



Fossil Fool Bulletin

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

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FFB 2:32 • 19 JULY 2019

Adani sets dangerous precedent

By Samantha Hepburn

A freedom of information request has revealed Adani sought the names of CSIRO and Geoscience Australia scientists involved in reviewing groundwater management plans related to its proposed Carmichael mine.

Adani argued it required a list of people involved in the review so as to have “peace of mind” that it was being treated fairly and impartially on a scientific rather than a political basis.

Ten days before Adani’s request, Geoscience Australia’s acting director of groundwater advice and data reportedly raised concerns that Adani had “actively searched/viewed” his LinkedIn profile and that of a colleague.

Significantly, Adani’s request to the government was made before CSIRO and Geoscience Australia had reported their review findings back to the Queensland government.

While the federal Department of the Environment and Energy reportedly declined to hand over the names, the fact the letter was sent in the first place is concerning. It fundamentally interferes with the capacity of individual scientists to provide clear and informed evaluation.

Was Adani denied procedural fairness?

In the absence of clear legislation to the contrary, government decision-makers have a general duty to accord “procedural fairness” to those affected by their decisions. While procedural fairness is protected by common law, Commonwealth legislation also provides some protection,



Indian billionaire, Gautam Adani (left), aboard his private jet, which is reputed to be worth around \$28 million. Photo: Ronni Salt on Twitter

and a breach of procedural fairness is a ground for judicial review.

What exactly constitutes procedural fairness varies from case to case. Fundamentally, the principles of procedural fairness acknowledge the power

imbalance that can arise between an administrative decision-maker and an individual citizen. Traditionally, procedural fairness has two elements: the fair hearing rule and the rule against bias.

The fair hearing rule requires a person – or company, in this case – to have an opportunity to be heard before a decision is made affecting their interest.

The rule against bias ensures the decision-maker can be objectively considered to be impartial and not to have prejudged a decision. This rule is flexible, and must be determined by reference to a hypothetical observer who is fair minded and informed of the circumstances.

• Continued p2

An acceptance of climate science and even a belief that coal-fired energy should be decommissioned does not constitute bias.

A reasonable bystander would expect most environmental scientists to be concerned about climate change.

• P3: Artworks as works of protest

• P4: Post-coal future for Hunter Valley

• P5: Mines fail rehab test

• Continued from p3

There is no indication of any breach of procedural fairness in the environmental assessment process. The review of the groundwater management plan was conducted rigorously, according to the public interest.

The letter sent by Adani requesting the names of scientists was allegedly grounded in concerns about the possibility of anti-Adani activism by expert reviewers. Despite this, Adani made it clear that it was not explicitly alleging bias. Its objective, the letter said, was a desire to be “treated fairly and in a manner consistent with other industry participants”.

The real purpose of the letter

If Adani was seriously concerned about a breach of procedural fairness in the review of their groundwater management plan, it would have sought a judicial review. It did not – because there was no breach.

The scientists working at CSIRO and Geoscience Australia are all experts in their disciplines. They were engaged in the important process of determining whether Adani’s plan for managing groundwater around their mine would meet the environmental conditions of their mining licence. In other words, the scientists were doing their job.

Deputy Prime Minister Michael McCormack has said he “understands” Adani’s actions because of the delays associated with the review, but this is not how the system works.

The delays occurred because the original plan submitted by Adani had to be revised following expert review, and the updated plan required detailed evaluation. The mine could potentially have a serious impact on groundwater, the communities and ecosystems dependent on the water, and the nationally significant Doongmabulla Springs; this deserves careful scrutiny.

As Adani has not brought an action for judicial review, the substantive purpose of the letter appears to be, as suggested by CSIRO representatives, to pressure scientists and potentially seek to discredit their work. The potentially chilling effect is clear.

Concern about climate change is not bias

The profound concerns raised by climate change and fossil fuel emissions are shared by many scientists around the world. The reports prepared for



This email from Adani’s head of environment and sustainability, Hamish Manzi in Brisbane, was obtained under Freedom of Information by Lock the Gate. It demands the names of CSIRO and Geoscience Australia scientists reviewing Adani’s groundwater management plans. The company later cyber-stalked the scientists’ profiles. When Adani’s management plan for the endangered black-throated finch was assessed by Queensland government scientists, the company launched personal attacks on the scientists in the media.

the International Panel on Climate Change make it clear that coal fired electricity must drop to nearly zero by 2050 to keep warming within 1.5C.

This shared concern does not make scientists political activists. Nor does it prevent scientists from acting fairly and impartially when reviewing a groundwater management plan.

An acceptance of climate science and even a belief that coal-fired energy should be decommissioned does not constitute bias. A reasonable bystander would expect most environmental scientists to be concerned about climate change.

It is crucial the environmental assessment process for large coal mines remains rigorously independent and absolutely free from any direct or indirect pressure from the coal industry.

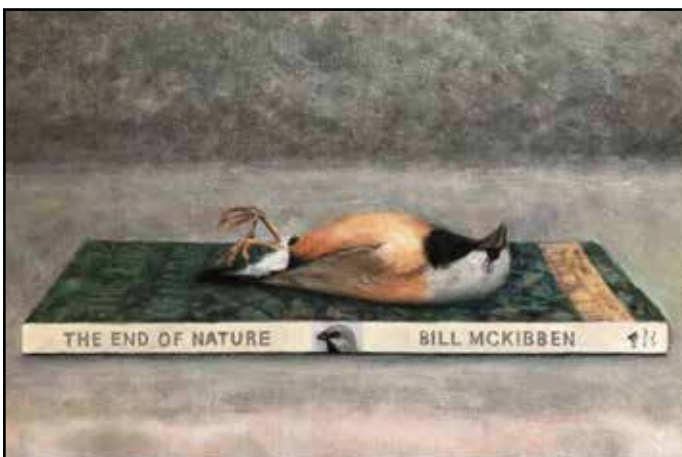
This is even more important when dealing with groundwater assessments, given their economic, social and ecological significance.

The letter, sent before the review was handed down, sets a dangerous precedent. Not because it suggests the scientists were impartial or there was any procedural unfairness involved in the process. But rather, because it jeopardises the independence of our scientists who, in seeking to ensure the longevity of our water, food and energy resources, carry a heavy responsibility to the public interest.

• **Samantha Hepburn is Director of the Centre for Energy and Natural Resources Law, Deakin Law School, Deakin University.**

This article was originally published on The Conversation

Artists send Adani finches to politicians



Some of the 1,400 works sent by artists concerned by the possible extinction of the black-throat finch to state and federal politicians. Supplied by the artists, (top, l-r) Melissa Hartley, Sam Michelle, (bottom, l-r) Deirdre Boeyen Cameron and Jess McCaughey

Artists across Australia say they have mailed more than 1,400 artworks of the endangered black-throated finch to key politicians to express their grief over the mine's approval.

Melbourne-based artist Charlotte Watson said she started the project because she felt helpless to stop the Indian mining giant from destroying the tiny bird's key habitat.

"I saw the news that the Black-Throated Finch Management Plan had been approved and my heart just sank, I just felt total dismay," she said.

"For me it's a symbol of a greater mass extinction going on right now and it's happening under our watch and that is a very, very frightening thing."

Within days of putting a call-out on social media, Watson had received hundreds of requests from people wanting to contribute an artwork.

"Some people aren't in the position where they can go out onto the street and protest with placards, but they can

do a drawing in their own space and time ... it's perhaps a more reserved way of having a voice," she said.

There are believed to be fewer than 1,000 black-throated finches still alive, with the largest population surviving in the path of Adani's Carmichael mine site.

Watson said more than 1,400 artworks of the bird were mailed to politicians, including Queensland Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk, Prime Minister Scott Morrison, Federal Environment Minister Sussan Ley, Queensland Deputy Premier Jackie Trad and Queensland Environment Minister Leanne Enoch.

Ley told the ABC she respected the creativity and passion behind the works, but that "a number of measures have been put in place to help ensure the adequate protection of the black-throated finch".

• From an ABC report, see p7.

Can you buy an Adani finch?

An argument put forward by some pro-Adani people (and touted in the Townsville Bulletin) is that the black-throated finch will survive because it can be found in aviaries.

FFB made some enquiries and discovered that, if you can find a finch breeder, the birds sell for \$50-\$70 each. They can only be sold to government-licensed breeders who have proved they can successfully breed and raise the birds.

Also known as the parson's finch, they can be seen in some establishments such as the Canberra Walk-In Aviary.

But no, you can't have an Adani finch bopping around in a cage like a budgie.

Inquiry looks at post-coal future for the Hunter Valley

Communities in coal mining regions have called for support from the NSW Government to diversify their economies, following the establishment of a parliamentary inquiry into the sustainability of the state's energy industry and how communities can be better prepared for change.

The inquiry, established today by the Environment and Planning Committee in the NSW Legislative Assembly and chaired by Independent member for Sydney Alex Greenwich, will look into trends and forecasts for energy supply and exports in NSW and opportunities for sustainable economic development in regional communities likely to be affected by changing energy and resource markets.

It follows intervention prior to the NSW state election in March by Greenwich and the two other Independent MPs in NSW parliament Greg Piper and Joe McGirr on behalf of regional coal communities, seeking commitment from the Premier and Opposition Leader to a ten year adjustment strategy for coal mining communities backed by financial resources to affected regions.

Hunter region faces 5,000 job losses

A report released in February this year called *Weathering the Storm* found the Hunter region faces 5,000 job losses if coal use contracts globally as countries shift to cheaper renewable energy and if no action is taken to prepare and develop new opportunities.

Hunter Renewal Coordinator Danielle Coleman said, "This inquiry is a chance for people in regional coal communities to speak for ourselves about how we want to prepare for our future.

"Almost everyone in the Hunter agrees that we need a plan for a future that is less dependent on coal mining and that sets us up with new jobs and industries for the long-term.

"We're grateful to Alex Greenwich for his generosity and leadership on this issue. It's a source of optimism for people in the Hunter region that the member for Sydney understands the challenges we face in responding to changing energy markets.

"Experience from elsewhere in Australia

and overseas tells us that we need to start preparing for change now, and that strong government support and targeted investment in our regions will be crucial to success - this Inquiry is a vital first step in boosting our region with new opportunities."

University student Sophie Nichols is part of a group in Singleton pressing for diversification and renewal of the Hunter's economy.

Ms Nicols said, "There is considerable worry in Singleton about the future of coal exports - it's clear they cannot be relied on and we need to prepare for change - and this inquiry is a chance to put the Hunter region on the road to renewal.

"It's so important for people to have this chance to get involved in talking through and planning how the Hunter can diversify and generate new opportunities for jobs and prosperity - independent of other country's uncertain coal demand."

Retired Singleton electrician Rob McLaughlin welcomed the establishment of the inquiry, "A thorough public inquiry of this kind is just what the Hunter Valley needs to show the state government we want its support to diversify our economy before it's too late."

"This is a chance to tell the government about how we want to chart our course towards diversification and prosperity as other countries change their energy systems and use less coal."

• *The Hunter Renewal Roadmap was launched in Singleton last month and is available here:*

https://www.hunterrenewal.org.au/road_map



Friends of Felton

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

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



On sale via the facebook page:

Rob McCreath author (\$21 + P&P).

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



Call to reject Acland Stage 3 mine

Queenslanders are being urged to help defend prime agricultural land from invasive coal mining, with the launch of a petition calling on the State Government to reject New Acland Stage 3.

At the same time, mine proponent New Hope has recently reneged on a promise to move its massive coal dump and rail load-out facility from the township of Jondaryan, with the Coordinator General now assessing a submission for the coal dump to remain at the site for another five years.

The local community has been concerned about the dust, noise and traffic from the dump for many years.

Oakey Coal Action Alliance spokesperson Paul King said Oakey's economy would be devastated should New Acland Stage 3 be allowed to go ahead.

"This coal mine expansion poses an unacceptable threat to the underground water resources relied upon by farmers and their families in the Acland area," he said.

"Farmers' water allocations have already been cut by up to 50 per cent, yet the proposed expansion is slated to produce a further draw-down of 900 million litres a year from surrounding aquifers.

"Businesses in Oakey and surrounds rely on these farms to keep going - if the farms go, so will the local economy.

"What's more, the farming land around Oakey is classed in the top 1.5% in Queensland. It is madness that it should be destroyed for the sake of a temporary coal mine."

Jondaryan local Glennis Hammond said the local community was devastated to learn of New Acland Coal's backflip over its coal stockpile.

"New Hope's proposal to leave the coal dump at Jondaryan was considered unacceptable in 2012 and has not been subject to environmental impact assessment as part of the Stage 3 expansion," she said.

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

Mines fail rehabilitation test

The damning outcomes of a recent compliance blitz by the NSW Resources Regulator should put the whole mining industry on notice that rehabilitation and care for the landscape are not negotiable, according to Lock the Gate Alliance.

Four Hunter Valley coal mines, owned by some of the biggest mining companies in the country, have been issued six notices to fix up their rehabilitation and other environmental management.

The regulator said notices were issued to Mt Thorley Warkworth, Muswellbrook, Ravensworth and Rix's Creek coal mines to ensure compliance with environmental management and rehabilitation obligations. Further inquiries are being made in relation to Russell Vale Mine about the status of rehabilitation and bunding around chemical storage areas.

Lock the Gate Alliance spokesperson Georgina Woods said, "It is unacceptable for them to be failing on their rehabilitation and environmental management.

"This is especially true at a time when there is mounting concern about what legacy the mining industry is going to leave the people of this valley.

"When rehabilitation falls behind or is done poorly, it leads to an increase in air pollution and leaves future generations with the burden of cleaning up the mining companies' mess.

"It's heartening to see the Resources Regulator taking its responsibilities seriously to hold the mining companies to account. This damning report should put the whole industry on notice that rehabilitation and care for the landscape are not negotiable.

"We are coming to a crunch time for this region when the mining industry shifts from making profits to making amends, rehabilitating and cleaning up. It's vital this work be done progressively and to the highest standard to minimise the risk that the job will be left half finished or worse."

FFB

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Focus Publications

Inside the news

A group of **Wangan & Jagalingou** traditional owners have lost their appeal against an indigenous land use agreement with **Adani**, and been slugged with \$600,000 in court costs (p7). The W&J are considering whether to appeal to the **High Court**, but meanwhile native title to the Carmichael Mine area could be extinguished by the Queensland government.

Court costs will also bankrupt traditional owner **Adrian Burragubba**, a classic bullying tactic from Adani's **attack-dog lawyers**.

Clive Palmer, flush with money, says he will fund his own **Galilee Basin** coal mine and move coal to port with a **sludge pipeline** rather than rail (p8). **FFB** wonders how much water will be used, and what happens to the toxic slush at the end of the pipeline?

Toxic smoke flaring from **Chevron's Wheatstone LNG** project is choking the nearby town of **Onslow** (p9).

Doctors for the Environment Australia say Onslow residents are likely breathing in hydrocarbons, oxides of nitrogen and carbon monoxide amongst other gases comprising a health hazard.

The New Daily explains why booming **LNG exports** are not delivering **royalties**, and some projects never will. The problem is that royalties are calculated on profits, and a bit of shifty accounting lets the foreign-owned LNG companies – such as **Chevron, Exxon-Mobil and Shell** – spirit their profits offshore (p12).

Hydrogen is hyped as a green energy source, but when made from **Latrobe Valley** brown coal, its about as dirty as you can get. Billed to 'breathe new life' into the valley's coal industry, a pilot dirty hydrogen program has begun construction, with **coal-face Canavan** breaking ground for the government-subsidised scheme (p12). It will gush around 30 tonnes of CO₂ for every tonne of hydrogen exported to Japan.

National party nuke fans **Barnaby Joyce** and **John Barilaro** each hope for a nuclear power station in their electorates (p12). Around 20 sites nation-wide have been identified by a nuclear lobby group.

FFB

In the news this week

This week Fossil Fool Bulletin has summarised 27,800 words of news for your convenience. [Click on the links to view original articles.](#) (Subscriptions may be required)

THE ADANI SAGA

<https://www.couriermail.com.au/news/queensland/court-dismisses-aboriginal-appeal-against-adani-carmichael-mine/news-story/f83a888b30be4f64eaa48238a59437d1>

Court dismisses Aboriginal appeal against Adani Carmichael mine

Vanda Carson & Alexandria Utting,
Courier-Mail, 12/07/2019

A group of traditional owners opposed to the Adani mine have left the door open to take their fight over native title to the nation's highest court.

The full bench of the Federal Court has rejected the Wangan and Jagalingou people's bid to overturn the Adani indigenous land use agreement between the mine and the State Government, which permanently extinguished the rights of the traditional owners.

The group are considering whether there are grounds to appeal.

The group claimed the land use agreement was invalid because Adani had paid money to those recruiting Aboriginal people to attend meetings where traditional owners would decide on the mining deal, and not all the attendees were verified W&J people.

The group also claimed the area of land was not correctly described. Both claims were dismissed.

<https://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/national/queensland/court-dismisses-aboriginal-appeal-against-adani-mine-20190712-p5261e.html>

Court dismisses Aboriginal appeal against Adani mine

AAP/Bris Times, 12/07/2019

The Federal Court has ruled as valid an Indigenous land usage agreement that could permanently extinguish native title in the area the controversial Carmichael coal mine is to be built.

A group of five Aboriginal opponents to the mine alleged the process of checking whether the traditional owners who voted on the ILUA had legitimate native title claims "lacked rigour".

However the court on Friday dismissed the appeal by Wangan and Jagalingou people, including activist Adrian Burragubba.



A cartoon inspired by the news that Adani has been cyber-stalking scientists after demanding the names of those reviewing its groundwater management plan.

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2019/jul/12/adani-land-use-agreement-court-dismisses-indigenous-groups-appeal>

Adani land-use agreement: court dismisses Indigenous group's appeal

Ben Smee, Guardian, 12/07/2019

Indigenous traditional owners opposed to the Adani Carmichael coalmine have lost a full-bench appeal to the federal court, which has upheld a land-use agreement and ordered a group of elders to pay the miner's costs.

The minority group of five Wangan and Jagalingou (W&J) people had sought to invalidate an Indigenous land-use agreement (ILUA) approved by seven of 12 native title applicants.

The three judges unanimously dismissed arguments that the agreement did not meet the legal requirements of the Native Title Act.

The Queensland government can now act formally extinguish the native title of the W&J people at the Carmichael mine site.

The court awarded costs against the traditional owners. Adani is already seeking \$600,000 in court costs, which would bankrupt traditional owner Adrian Burragubba.

<https://www.theage.com.au/business/companies/adani-swings-to-loss-on-impairment-and-exchange-hit-20190712-p5261n.html>

Adani swings to loss on impairment and exchange hit

Mathew Dunckley, Age, 12/07/2019

Adani's local mining arm has posted a \$273 million loss blaming continued delays in its signature Carmichael mine for a significant writedown in its value.

Accounts lodged with the corporate regulator show that the loss in the year to the end of March was driven by a \$128 million impairment of its coal mine development in the Galilee Basin.

<https://www.townsvillebulletin.com.au/business/longterm-unemployed-train-up-for-work-on-the-adani-rail-line/news-story/958ef5bdfa571a934db3c0624a88aa68>

Long-term unemployed train up for work on the Adani rail line

Tony Raggatt, Townsville Bulletin, 13/07/2019

Long-term unemployed people in Townsville could soon be working on the Adani rail line.

Under a State Government-funded program, Certificate II courses in rail infrastructure are being provided at the Townsville Business Development Centre.

Adani, which is developing a 200km line from its Galilee Basin Carmichael coal mine, is also supporting the training.

So far about 20 people have graduated in Townsville.

Adani representatives are providing mentoring to trainees.

<https://www.afr.com/business/energy/climate-change-activists-target-ghd-over-adani-link-20190712-p526qk>

Climate change activists target GHD over Adani link

James Fernyhough, AFR, 15/07/2019

Global engineering consultancy GHD has become the latest target of anti-fossil fuel activists over its alleged contract with Adani to work on the construction of the Carmichael coal mine.

The Australian Conservation Foundation (ACF), Friends of the Earth affiliate Market Forces and the Australian Youth Climate Coalition are now calling on the company's staff and members of the public to pressure the GHD to pull back from its involvement with the mine.

The ACF is calling on 350,000 supporters to sign a petition calling on GHD to abandon Adani's mine and rail line, and urging them to email GHD executives personally.

Market Forces has been handing out leaflets outside GHD offices and contacting staff over LinkedIn.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-07-16/adani-re-quests-names-of-csiro-scientists/11308616>

Adani demands names of CSIRO scientists reviewing groundwater plans

Josh Robertson, ABC, 16/07/2019

Adani demanded the names of all federal agency scientists reviewing its contentious groundwater plans so it could check if they were "anti-coal" activists, emails obtained under freedom of information show.

The revelation has alarmed CSIRO staff representatives, who said it indicated Adani had "a deliberate strategy" to pressure scientists by searching for personal information it could use to try to "discredit their work".

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-07-16/adani-facing-prosecution-queensland-government-carmichael-mine/11314970>

Adani facing prosecution for allegedly providing false information in Carmichael mine report

Mark Willacy & Alexandra Blucher, ABC, 16/07/2019

The Queensland Government is prosecuting mining giant Adani for allegedly providing false and misleading information to the Environment Department over land clearing at the site of its proposed Carmichael mine.

"The prosecution relates to information contained in Adani's 2017/2018 annual return for its Carmichael mine," the department said in a statement to the ABC.

"The annual return requires information about planned and actual disturbance of land at the mine.

"The department alleges that Adani's annual return contained false and misleading information about the disturbance already undertaken at the mine during the annual return period."

<https://www.theaustralian.com.au/nation/politics/misleading-adani-faces-fine/news-story/4a7f2687f1827fbc3f37f4bf7e537>

'Misleading' Adani faces fine

Sean Parnell, Aus, 17/07/2019

Adani faces a possible \$600,000 fine for filing misleading paperwork, with Queensland's environment department deciding to prosecute the Indian company as it forges ahead with the controversial Carmichael mine.

The state Department of Environment and Science confirmed last night that it had commenced proceedings against Adani Mining over information contained in its 2017-18 annual return for the \$2 billion coalmine.

The department has, however, decided Adani did not contravene the applicable conditions of its approval through the construction of dewatering bores, drill pads and limit of oxidation lines.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-07-18/anti-adani-artists-sending-black-throated-finches-to-politicians/11318918>

Adani opponents mail bird art to politicians in silent protest

Lily Nothling, ABC, 18/07/2019

As Adani prepares to break ground on its mine in central Queensland, opponents are ditching placards for paintbrushes in a silent protest over the divisive coal project.

Artists across Australia say they have mailed more than 1,400 artworks of the endangered black-throated finch to key politicians to express their grief over the mine's approval.

Melbourne-based artist Charlotte Watson said she started the project because she felt helpless to stop the Indian mining giant from destroying the tiny bird's key habitat.

Ms Watson said more than 1,400 artworks of the bird were mailed to politicians, including Queensland Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk, Prime Minister Scott Morrison and Queensland Environment Minister Leeanne Enoch.

The creations include drawings, paintings, sculptures and embroidery.

<https://www.theaustralian.com.au/business/mining-energy/world-coal-association-ceo-michelle-manook-says-facts-get-lost-on-adani/news-story/1929127612e45fc41f3432eeb5bafc4e>

World Coal Association CEO Michelle Manook says facts get lost on Adani

Glenda Korporaal, Aus, 18/07/2019

The new head of the World Coal Association, Australian Michelle Manook, has backed the Adani coal mine in Queensland, saying it will send good quality coal to India, which had a right to choose its own energy mix.

"The debate (over Adani) is full of emotion and some of the facts get lost," she said in an interview with The Australian in Beijing, where her appointment has just been announced.

"What you see out of Australia is good quality coal which is going to markets that need it," she said.

She said burning higher quality coal, which would be the case with Adani coal going to India, lowered carbon emissions.

Manook, an issues management and strategy specialist from Perth, who was head of strategy and communications for Orica's Europe, Asia and Africa operations before moving to London this year to run the World Coal Association, said big countries like India and China had to use coal for their energy supply.

The Coal Association's members include Orica, Peabody Coal, Glencore, Yancoal, the Minerals Council of Australia as well as technology companies such as General Electric.

This long interview goes on to say fossil fuels are not going away, and that clean coal is a thing.

COAL ROCKS ON

<https://www.smh.com.au/environment/climate-change/how-germany-closed-its-coal-industry-without-sacking-a-single-miner-20190711-p526ez.html>

How Germany closed its coal industry without sacking a single miner

Nick O'Malley, SMH, 14/07/2019

While Australia continues to open new coal mines, Germany is in the midst of closing down its entire coal sector. The last of the country's black coal mines was decommissioned last year, the victim of the economic reality that nations like Australia could dig the stuff up cheaper than the Germans could.

Now Germany is beginning the process of ending its brown coal industry and shutting down the energy plants that it feeds so it can meet its agreements under the Paris climate accord.

The sheer scale of the German undertaking is hard to even contemplate from the Australian perspective, where coal is still king and where significant political decisions are met with particularly stern punishment.

• Nick O'Malley travelled as a guest of the Climate Council.

<https://www.couriermail.com.au/news/regional/explained-future-of-nine-major-new-mines/news-story/b85314d9523a9ca1d2e8d1b66904dc3>

Explained: Future of nine major new mines

Ashley Pillhofer, Mackay Daily Mercury, 13/07/2019

With the gates to the Galilee Basin now flung open, it looks more likely than ever one of the world's largest untapped thermal coal fields will become the economic powerhouse of regional Queensland.

QRC chief executive Ian Macfarlane said the Adani project had acted as a "punching bag" for the mines which would follow.

"They've been subjected to far more criticism and scrutiny than they deserve," he said. "We are all for a rigorous process but it was politicised."

Article provides information about the following Galilee projects:

1. MacMines's China Stone – Galilee Basin
2. Kevin's Corner - Galilee Basin
3. Alpha Coal - Galilee Basin
4. AMCI's South Galilee Coal Project
5. Waratah Coal's North Alpha Mining
6. Waratah Coal's China First Coal Project (Northern Export Facility)

Other Queensland mining projects:

1. South23's Eagle Downs – Bowen Basin
2. Red Hill - Bowen Basin
3. Winchester South – Bowen Basin

<https://www.afr.com/business/energy/it-s-my-money-now-flush-palmer-to-fund-galilee-mine-20190712-p526ps>

'It's my money now': Flush Palmer to fund Galilee mine

Mark Ludlow, AFR, 15/07/2019

Queensland billionaire Clive Palmer said the financial windfall from his successful court battle with Chinese-owned CITIC Pacific would allow him to fully fund his \$6.5 billion Waratah coal mine in the frontier Galilee Basin.

Waratah would require a 450-kilometre rail line to take coal to ports on the Queensland coast.

Palmer has now proposed using an underground sludge pipeline to export the coal to ports rather than building a more expensive railway.

"A pipeline is much more environmentally friendly, it's underground, it could be powered by solar power on the surface, using renewable energy."

He has also proposed building a \$1.5 billion coal-fired power station in the Galilee Basin.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-07-17/clive-palmer-queensland-nickel-trial-hears-funds-misused/11317652>

Clive Palmer made payment to mystery woman in Kyrgyzstan, court told

Josh Robertson, ABC, 17/07/2019

Clive Palmer's multi-million-dollar payments to his father-in-law and a mysterious woman in Kyrgyzstan were among the funds he misused from Queensland Nickel coffers before its collapse, a court has heard.

The billionaire was also accused of putting his own interests ahead of workers and creditors by having the failing company buy shares in a "worthless" Galilee Basin coal project. ...

QN agreed to pay \$135 million for shares in China First, which had been a \$2 company whose sole director was Mr Palmer's wife Anna.

"It raises the question why a company in such a parlous financial position would pay \$135 million — or anything — for the privilege of acquiring shares, even such a handsome number as 2 billion in a company that before this transaction had a paid up capital of \$2," Gibson said.

The deal ostensibly secured for QN mining rights to two coal tenements in central Queensland's Galilee Basin.

"The coal project was worthless," Gibson said. ...

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-07-17/myuna-bay-sport-closure-after-coal-ash-dam-earthquake-risk/11314374>

Myuna Bay Sport and Recreation Centre received a call to close – and these documents dispute the reason why

Nancy Notzon & Ben Millington, ABC, 17/07/2019

Neil O'Toole, manager of Myuna Bay Sport and Recreation Centre on Lake Macquarie, says the centre was told in March they had to evacuate due to the risk a nearby coal ash dam could collapse on the facility in the event of an earthquake.

Origin Energy had advised the NSW Office of Sport that the wall of a coal ash dam attached to its nearby Eraring coal-fired power station could fail in the event of a magnitude 5.7 earthquake — an earthquake deemed as a once-in-a-5000-year event.

In a letter to then chief executive of the NSW Office of Sport Matt Millner, who stepped down in May, Origin stated the material beneath the dam was susceptible to liquefaction — a process where soil might break down into liquid form in the event of a stress like an earthquake.

If this happened it would likely pose a serious threat to the recreation centre.

Independent MP for Lake Macquarie Greg Piper said he believed the centre's closure could have benefited Origin Energy.

"It's very clear that they were leaning on the Office of Sport to do this," he said.

"At the same time Origin Energy had an application in to the State Government to increase the capacity of the Eraring ash dam.

"I imagine that would have been something that would have been on their mind."

NSW Public Works chief emergency engineer Martin Dwyer was also asked to validate the risk reported by Origin.

"In my view, this whole story of safety concerns for Myuna Bay Sport & Rec Centre needs to be viewed through the lens of a plan to increase the dam capacity," he said.

Origin Energy has strongly rejected any allegation it influenced the closure of the facility.

Origin Energy has offered to pay for the relocation of the centre, which it estimated would take two to three years.

<https://www.afr.com/business/mining/bhp-shrinks-to-greatness-in-nsw-coal-20190717-p52801>

BHP shrinks to greatness in NSW coal

Peter Ker, AFR, 17/07/2019

BHP's plan to bypass Chinese thermal coal markets in favour of greener pastures in Japan and South Korea is set to drive a dramatic reduction in the amount of coal sold from NSW.

BHP revealed on Wednesday that production at the Mt Arthur mine in the Hunter Valley could fall up to 18% over the next year as part of efforts to sell higher quality products.

Article goes on to say BHP will selectively mine higher quality coal and give it an extra wash to generate a higher energy-content product.

OIL & GAS LEAKS

<https://www.northerndailyleader.com.au/story/6269559/santos-providing-requested-info-about-narrabri-project-barwon-mp/>

Santos providing requested information about Narrabri project: Barwon MP

Jamieson Murphy, Nth Daily Leader, 12/07/2019

Santos has begun to hand over more information about its Narrabri Gas Project to the state government, the Barwon MP says.

The gas giant came under fire for failing to respond to the concerns of various organisations, including 14 government agencies, in its latest submission.

"I understand they've started to provide that information," Shooters, Fishers and Farmers MP Roy Butler said.

Recently, a number of stories circulating the media suggested the project would be approved by the end of the year.

"Santos was basically trying to force the government in to a time frame that suit Santos," Mr Butler said.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-07-14/onslow-emissions-excessive-say-residents-near-wheatstone-project/10851632>

Wheatstone gas emissions 'excessive', say residents in north-west WA town of Onslow

Susan Standen, ABC, 14/07/2019

Residents living near one of Australia's biggest resource projects say their complaints about what they describe as excessive soot smoke and flaring have been ignored.

Environmental groups have called for greater transparency about the potential health impacts of Australia's largest onshore liquified natural gas (LNG) plant, Chevron's Wheatstone project, 12 kilometres south-west of the tiny Pilbara town of Onslow in Western Australia.

The complaints have come amid concerns about Chevron's neighbouring Gorgon project, which has released millions of tonnes of carbon pollution into the atmosphere and the potential exposure of workers at the Barrow Island facility to toxic emissions.

Resident Terry Harry, a retired refrigeration mechanic, said he first noticed plumes of black smoke and orange flames from the Wheatstone project two years ago, which he said could be seen from 70km away.

Chevron says all data is under the National Environmental Pollution Measures guidelines, but have not yet provided levels of particulates or volatile organic compounds other than BTEX (benzene, toluene, ethylene, xylene).

Doctors for the Environment Australia (DEA) said emissions could contain a toxic mixture of hydrocarbons, gases, oxides of nitrogen, particulate matter and carbon monoxide, which are all harmful to human health, even at very low concentrations.

George Crisp, a published medical author from DEA, said there were health concerns about the fine particulates of volatile organic compounds contained in the soot.

Dr Crisp, who has published research on gas emissions worldwide, believed Australia had a big problem with transparency of air pollution monitoring, which he said made it very difficult for health researchers to raise awareness or inform the public about potential risks.

Dr Crisp said he was concerned about the proximity of the plant to the town for both short-term spikes of pollution but also long-term low-level exposure.

"We know that these chemicals are toxic and sometimes at really low levels, which certainly could be producing harmful effects on the population.

"So it's not possible to say that there isn't exposure or harm occurring in these communities."

<https://www.afr.com/business/energy/gas/extreme-price-gap-spells-trouble-ahead-in-lng-20190712-p526kj>

'Extreme' price gap spells trouble ahead in LNG

Angela Macdonald-Smith, AFR, 15/07/2019

Woodside Petroleum, Oil Search and Santos are facing what some say is the biggest ever threat to their liquefied natural gas export revenues, as the patience of their customers in Asia for paying above-market prices runs out.

Article says customers in the top-tier markets of Japan and South Korea are prepared to act more aggressively in price review negotiations to reduce the large disconnect between their crude oil-based contract prices and the rock-bottom spot LNG price.

<https://www.afr.com/business/energy/cuadrilla-takes-another-crack-at-fracking-20190711-p52659>

Cuadrilla takes another crack at fracking

Hans van Leeuwen, AFR, 11/07/2019

Cuadrilla Resources, the British shale gas explorer half-owned by ASX-listed mining services company AJ Lucas, has vowed to resume fracking at its site in northern England – hoping to convince the British government to cut the green tape that's holding the project back.

In February Cuadrilla revealed its first round of fracking had shown promising results but there was little point going further unless the British government relaxed rules that force an 18-hour halt in activity every time the process sparks tremors above 0.5 on the Richter scale.

<https://www.northerndailyleader.com.au/story/6269927/barwon-mp-still-concerned-about-csg-impact-on-groundwater-despite-tour/>

Barwon MP Roy Butler still concerned about CSG impact on Narrabri groundwater despite Santos tour

Jamieson Murphy, Nth Daily Leader, 14/07/2019

A tour of Santos' proposed Narrabri coal seam gas development hasn't changed the Barwon MP's opposition of the project.

The Shooters, Fishers and Farmers MP Roy Butler has been talking to all sides of the debate – politicians, activist and the gas company.

“I took up an offer from Santos for a tour of their site,” Butler said.

“They don’t share the same concerns about groundwater, but that position hasn’t changed for us.

“Until there are assurances that the project doesn’t impact groundwater, I won’t support the project.”

<https://www.theaustralian.com.au/business/mining-energy/lng-export-surges-but-no-let-up-in-domestic-shortage/news-story/80b43fd1ee98f3d5964b35abe64123c8>

LNG export surges, but no let-up in domestic shortage

Paul Garvey, Aus, 16/07/2019

A 20 per cent surge in Australia’s liquefied natural gas exports has put the country on track to eclipse Qatar as the world’s biggest LNG producer but could pour further fuel on the fire surrounding east coast gas markets.

Australia’s LNG exports jumped 21.2 per cent in the 2019 financial year to 75.1 million tonnes worth more than \$50 billion. That export figure is expected to climb to 80 million tonnes in 2020, which would finally see Australia leapfrog Qatar.

<https://www.theaustralian.com.au/business/mining-energy/andrew-purcell-re-emerges-in-metgasco-frame/news-story/65d1576a452b6a154dad76652b8268a2>

Andrew Purcell re-emerges in Metgasco frame

Nick Evans, Aus, 16/07/2019

Shares in oil and gas minnow Metgasco surged yesterday after former director Andrew Purcell returned to the company he was ousted from a year ago through an all-scrip takeover bid from fellow junior Melbana Energy.

Mr Purcell is the chairman of Melbana and holds 19.6 per cent of shares in Metgasco through investment vehicle M&A Advisory.

<https://www.theage.com.au/business/companies/traditional-owner-fracking-veto-right-won-t-extend-to-exploration-in-wa-20190716-p527r4.html>

Traditional owner fracking veto right won’t extend to exploration in WA

Hamish Hastie, Age, 16/07/2019

Traditional owners’ right to veto hydraulic fracturing projects will not apply to exploration applications, the WA Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety has confirmed.



Barrow Island, a Class-A environment reserve, was turned over to Chevron for its Gorgon LNG project and is off-limits to Australians, apart from workers at the site.

On Friday the WA government released an 18-month ‘implementation plan’ that would see the ban on fracking on existing onshore petroleum titles lifted in the state next month.

The plan also outlined the heavy regulations companies must meet before they can begin fracking.

Companies will need consent from traditional owners and private landowners before production is permitted, but Wilderness Society WA acting state director Kit Sainsbury is worried this would not apply to exploration applications.

<https://www.afr.com/business/energy/us-to-be-world-s-biggest-lng-exporter-by-2024-iea-20190717-p527vd>

US to be world’s biggest LNG exporter by 2024: IEA

Scott DiSavino, Reuters/AFR, 17/07/2019

The United States and China will become the world’s biggest liquefied natural gas (LNG) exporters and importers, respectively, in five years, according to projections by the International Energy Agency (IEA).

US LNG exports are expected to rocket to over 100 billion cubic metres (bcm) in 2024, dislodging current market leaders Australia and Qatar.

Japan’s LNG imports have mostly declined since peaking in 2014 as utilities restart some nuclear plants after an earthquake and tsunami damaged the Fukushima nuclear plant in 2011.

IEA said it expects world LNG demand to grow about 4 per cent a year through 2024.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/science/2019-07-17/chevron-gorgon-gas-sequestration-mismanagement/11309076>

Green groups accuse Chevron of ‘deliberate mismanagement’ of its own carbon storage project

Nick Kilvert, ABC, 17/07/2019

Chevron has “deliberately mismanaged” its carbon sequestration project at the Gorgon gas facility in Western Australia in order to avoid its environmental commitments, a WA conservation group has alleged.

Gas extracted from the surrounding gas fields is currently taken to the Gorgon processing facility on Barrow Island where it is cooled and liquefied ready for transport.

During that liquidification process, CO₂ is separated out.

It is then supposed to be pumped more than 800 metres underground where it migrates into the porous rocks.

But so far the carbon dioxide emissions have been released directly to the atmosphere.

While Chevron did not respond directly to the CCWA’s claims, a company spokesperson said they were “confident” that the first sequestration would take place later this year.

Barrow Island sits 56 kilometres off the West Australian coast roughly in line with Karratha, and is home to dozens of species found nowhere else on Earth.

It's a refuge for golden bandicoots, Barrow Island euros, spectacled hare-wallabies and other native mammals hit hard by cats and foxes on the mainland.

The island is under the control of American-owned energy-giant Chevron and apart from the workers on the Gorgon project, Australians aren't allowed to set foot on the island.

<https://www.theland.com.au/story/6277509/gas-cartels-and-price-fixing/>

Gas: class action mooted by Lock the Gate, North West Alliance

Daniel Pedersen, *The Land*, 16/07/2019

Western Liverpool Plains beef farmer Margaret Fleck has condemned gas company Santos for pursuing its bid to get its proposed Narrabri Gas Project up and running.

The proposed Narrabri project extends into the Pilliga Forest and consists of 850 non-conventional gas wells.

On the back of a report released last week by the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis, Towards a Domestic Gas Reservation in Australia, Fleck said it was time gas companies were brought to task over manipulation of the country's energy market.

"It's obvious we have a cartel in operation here and Australia is suffering," she said.

That's a belief backed by high-profile property rights lawyer Marylou Potts.

Potts at the weekend advised the North West Alliance, an affiliation of more than 30 groups across north west NSW, to seek advice from a senior counsel and consider mounting a class action against Santos, Shell, Origin, BHP and Exxon for cartel and price-fixing behaviour contrary to the Competition and Consumer Act.

<https://www.afr.com/business/energy/shell-resists-government-pressure-over-arrow-gas-20190717-p52826>

Shell resists government pressure over Arrow gas

Angela Macdonald-Smith, *AFR*, 18/07/2019

Shell is edging towards a long-awaited decision to develop about 5 trillion cubic feet of gas at its Arrow operation in southern Queensland, but senior



Chevron's first Gorgon gas cargo leaves Barrow Island in 2016, destined for Japan. Photo: Chevron

management has made it clear a go-ahead later this year is not a foregone conclusion after several "surprises" from governments that affect the \$10 billion project.

The tight east coast gas market is understood to have been a key topic of discussion at a meeting in Sydney on Tuesday between Shell's global chief executive Ben van Beurden and Prime Minister Scott Morrison.

It is also expected to have been raised by federal Resources Minister Matthew Canavan in Perth late Wednesday, when he was to attend a dinner to celebrate the start-up of Shell's Prelude floating LNG plant.

<https://www.adelaidenow.com.au/business/sa-business-journal/santos-eyes-incentives-to-meet-green-power-goals/news-story/978982243546e14858d834ed9883b8f6>

Santos eyes incentives to meet green power goals

Valerina Changarathil, *Advertiser*, 18/07/2019

SA energy giant Santos wants more Federal and local government incentives for experimental renewable energy projects to cut its own emissions while continuing its push to increase LNG exports to Asia for global climate action.

"This year Santos is investing \$50 million in projects in the Cooper Basin to reduce our carbon footprint, including deployment of solar energy, waste heat recovery at Moomba and appraisal of the potential for carbon capture, utilisation and storage," Santos managing director and chief executive Kevin Gallagher said in a speech at the Australian Institute of Energy awards.

Of this, \$10 million is being invested to test the potential for carbon capture, utilisation and storage (CCUS) in the Cooper Basin and use carbon dioxide reinjection to enhance oil recovery.

"Proving up and deploying this technology is vital to achieving the world's long-term aspirations for zero emissions and I want Santos to be a leader in this endeavour.

"At the moment the technology does not qualify for generating Australian Carbon Credit Units and this is something that needs to change."

Australian governments need to follow the US' lead where CCUS technology is eligible for tax incentives, he said.

<https://thenewdaily.com.au/money/finance-news/2019/07/17/lng-industry-booming-no-royalties/>

The LNG industry is booming. So why are we not getting the royalties?

Mike Bruce, *New Daily*, 18/07/2019

Australia this week became the world's largest net exporter of liquified natural gas (LNG), overtaking the small Middle Eastern state of Qatar.

Australia's LNG production leapt 21 per cent in the past financial year to 75.1 million tonnes, according to data from energy advisory company EnergyQuest.

The Department of Industry, Innovation and Science also reported in March that Australia's LNG exports were forecast to increase from \$32 billion in 2017-18 to a peak of \$51 billion in 2019-20.

World champions in LNG: Great news for the economy, you might think, with those rivers of resource royalties flowing in to government coffers.

The reality, though, is vastly different.

In 2017-18, LNG companies in Australia had revenue totalling \$29.7 billion, yet paid just \$1.07 billion in royalties levied under the petroleum resource rent tax (PRRT).

In 2016-17, from revenue of \$22.7 billion, they paid only \$970 million in PRRT.

By comparison, Qatar, a close second behind Australia in production, received a staggering \$26 billion in royalties.

Bruce Robertson, an investment analyst with the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis (IEEFA), said the PRRT was essentially a bad joke that was robbing Australia of what it was entitled to – the dividend from its gas resources.

Robertson cited a report by consultants ACIL Allen which predicted the Ichthys LNG project (off the coast of north-west WA) will export a whopping \$195 billion of LNG, LPG and condensate out of Darwin over the next three decades, but would not pay a cent in royalties to the federal government – in its lifetime.

Jason Ward, the principal analyst with the Centre for International Corporate Tax Accountability, said the PRRT a “major national policy failure”.

And what was also galling was the fact that 87 per cent of new LNG projects in Australia were owned by foreign multinationals, such as Chevron, ExxonMobil and Shell.

“They [the LNG companies] are pumping out the world’s largest volumes of LNG and essentially paying nothing for it,” Ward said.

HYDROGEN HYPE

<https://www.theaustralian.com.au/business/mining-energy/hydrogen-plant-to-breathe-new-life-into-coal-industry/news-story/ce01e7e18211ea4deba585b60ee98e4f>

Hydrogen plant to breathe new life into coal industry

Nick Evans, Aus, 18/07/2019

Work has begun on a controversial new hydrogen plant on Victoria’s Mornington Peninsula, which proponents say could breathe new life into the Latrobe Valley’s coal industry and help launch a new export industry for Australia.

Resources Minister Matt Canavan will today break ground on the Hydrogen Energy Supply Chain liquefaction plant project at Port Hastings, part of a pilot project to turn brown coal into export quality hydrogen for Japan’s power stations.

The federal and state governments have each tipped \$50 million into the project, which could cost up to \$500m if fully realised.

Latrobe coal will be turned into hydrogen at AGL’s Loy Yang power station, before being pressurised and trucked to BlueScope’s port facilities at Hastings, and chilled to minus 253 degrees Celsius before being shipped to Japan.

According to the proponents the pilot plant will use 160 tonnes of brown coal from Loy Yang’s mine to create three tonnes of hydrogen, with about 100 tonnes of carbon dioxide emitted through the process.

Senator Canavan said the project, and the industry it could create if successful, could help extend the life of coal mines in the Latrobe Valley.

NUKE MADNESS

<https://reneweconomy.com.au/nuclear-lobby-identifies-preferred-sites-for-20-nukes-in-australia-19298/>

Nuclear lobby identifies preferred sites for 20 nukes in Australia

Giles Parkinson, Renew Economy, 15/07/2019

National Party luminaries such as Barnaby Joyce and NSW deputy premier John Barilaro must be tickled pink. The electorates of these outspoken pro-nuclear advocates have been

identified by the local nuclear lobby as some of the most prospective locations for their call to build 20 nukes in Australia’s main grid.

These areas include Joyce’s New England electorate, Barilaro’s state electorate of Monaro in southern NSW, and fellow booster Ken O’Dowd’s federal electorate of Flynn in central Queensland. Won’t their constituents be pleased!

Other towns and regions identified include the Latrobe Valley, the Gippsland region of Victoria, Albury, Whyalla and Port Augusta in South Australia, the mid-north coast of NSW, and a whole bunch of sites in south-east Queensland.

CLIMATE CRISIS

<https://medium.com/@agwalerts/it-wasnt-the-cows-after-all-c265d84e82f3>

It wasn’t the cows after all

Andrew Gunther, Medium.com, 15/06/2019

While the cattle industry is repeatedly accused of being the main culprit for increased global methane emissions (and a leading cause for climate change), a new study shows that the fertiliser industry is the root cause.

The production of ammonia for fertiliser may result in up to 100 times more emissions than previously estimated for this sector.

Researchers used a Google Street View car equipped with a high-precision methane sensor to measure the emissions of six fertiliser plants for this study. They drove the car on public



New research shows the gas-based fertiliser industry is a primary driver of agricultural emissions, rather than the cows themselves.

roads, downwind from the facilities to record the methane levels in the air. The study reveals an enormous disparity between EPA estimates and actual emissions levels.

The fertiliser industry uses natural gas both as the fuel for its operations and as one of the main ingredients for ammonia and urea products (aka the world's most commonly used nitrogen fertilisers).

FOSSIL POLITICS

<https://www.afr.com/business/energy/state-renewable-targets-put-pressure-on-coal-power-20190712-p526mi>

State renewable targets put pressure on coal power

Mark Ludlow & Angela Macdonald-Smith, AFR, 12/07/2019

The Labor governments of Victoria and Queensland have vowed to continue with their ambitious renewable energy targets, despite their potential to squeeze coal-fired generation out of the market sooner than expected.

Victoria and Queensland's 50 per cent renewables targets by 2030 could force some coal-fired power stations, including EnergyAustralia's Yallourn brown coal plant, to close early, risking large-scale blackouts.

NSW and Liberal state governments have also approached Mr Taylor to work constructively with all states and territories to deal with high power prices.

<https://www.smh.com.au/environment/climate-change/lower-house-inquiry-to-set-responsible-road-map-out-of-coal-for-nsw-20190716-p527mo.html>

Lower house inquiry to set 'responsible road map' out of coal for NSW

Peter Hannam, SMH, 17/07/2019

Plotting NSW's transition away from coal will be the subject of a parliamentary inquiry, including how the state can make the most of renewable energy supplies.

Submissions for the lower house's committee of environment and planning inquiry are open from Wednesday until September 15, with an aim to sidestep the "ideological debate" over the fossil fuels and climate change, said Alex Greenwich, independent MP and committee chair.

The terms of reference of the inquiry into the sustainability and energy supply and resources in NSW, include the economic opportunities of renewables, emerging trends in supply and exports, and the role government policies can play to support communities affected by changing markets.

"It allows us to plot a responsible road map for renewables in NSW," Mr Greenwich told the Herald. The inquiry will seek to avoid "pitting coal communities against climate change activists".

<https://www.theaustralian.com.au/business/mining-energy/shell-boss-presses-pm-for-carbon-action/news-story/4f19a33f7ce89e4132b39c0b691355d1>

Shell boss presses PM for carbon action

Perry Williams, Aus, 17/07/2019

Shell chief executive Ben van Beurden has called on Scott Morrison to work with his company on a carbon scheme targeting Australia's growing LNG emissions, as it weighs a decision on the long-stalled \$US20.5 billion (\$29bn) Browse gas project.

Ahead of a meeting with the Prime Minister in Sydney yesterday, the Shell boss warned that both Australia's and the broader global response to climate change was inadequate and could lead to warming of up to four degrees rather than hitting the two degree Paris agreement target.

<https://www.theaustralian.com.au/commentary/its-time-to-apply-pressure-on-gasworking-big-boys/news-story/cdb975ed139671b70bb10fd900048f6d>

It's time to apply pressure on gasworking big boys

Cory Bernardi, Aus, 19/07/2019

The Australian gives climate crisis ignoramus Cory Bernardi a platform to say, "We can hardly expect government always to protect us from bad decisions when it makes so many poor ones. Our electricity system is a case in point; we've wasted billions of dollars in a futile attempt to stop climate change through expensive and unreliable renewables. The result has been the enrichment of rent-seekers at our expense. It's no coincidence some of the biggest cheerleaders in the renewable energy space have made hundreds of millions in the process of selling us out. ...

"If we want more affordable gas and cheaper, more predictable electricity generation then we need to increase the gas supply. This is also the view of the Australian Competition & Consumer Commission. If we want to receive billions of dollars in royalties and unleash resource-driven jobs and prosperity, we need to force the development of the Bowen Basin gas resource."

• Cory Bernardi is a senator for South Australia.





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