder
Councillor



Martijn is a founding partner of Pollination and a leading expert in climate law, policy and finance.

Martijn was head of Baker & McKenzie's global climate law and finance practice for

20 years and has played a key role with Australia's clean energy finance institutions including as Chair of the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) and former Board Member of CEFC. He also helped establish and later Chair the Federal Government's Low Carbon Australia finance body.

With a background in economics and law, Martijn is focused on developing innovative policies, ideas and investments that enable our economies to rapidly transition to net zero. Over the years he has worked extensively on working with clients climate strategies, TCFD and climate investments.

Martijn is currently President of WWF-Australia and Chair of New South Wales Climate Change Council and the Pollination Foundation. He is Adjunct Professor of International Climate Change Law at Australian National University and a Member of the Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists. Martijn was also a Director of the Climate Council until November 2020.

Andrew Stock
Councillor



Andrew Stock brings over 40 years experience in senior management and executive roles in energy businesses spanning traditional energy supply, emerging energy technologies and

renewables. As Executive General Manager at Origin Energy, he was responsible for multi \$billion major developments in power generation, oil and gas, and renewables.

He is a Member of the SA Premier's Climate Change Council, chairs the Advisory Board at Melbourne Energy Institute, and is an Enterprise Professor at the University of Melbourne.

He was the founding National President of the Australian Business Council for Sustainable Energy (now Clean Energy Council) and has served on CSIRO's Energy & Transport Sector Advisory Committee as well as other research and energy advisory committees to the South Australian Government.

With an honours Chemical Engineering Degree from the University of Adelaide, he has completed postgraduate courses at IMD, Switzerland, and the University of Western Australia. He is a Fellow of the Institution of Engineers Australia, Fellow of the Institute of Energy, and a Graduate Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Dr Joëlle Gergis
Councillor



Dr Joëlle Gergis is an award-winning climate scientist and writer from The Australian National University. She is an internationally recognised expert in Australian and Southern Hemisphere climate variability

and change based in the Australian Research Council (ARC) Centre of Excellence for Climate Extremes.

In 2013 Dr Gergis was awarded an Australian Research Council Discovery Early Career Researcher Award (DECRA) fellowship, and her team won the 2014 Eureka Prize for Excellence in Interdisciplinary Scientific Research. In 2015 Joëlle was awarded the Dean's Award for Excellence in Research in the Faculty of Science at the University of Melbourne. In February 2018, she was selected to serve as a lead author for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Sixth Assessment Report and in February 2020 Joëlle received the 2019 AMOS Science Outreach Award by the Australian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society (AMOS). Her book, *Sunburnt Country: The future and history of climate change in Australia*, is now available through Melbourne University Publishing.

Nicki Hutley
Councillor



Nicki Hutley is a highly experienced economist, with expertise in macro- and microeconomic forecasting and analysis gained over three decades of practice in financial and investment markets and in

economic consulting. Nicki is particularly interested in the intersection of economy, society and environment.

She has been involved in the economic analysis of climate change impacts, mitigation and adaptation since the 2008 Climate Change Review was undertaken by Ross Garnaut. She has extensive experience modelling the impacts of the CPRS, RET and Feed-in Tariff Schemes. Her work has evolved in more recent years to a focus on the costs and benefits of climate change issues including cyclone and flood mitigation, carbon capture and storage, residential and commercial energy efficiency, corporate financial risk, and regional economic transition risks.

Nicki is now an independent economist, a consultant to Social Outcomes, and an expert faculty member (economics) at SingularityU Australia. She is a longstanding council member of the Economics Society of Australia (New South Wales), and a Board member for One Million Women and the Financy Women's Index. Nicki is a frequent commentator in the media and is a regular guest on both The Drum and The Project.

Dr Kate Charlesworth
Councillor



Dr Kate Charlesworth (MBBS (Hons), MPH, FAFPHM, PhD) is a public health physician in Sydney. After working as a hospital doctor in Perth and Sydney, Kate completed much of her training in public

health medicine in the UK. She was a Research Fellow at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine and then worked in the National Health Service (NHS)'s national sustainability unit, which is now recognised as the leading healthcare decarbonisation program in the world. Kate has also completed a PhD in low-carbon healthcare, and has 15 peer-reviewed papers. Her current role is as a medical specialist in environmentally sustainable healthcare across the primary care and New South Wales public health systems– the first such role in Australia.

Cheryl Durrant
Councillor



Cheryl has over 30 years' experience in the national security sector, including specialist Army intelligence and Defence capability and preparedness roles. Cheryl led the Department's Global Change and Energy

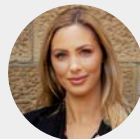
Sustainability Initiative from 2013-2016 and established the position of the Australian Defence Force's Climate and Security Advisor in 2016. She was the lead author for Defence's submission to the Senate Inquiry on the implications of Climate change for Australia's national security.

As the Defence partner to Emergency Management Australia she supported the development of the National Disaster Risk Reduction Framework and the co-design of the Profiling Australia's Vulnerability Report. Under Cheryl's leadership Defence completed a major review of Defence Mobilisation in 2019 – the first such review since Vietnam.

Cheryl is currently an Associate Professor at UNew South Wales, an Executive Member of the Australian Security Leaders Climate Group, and a Fellow of the Institute of Integrated Economic Research-Australia.

Cheryl holds a BA (History and English) and MA (Hons) in History from the University of Canterbury, New Zealand. She also holds a Grad Dip in Applied Linguistics (Indonesian) from the ADF School of Languages and a Grad Dip in Management (Defence) from the University of Canberra. She is an Alumni of the Cambridge University Institute for Sustainability Leadership. Cheryl Durrant graduated from the Royal Military College Duntroon in 1991, where she was awarded the prize for Strategic Studies, Military History and Military Science and Technology.

Dr Madeline Taylor
Councillor



Dr Madeline Taylor is a Senior Lecturer at Macquarie University, School of Law. Madeline specialises in issues at the intersection of energy, law and policy. Her research advances a novel examination

of transitioning energy regulation and energy policy conflicts from a comparative and socio-legal perspective, including the strategic governance of energy and the fragmentation of ownership rights between the state, corporations, and landholders. Her current research focuses on the law concerning the regulation of energy, landholder rights, and the protection of sensitive land uses.

Climate Council Staff

Amanda McKenzie

CEO (July 2020 - March 2021)



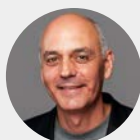
Amanda is one of the best known public commentators on the climate crisis in Australia. Previously, Amanda co-founded the Australian Youth Climate Coalition and has served on renewable

energy expert panels for the Queensland and Northern Territory Governments. Amanda was the founding Chair of the Centre for Australian Progress and is a former Board Director at Plan International Australia and the Whitlam Institute. She holds an Honours degree in Law from Monash University and an Arts Degree from Melbourne University. Amanda has won numerous awards including being recognised as one of Westpac's 100 Women of Influence and a finalist in Telstra Young Business Woman of the Year Awards.

Martin Rice

Acting CEO (April - June 2021)

Head of Research (July 2020 - March 2021)



Dr Martin Rice is Research Director (Strategy and Engagement) and formerly Acting CEO and Head of Research for the Climate Council. Previously he was the Co-ordinator of the Earth System Science

Partnership (ESSP) in Paris, France. The ESSP is a global interdisciplinary program with joint projects on the carbon cycle, global water system, human health and food systems.

Prior to working for the ESSP he was a Programme Manager for the Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN) in Kobe, Japan. The APN is an intergovernmental network that promotes policy-oriented research and capacity-building activities related to global change in the region. Martin's PhD research at Macquarie University was on integrated Earth System Science: research practice and science communication. He is an Honorary Associate, Department of Environmental Sciences, Macquarie University and he has published in peer-reviewed journals, books and reports.

CLIMATE COUNCIL STAFF

Staff as of 30 June 2021:

Alex Söderlund
Digital Content Producer

Alix Pearce
Campaigns Director

Amanda Howle
Gifts in Wills Coordinator

Amelia Pepe
Media Advisor Climate
Media Centre

Dr Annika Dean
Senior Researcher

Brianna Hudson
Media Advisor

Cassie Bremner
Head of Community and
Fundraising

Chris White
Climate Projects Officer

Christine Heard
Media Advisor Finance and
Economics Climate Media Centre

Darcy Pimblett
Program Development Manager

David Hanrahan
Systems and IT Support Officer

Dinah Arndt
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Communications

Dylan Quinnell
Senior Media Advisor Climate
Media Centre

Elizabeth Gleeson
Program Collaboration
Coordinator

Ellyce Crabb
Fundraising Programs
Coordinator

Emma Hannigan
Queensland Media Advisor
Climate Media Centre

Emma Pollard
Chief Operating Officer

Gemma Osborn
Operations Coordinator and
Executive Assistant

Genevieve Stewart
Fundraising Campaigns Manager

Isabella Lamshed
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Coordinator Climate Media Centre

Kate Davies
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Media Centre

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Campaigner

Meg Grayson
Community and Operations
Coordinator

Micah Demmert
Philanthropy Director

Michaela Stone
Digital Marketing Manager

Morgan Koegel
Senior Campaigner

Dr Portia Odell
Director, Cities Power Partnership

Quimby Mills
Communications Coordinator

Rebecca Gredley
Senior Media Advisor Climate
Media Centre

Rebekah Smith
Donor Liaison Officer

Sarah Wakeley
Digital Marketing Officer

Dr Simon Bradshaw
Researcher - Climate Science
and Impacts & Acting Head of
Research

Tim Baxter
Senior Researcher -
Climate Solutions

Vaidehi Shah
Senior Communications Advisor

Victoria Fratin
Cities Power Partnership
Media Advisor

Appreciation



AUTHORS, CONTRIBUTORS & REVIEWERS

We would like to thank the many experts that contributed to development and review of Climate Council reports released this year.

Clean Jobs Plan

Co-authors: Andrew Charlton, Toby Brennan, Shaun Chau, Sriram Srikumar, Rohan Badethalav.

Reviewers: Deb Peterson

Leaders and Legends: Thousands of clean jobs for Queenslanders

Reviewers: Dave Copeman

Additional assistance: Lachlan Pickering and Anna Kalliomaki

Passing Gas: Why renewables are the future

Reviewers: Associate Professor Hugh Saddler

Additional assistance: Lachlan Pickering and Huw Jones

Hitting Home: The compounding costs of climate inaction

Contributors: Dr Robert Glasser

Game, Set, Match: Calling time on climate inaction

Contributor: David Pocock

Reviewers: Professor Matthew England and Professor Ollie Jay

Additional assistance: Lachlan Pickering

Aim High, Go Fast: Why emissions need to plummet this decade

Contributors: Professor Christopher Field and Dr Kevin Trenberth

Kicking the Gas Habit: How gas is harming our health

Reviewers: Professor David Shearman, Professor Melissa Haswell, Adjunct

Associate Professor Marion Carey, Asthma Australia

Additional Assistance: Associate Professor Robyn Schofield, Associate Professor Donna Green, Dr Nathan Cooper, Michelle Goldman, Angela Cartwright, Teresa Vella, Josh Byrne, Professor Sotiris Vardoulakis, Clare Walter, Associate Professor Luke Knibbs

STAFF, VOLUNTEERS, CONTRACTORS & ORGANISATIONS

We would also like to thank the following staff, volunteers, contractors and organisations who worked with the Climate Council in 2020-21. We particularly acknowledge Baker and McKenzie and Tactic Lab that provided pro-bono services to support our work, organisations that provided services at a discount, and volunteers who have contributed their time and energy to support the Climate Council:

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| › Adrian Dodd | › Fiona Ivits | › Rebekah Thielemans |
| › Alex Easton | › Gillian Goldsmith | › Rhiannon Verschuer |
| › Anna Kalliomaki | › Helena Plazzer | › Sally Claydon |
| › Azhar Khan | › Huw Jones | › Spade & Arrow |
| › Baker and McKenzie | › Jonathon Heys | › Su Li Sin |
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| › Craig Reucassel | › Katrina Porteus | › Traction on Demand |
| › Creative Freedom | › Lachlan Pickering | › Verity Morgan-Schmidt |
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| › Dennis Dao | › Lucy Mraz | |
| › Deloitte Access Economic | › Made Visual | |
| › Ean Chan | › Manuel Perez | |
| › Ella Weisbrot | › Morgan Rothschild | |
| › Fahad Malik | › Northmore Gordon | |
| › Feet Like Fins | › PerformHR | |

OFFSETTING

Where possible, the Climate Council promotes the use of digital platforms to engage with our community. This includes the use of online meeting and event tools for internal and external activities.

When in-person attendance at meetings and events is required, the Climate Council utilises staff living locally to projects, events and speaking opportunities to reduce travel requirements where possible. With travel via commercial flights necessary to deliver elements of our strategy, we engaged Greenfleet to offset 28.71 tonnes of carbon emissions produced from 102,536.13KMs of air travel during the 2020-21 financial year.




Thank you for supporting the Climate Council.

CLIMATE COUNCIL

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The Climate Council is a not-for-profit organisation. We rely upon donations from the public. We really appreciate your contributions.

DONATE

climatecouncil.org.au/donate