



CLIMATE  
COUNCIL

# CREATING A CLIMATE ACTION LEGACY

Powering a bright and clean energy  
Australia for generations to come



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

# A Gift for Future Generations

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The Climate Council is a courageous catalyst propelling Australia towards bold and effective action to tackle the climate crisis. **And that is all thanks to you.**

Our community is vocal in demanding a just and sustainable future; quick to stand up against vested interests; and willing to push the boundaries to do whatever it takes to build a bright and clean energy future.

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

Climate change is already supercharging our atmosphere and as we saw during Black Summer and recent floods, creating the perfect conditions for extreme weather events.

A gift in your will can play an important role in helping Australia correct course towards a brighter, healthier and safer climate future.

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

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

# Our Challenge

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

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

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

reductions to global greenhouse gas emissions. **We must begin now if we are to decarbonise our economy and achieve net zero emissions by 2035.**

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

But the challenge of climate change will also require resources, passion and resolve far into the future. **As an independent and trusted authority on climate impacts and solutions, the Climate Council will continue to help Australians realise the benefits of a brighter, healthier and safer climate future in the decades to come.**



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

# Our Impact

## INDEPENDENT CLIMATE SCIENCE

In just eight years, the Climate Council has published over 130 reports, briefing papers and fact sheets. **This work creates a resounding drumbeat of reliable information in the community and political discourse, pushing the dial towards urgent climate action.**

We have a proven track record driving change in Australia in three important ways:

**1. Changing the public narrative – the operating environment for decision makers.** During the bushfire and flood crises our spokespeople, particularly Greg Mullins and the Emergency Leaders for Climate Action, have been critical to framing these extreme weather events as driven by climate change and the Federal government response as inadequate.

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

to implement projects that are driving down emissions, creating jobs, and building the new sustainable industries of the future.

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



**STATE OF PLAY:  
RENEWABLE ENERGY  
LEADERS AND LOSERS**



**DANGEROUS SUMMER:  
ESCALATING BUSHFIRE,  
HEAT AND DROUGHT RISK**



## CITIES POWER PARTNERSHIP

The Cities Power Partnership (CPP) is Australia's largest climate program for local government. It currently represents 171 local councils and over 65% of Australians.

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

The CPP shows us that despite the historic lack of

federal climate action, local communities are stepping up and filling the void through practical, localised solutions.

Collectively members have pledged over 751 actions to reduce emissions, 53% have Renewable Energy Targets – with seven already achieving 100% – and 25% have Net Zero Emissions Targets.

The CCP is so successful it was one of eight climate networks profiled at the COP26 talks in Glasgow.

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



## CLEAN JOBS PLAN

COVID-19 and other ongoing shocks have all had drastic impacts on the global economy, precipitating some of the worst economic conditions since the Great Depression. The Australian economy is in the midst of these challenges, and decision makers are tasked with ensuring both its rapid recovery and future resilience.

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



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

Our next steps include: briefing decision makers in the new Federal government, identifying new voices to bring to the conversation from the business sector; coordinating with other climate groups in each state and territory to ensure our work amplifies existing tactics; and mobilising local councils, especially in regional areas, to make investments that present the biggest opportunities to strengthen local economies.



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

## DISCREDITING GAS

Gas is a dangerous, expensive and unnecessary fossil fuel and one of the main drivers of Australia's contribution to climate change. Yet the gas industry is expanding rapidly around the country, with a long list of major developments in the pipeline.

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

The Climate Council are working to change this through science-based research and associated media coverage, and by supporting communities threatened by gas projects. We also work collaboratively with other climate groups towards our shared goal of moving Australia beyond gas.

## EMPOWERING DIVERSE VOICES

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

We've supported farmers affected by climate-fueled drought, firefighters facing increasingly dangerous bushfires, nurses and doctors witnessing the health impacts of climate change, and tourism operators seeing climate impacts on the places we love.

Our team also work to profile the solutions, including industries Australia can scale to become a clean energy superpower, from green steel to electric vehicle component manufacturing.

Through media training and pitching stories to journalists, along with supporting other climate organisations to garner strategic media coverage, we are changing hearts and minds, and shifting the public understanding of climate impacts and solutions.

## EMERGENCY LEADERS FOR CLIMATE ACTION

In April 2019, the Climate Council launched Emergency Leaders for Climate Action (ELCA), who have since had a transformative impact on the climate debate in Australia.

The scale and ferocity of Black Summer catapulted ELCA to front page news, helping shape the public understanding of the crisis. Their message was clear: **climate change is supercharging bushfires and extreme weather events, and we must act now to avoid further catastrophic impacts.**

In 2020, ELCA ran a Bushfire & Climate Summit, bringing together experts and bushfire

affected communities to discuss how we prepare for worsening fire seasons. ELCA members also provided expert comment at parliamentary inquiries and the Bushfire Royal Commission.

ELCA has since played a critical role shaping the public understanding of the 2022 flood crisis, and will become an ever more influential voice, pressuring decision makers to cut emissions and adequately prepare communities and emergency services for worsening extreme weather, including by adopting all 80 recommendations of the Bushfire Royal Commission.



# How do I leave a gift in my will?

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**Your will is powerful.** It protects your family and loved ones after you are gone, and ensures your estate is divided among the people and causes you care about. It ensures your values, your legacy, live on.

**A gift in your will to the Climate Council can help power a bright and clean energy Australia for future generations.** It can help secure a better future for the loved ones you leave behind.

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

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

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

# Contact your solicitor

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

'I (insert name here) GIVE to Climate Council Australia Limited of 8 Short Street, Surry Hills, NSW. ABN 52 165 914 303 for its general purposes;

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

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

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

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For information about the impact a gift in your will can have in accelerating climate action, or if you or your solicitor have any questions, please contact:

Heather Bruer  
Planned Giving Coordinator  
Ph: (02) 9356 8531  
E: [legacy@climatecouncil.org.au](mailto:legacy@climatecouncil.org.au)

# Join our community

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

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

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"I have left a bequest to the Climate Council in my will. When I am no longer able to contribute in person I want to make sure that such a vital cause remains supported."

**Robin, Tamworth NSW**

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

**Rosie, Willunga SA**

"My motivation to leave a legacy to the Climate Council is that it is a trustworthy organisation that is well led and has positive science-based initiatives with regard to leaving Australia in as good a shape as possible, for the next generation."

**Johanne, Highton, VIC**



**CLIMATE  
COUNCIL**

**SS4C**  
School Strike 4 Climate  
SCHOOL STRIKE 4 CLIMATE  
**#SS4C**

STOP MESSING  
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EARTH

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# Thank you for supporting the Climate Council.

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

ABN - 52 165 914 303

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

## **CLIMATE COUNCIL**

**E:** [legacy@climatecouncil.org.au](mailto:legacy@climatecouncil.org.au)

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