



Fossil Fool Bulletin

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

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

FFB 1:32 • 10 JULY 2018

Sea Shepherd launches Operation Reef Defence to help stop Adani

This July and August, Sea Shepherd's flagship the M/Y Steve Irwin, will travel the east coast of Australia to Abbot Point, to oppose the Adani Carmichael coal mine, rail link and coal port.

"Our position will be made clear – Australia will not trade the Great Barrier Reef with one of the world's biggest and most destructive coalmines," Sea Shepherd said.

Why Stop Adani?

- Climate change threatens not only our oceans but our very way of life.
- Adani expects to produce 2.3 billion tonnes of coal over 60 years, mainly for export to India, whilst pumping 4.7 billion tonnes of planet warming greenhouse gas emissions into the atmosphere.
- Mining, burning and exporting coal is the key contribution Australia makes to this global crisis.
- Australia is the largest exporter of coal in the world. We literally export climate change to the world.
- If it goes ahead, Adani's mine would be Australia's biggest ever coal mine and one of the largest in the world.

The Great Barrier Reef

Australia's much-loved natural icon, the Great Barrier Reef, is home to thousands of reefs, hundreds of islands and over 600 types of corals, colourful fish, molluscs, starfish, plus endangered turtles, dolphins, whales and sharks.



*Sea Shepherd have Adani in their sights with Operation Reef Defence.
Photo: Massimo Bonadei / Sea Shepherd*

But the reef is under serious threat.

Development of the proposed Carmichael Adani coal mine, rail link and coal port would require a massive dredging program – right through the heart of the reef – and bring an extra 500 coal ships through the Great Barrier Reef each year. Burning the coal, no matter where in the world, will worsen climate change which is already causing the reef to bleach and die.

- Unprecedented bleaching events on the Great Barrier Reef in 2016 and 2017 resulted in mass coral mortality. 30% of the coral is now dead, thanks to climate change, which coal is largely responsible for.

- By 2034, the extreme ocean temperatures that led to the 2016 and 2017 bleaching events may occur every two years.

- The return period for global bleaching events has decreased from 27 years in the 1980s to only 5.9 years now.

Adani's new coal will only exacerbate these impacts, signing the death certificate for our Great Barrier Reef.

The M/Y *Steve Irwin* sail in to Circular Quay to launch Operation Reef Defence.

Operation Reef Defence Dates:

Ports of Call:

Sydney 20-22 July
Brisbane 29-30 July

Ship at Anchor:

Coffs Harbour 24 July • Byron Bay 27 July • Gold Coast 28 July • Noosa 31 July • Yeppoon 4 August • Mackay 5 August • Abbot Point 8 August

• P 2: Nannas call for climate action

• P 3: Audit Office says EPA failing on water

• P 5: Residents want to stop Mt Pleasant Mine

Knitting Nannas call for real action on climate change



Climate change is having a bad impact on farmers, with droughts becoming more frequent and more severe.

The Knitting Nannas say REAL ACTION IS NEEDED – R.A.I.N – to support farmers now struggling to cope with the current drought.

On July 5 Knitting Nanna loops in Lismore, Grafton, Gloucester, Dubbo, Sydney and Adelaide called for R.A.I.N with knit ins outside their MPs offices to raise awareness on the need for real action on climate change to help drought affected farmers.

The Knitting Nannas delivered a letter to MPs from farmer and Knitting Nanna, Georgina Ramsay, calling for action.

“As a farmer I have faced drought a few times in the 30 years I have been farming with my husband,” says Nanna George.

“Drought sucks the life out of you, it’s a constant ‘learn’ you live with that has no positives, just negatives. It affects every part of your life, from your health and mental health to the way, as a family, you deal with each other. The Black Dog looms up on you and gradually eats you away bit by bit.”

“Farmers are already having to sell off breeding cattle over vast areas of the country. Climate change causes more frequent droughts – farmers and rural communities can’t be expected to cope with inadequate drought support.

“Farmers employ staff on their farms,

contractors, mechanics to name a few. When drought hits and the farmers’ belts have to be tightened they stop buying and hiring,” says Nanna George.

“As the people of NSW, we need to have thoughts for our country farmers. We need to think of innovative ways we can help these communities through these hard times. Real Action Is Needed.”

The Knitting Nannas urge government to take a lead on climate change, with no new coal or gas developments and an orderly transition to renewable, to limit the damage to our food security on a warming planet.

They handed out flyers to the public and encourage people to donate to Buy a Bale: <https://www.buyabale.com.au/>



Queensland Sadies say ‘clean up mining rehabilitation bill’



The Queensland Sadies issued MPs with clean-up notices last week, after massive loopholes were exposed in a new mine rehabilitation bill.

Before the last election, Queensland Labor promised they would ensure that ‘all land disturbed by mining activities is rehabilitated’.

“But then they introduced a new Bill into Parliament which will allow mining giants to continue to leave vast, unfilled pit voids and waste dumps,” the Sadies said.

Exemptions buried deep in the draft legislation mean that all mines with existing approvals will be exempt from the most important parts of the bill.

“That means mines like Adani will get a free pass to leave six massive holes in the ground. It’s time for Queenslanders to step in with some clean-up action!”

EPA failing to protect drinking water, says Audit Office

The NSW Audit Office says the EPA has not established reliable practices to accurately and consistently detect non-compliances by licence holders, and apply consistent regulatory responses.

The EPA also could not demonstrate it has effective governance and oversight of its regulatory operations in an environment where its regional offices have broad discretion in how they operate.

“These deficiencies mean that the EPA cannot be confident that it conducts compliance and enforcement activities consistently across the State and that licence holders are complying with their licence conditions,” said Auditor-General for New South Wales, Margaret Crawford.

Report calls for EPA review

The report further recommends the EPA review the impact of its licensed activities on water quality in Lake Burragorang and develop strategies relating to its licensed activities (in consultation with other relevant NSW Government agencies) to improve and maintain the lake’s water quality.

Lock the Gate Alliance says the Audit Office investigation into the regulation of pollution in drinking water catchments exposes the appalling consequences of the NSW Government decision last year to change the law to allow pollution by coal mines to continue.

After a successful court case brought by community group 4Nature against the discharge of polluted water from the Springvale coal mine into the catchment of the Warragamba Dam, the NSW Government last year changed the law to allow the pollution to continue unchecked.

This Audit Office report released last



Lake Burragorang is becoming increasingly saline because nearby mines are allowed to discharge water laden with salts and heavy metals into Sydney’s drinking water catchment. Photo: Wikipedia

week reveals that the NSW Government has failed to investigate the cause of worsening salinity in Lake Burragorang, despite a recommendation twelve months ago that it needed to be done.

In contrast, the NSW Government acted very quickly to protect mining industry interests, despite a successful court case against them polluting the catchment.

Lock the Gate Alliance spokesperson Georgina Woods said, “The people of New South Wales are seeing their water polluted while mining companies lean on Governments to wind back environmental protections.

Govt protecting industry, not water

“Springvale coal mine has been discharging polluted water into tributaries of Warragamba Dam for years, and when a community group stepped in to stop it, the NSW Government moved

to protect the mining industry, not the catchment.

“The polluted water comes from the coal seams that are targeted for mining, and it is highly saline and contains heavy metals.

“Now the NSW Government is considering new and highly damaging coal mine expansion projects at Russell Vale, the Southern Highlands and Dendrobium.

“It’s time for all of this to stop. The EPA and the Government must order Springvale mine to stop discharging pollution into the Cocks River and the Government must impose a moratorium on any further coal mining in the catchment area.

“Allowing coal mines to pollute our catchment is doing real damage to Sydney’s drinking water. It’s time to choose clean safe drinking water.”

FFB

Acclaimed movie now online:
<https://www.thebentleyeffect.com/>

Shallow Thought, Deep Mind:
What you need to succeed, thrive and make the world better

www.drwaynesomerville.com
 \$24.99 inc. postage.
 E-book version on Amazon.

Fiona Wilson fundraiser

Gas industry whistleblower Fiona Wilson is still battling her incarceration and forced medication by Queensland’s Fixated Persons Unit.

Fiona’s story was told in FFB1.2 and FFB1.13.

She needs to fund \$30,000 in legal costs.

If you can help, click the link below:
<https://www.gofundme.com/barrister-needed-for-fiona-wilson>

NANNA FELICITY'S
**GAS
REPORT**



Corrupt governments wipe out our natural resources

In the world of the Knitting Nannas life seems to get busier, both collectively and individually.

The government becomes more corrupt, because people don't seem to give a s**t that money is being taken from the poor to give the rich, and that the governing bodies of Australia seem determined to wipe out many natural resources.

Until people (or is it sheeple?) stand up against the government, we will get a country that has either been sold off to China, sucked dry by mining companies, or in permanent drought.

Last week the Forestry industry was given open slather to clear fell whatever forests they like, to get the few remaining trees that are of any use. The rules have been removed, and replaced by 'guidelines' – anyone watch the Pirates of the Caribbean movies? Remember the Pirates Code? Well ... just guidelines, really!

Forestry can do an EIS (environmental impact study) if they feel like it, and as long as they leave a corridor of bush here and there for the wildlife to 'take refuge' in, they can wipe out as many endangered species as they like.

Do you wish to have forests for your children / grandchildren to see beautiful trees of many species, and the birds and wild life that live in them? Or would you rather take them to featureless miles of ruined land burnt dry by lack of rain, and no life visible?

Did you know that trees are part of the rain-making system? Deserts don't have trees – that's why they are deserts! Trees clean the air. Time to stand up and tell your government to reverse the laws made in the early hours of the morning (when they sneak through laws that their constituents don't want).

Going on to a related topic: the drought that has been quietly carrying on out west is beginning to be felt in our own back yards. Those with stock are finding it increasingly hard to find hay, let alone buy it. The Nannas have become aware of a website that is taking donations for the drought-stricken farmers:

<https://www.buyabale.com.au/>



Nannas Felicity, Margaret and Louise with a couple of lovely Queensland police officers at a Brisbane knit-in. Photo: Knitting Nannas Brisbane, Facebook

We had a R.A.I.N. day on July 5, Nannas all over the state, and the Adelaide Nanna, Pinkie, said Real Action Is Needed to help our farmers – now! We presented our MPs with letters that outline what needs to be done to protect our future, and bring relief to our food-producers.

Last week a few of us Lismore Nannas headed north again to remind Santos in Brisbane that we can't afford to let them wreak havoc in the Pilliga. All so a few greedy people can get rich, while everyone else loses the Great Artesian Basin and a unique forest and all its flora and fauna, and its capacity as the lungs of NSW.

We are becoming known at Santos in Turbot St, and quite a few people now say hello as they go by, and a few stop to chat. We go again later in July.

We must be very successful in our protesting / protecting Country: in another dirty deal, the government has passed laws that can make it illegal for the public to gather on public land, (except as for in "a cemetery for the purpose of burial or commemoration").

This means that your peacefully protecting Nannas can be arrested!

Heavy fines, or jail time! Imagine your Nannas thrown into jail for trying to protect the country! But don't worry, we already have promises of lots of nice cakes with files and knitting needles in them.

Seriously though, when a government passes laws against people legitimately protesting about what that government is doing to ruin the country, there is something pretty dirty going on in the house of parliament (it doesn't deserve capital letters!).

We will no doubt be discussing developments at our 4th Knitting Nannas Against Gas Conference at Newcastle in September, after we have spent time at the Gunnedah AgQuip in August.

In the meantime, we are putting our collected funds into helping out others who put themselves on the line, and the Environmental Defenders office, who try their best to defend the environment against the predations of a government determined to destroy it!

It's time to wake up! A handful of Nannas and other Protectors are not enough to stand up for our country.

Your country needs you!

Residents want new mine stopped

Inside the news

Climate wars continue within the Coalition Government. **Tony Abbott** has called for Australia to emulate **Trump** and withdraw from the **Paris Agreement**, in which many countries pledged to reduce carbon emissions to limit global warming to less than 2°C.

Abbott is a **climate denier**, but is primarily motivated by his ambition to **destroy** Malcolm Turnbull as Prime Minister. Abbott considers the sacrifice of the world as we know it to be mere collateral damage in his **personal revenge trip** (p11).

The Murdoch press splashed the climate wars all over its pages. NewsCorp is miffed that the **National Farmers Federation** is calling for the Coalition to settle its differences and get on with sensible energy planning to limit climate change. A Murdoch columnist denigrated NFF president Fiona Simson, warning her to **'stick to her knitting'** and **keep out of bed with the greens**. Or we might all end up vegan, the columnist raged (p9).

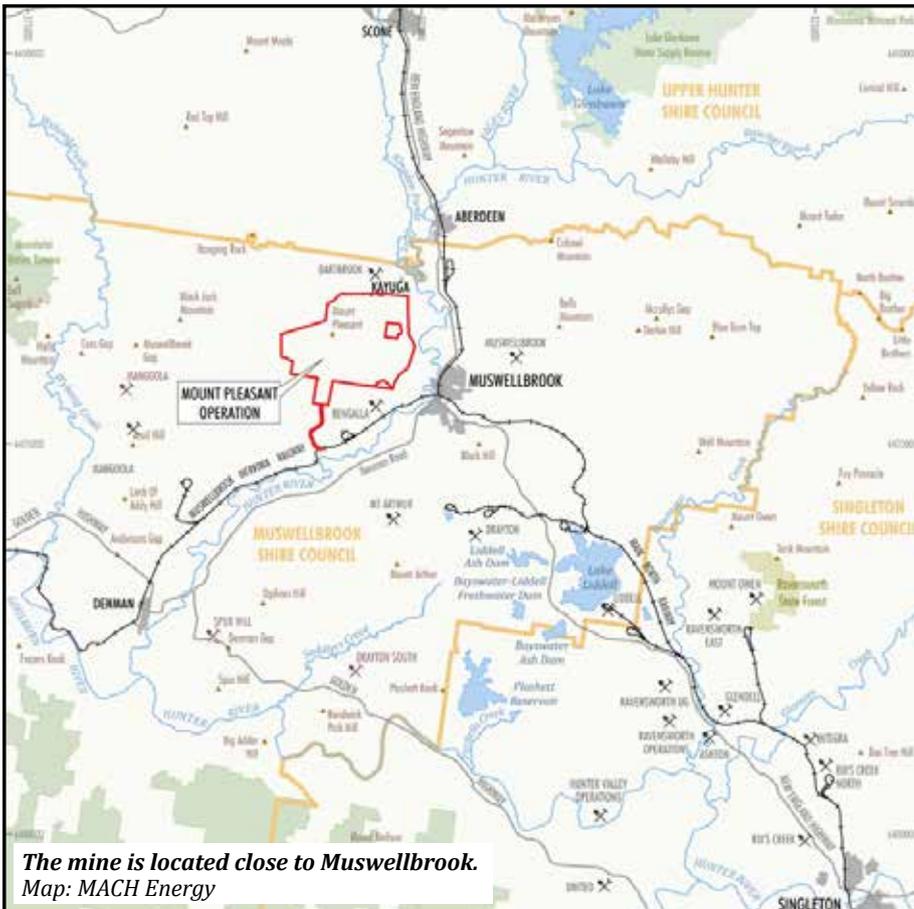
The **CSG waste trail** was scrutinised by Johanna Evans in *Independent Australia* (p8), a story well worth clicking to read.

The *West Australian* continued a sponsored series of stories from **Strike Energy**, puffing up its new, extreme fracking technology (p8). The series obviously aims to attract investors and raise the company's **share price**.

Matt Canavan spruiked the coal industry's growth potential in the *Courier-Mail*, but *The Guardian* pointed out his forecast contradicted a report from his own department (p11-12).

Canavan claims coal prices now justify digging up the entire **Galilee Basin**, creating **16,000 jobs** – no doubt based on the same **discredited economic modelling** that has Adani claiming it will create 10,000 jobs when the real figure is around 1,600.

Meanwhile, activists continued to campaign against **Adani** with mythical sea creatures – Ursula the Sea Witch and Triton, Queen of the Oceans, making an appearance (p6).



The mine is located close to Muswellbrook.
Map: MACH Energy

People living near a new open-cut mine upwind of Muswellbrook say it will worsen air quality, and that health and environmental impacts have been ignored.

Critics of the proposal to extend the life of the new Mount Pleasant open-cut coal mine on the outskirts of Muswellbrook say concerns about the cumulative health and environmental impact of the mine with other large open cuts in the area have been ignored. They are calling on the Independent Planning Commission to demonstrate its independence by refusing to approve the extension.

The Independent Planning Commission held a public meeting in Muswellbrook last week to hear views about a proposal to extend the life of the project beyond 2020. The mine was approved in 1999 but has only recently begun construction. It's approval to mine cuts out in 2020, so a modification is needed for it to proceed.

Around 20 people addressed the meeting, including Steve Phillips of Lock the Gate Alliance and Wendy Wales of Denman Aberdeen Muswellbrook Scone Healthy Environment Group.

Ms Wales said, "A large new open

cut mine is anything but 'pleasant.' Air quality is terrible in and around Muswellbrook and this mine upwind of the prevailing nor-west winds is going to make it a lot worse.

"Mount Pleasant is a significant change for us. We have not had any mines north-west of town until now and that is why we haven't had the extremes and dust alerts that Camberwell and north west Singleton have had.

"It doesn't feel as if the NSW Government cares at all about air pollution and its effect on us, so we are appealing to the Planning Commission to demonstrate its independence and refuse to approve this modification."

Muswellbrook blanketed in dust

Steve Phillips said, "When this mine was approved 20 years ago, there was far less mining activity in close proximity to town. Now it is being surrounded by open cut mines. Every time the wind blows, this mine will blanket Muswellbrook in dust.

"If this mine proceeds, and the expansion of Bengalla, then the area immediately to the west and south of Muswellbrook is going to be a long string of open cut pits."

In the news this week:

This week Fossil Fool Bulletin has summarised 24,600 words of news for your convenience. [Click on the links to view original articles.](#) (Subscriptions may be required)

THE ADANI SAGA

<https://www.heraldsun.com.au/news/national/wacky-anti-adani-townsville-protest-against-toowoomba-company-wagners-features-mermaid/news-story/aaeb2417bb9c-b23ab6570ee9b03bca3>

Wacky anti Adani Townsville protest against Toowoomba company Wagners features 'mermaid'

Andrew Backhouse, *Townsville Bulletin*, 03/07/2018

They've bared their bums, climbed trees and tied themselves to dangerous machinery. But the latest stunt by anti-Adani protesters is more wacky than ever.

A protest outside the Townsville warehouse of Toowoomba-based business Wagners has featured mermaids described by protest group Front Line Action on Coal as "two mythical marine raising tripods".

The group said Wagners had been targeted by anti-coal activists because of the company's agreement to build a fly-in, fly-out airport for the controversial Adani Carmichael coal project. Tripods were erected at both entrances to the Wagners facility at Brookhouse St, Stuart.

Frontline said the trips were occupied by "Ursula the sea witch and Triton, queen of the oceans" in an apparent reference to the story, *The Little Mermaid*. ...

A Queensland Police Service spokesman said one person had been arrested after the protest. ...

Police were also moving to take action against a woman who was live-streaming the protest on social media due to concerns that would encourage further actions. ...

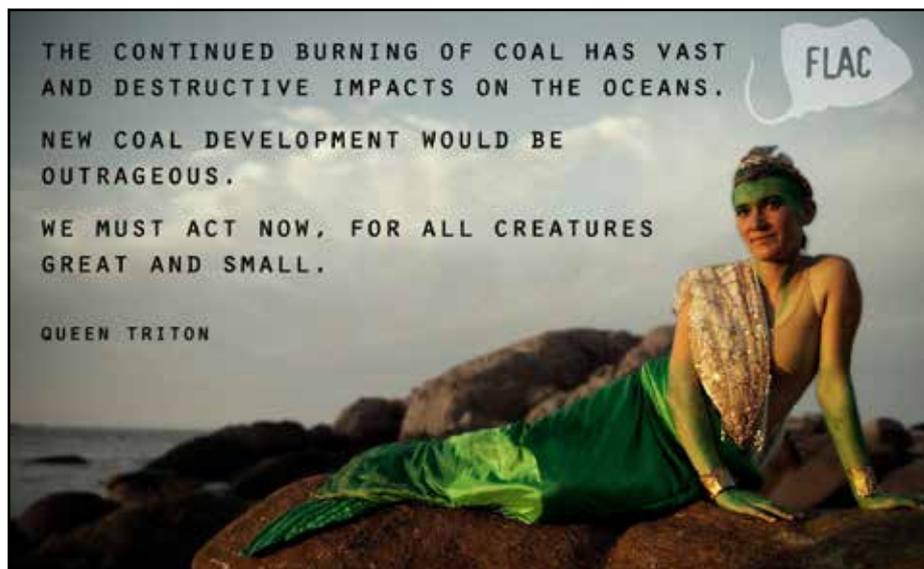
<https://www.townsvillebulletin.com.au/business/in-a-restructuring-exercise-adani-has-sold-its-abbot-point-coal-terminal-debt-to-korean-company-mirae-asset-daewoo/news-story/b203e11af6c26743f33c5cb97169d5d1>

In a restructuring exercise Adani has sold its Abbot Point coal terminal debt to Korean company Mirae Asset Daewoo

John McCarthy, *Courier-Mail*, 03/07/2018

Adani has restructured the debt on the Abbot Point coal terminal in north Queensland.

Korean media have reported that Mirae Asset Daewoo Co bought the entire \$330 million senior debt.



Adani bought the port in 2011 for about \$2 billion and it was recently assessed at \$2.3 billion, according to the Korean reports. ...

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2018/jul/05/adani-coal-port-faces-possible-stop-order-after-traditional-owners-object>

Adani coal port faces possible 'stop order' after traditional owners object

Ben Smee, *The Guardian*, 05/07/2018

Adani is facing the prospect of being ordered to cease work in the vicinity of its Abbot Point coal terminal and planned rail corridor, after Juru traditional owners applied for a "stop order" to protect sacred sites. ...

Juru Enterprises claims cultural heritage surveys conducted for Adani by another group, the embattled Kyburra Munda Yalga Aboriginal Corporation, are "unauthorised". Some traditional owners have concerns those surveys did not properly identify and protect Juru sacred sites.

Traditional owner Andrew Morrell has previously told Guardian Australia that Adani's "terminal zero" expansion will be built with just a five-metre buffer to a traditional burial ground. Morrell says the proposed rail route runs through Juru ochre grounds and restricts access to nearby rock art sites. ...

Adani on Tuesday reportedly secured a debt agreement for Abbot Point, the coal port it bought for \$2bn in 2011. Korean investor Mirae Asset Daewoo

reportedly bought the company's \$330m debt on the terminal.

Abbot Point has capacity to export 50m tonnes of coal a year, but is currently operating at just over half that. Adani has approval to expand to 120m tonnes a year. That plan involves dredging Abbot Point, near the Great Barrier Reef, and dumping dredge spoil onshore.

<https://www.echo.net.au/2018/07/locals-unite-adani/>

Locals unite against Adani

Echonet Daily, 04/07/2018

Protesters gathered in Byron on Saturday as part of the National Day of Action organised by Frontline Action on Coal (FLAC). There were 25 other actions taking place around Australia as people once again made a stand against opening up future coal mines.

Anandan Mcewen from FLAC said: "We need to keep up the pressure on the government and especially support the frontlines right now to physically blockade and halt construction of the Adani mega coal mine to save our climate, the Great Barrier Reef, and our children's futures. ..."

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

COAL ROCKS ON

<https://www.theherald.com.au/story/5470343/dust-is-killing-us-slowly-calls-for-temporary-mine-shutdowns/>

Muswellbrook councillor joins calls for temporary mine shutdowns to ease air pollution

Joanne McCarthy, Newcastle Herald, 02/07/2018

There are calls for Upper Hunter coal mines to be temporarily shut down when air quality is hazardous to human health after a NSW Government review found Muswellbrook has some of the worst air pollution figures in the state.

Muswellbrook Shire Council, long-term resident and councillor Graeme McNeill and Upper Hunter Air Quality Monitoring Network committee member John Krey have challenged the Department of Planning and Environment Protection Authority to act after regular and worrying pollution exceedances in 2017, backed by a five-year review of government data showing high levels of industry and domestic air pollution.

“The dust is killing us slowly. It’s driving good people out of town and it’s all people are talking about - the health of their kids,” said Mr McNeill, who led fellow councillors during what he described as a “fiery meeting” with government representatives early this year after the council laid out its concerns to the Department of Planning in a letter in October. ...

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-07-04/wollar-mine-expansion-pits-locals-against-american-mining-giant/9934502>

Wollar mine expansion pits locals against American giant Peabody

Chris Urquhart, ABC, 04/07/2018

A tiny village in the central-west of New South Wales has become the unlikely site of a David-and-Goliath battle.

The expansion the Wilpinjong mine, owned by American coal-mining giant Peabody, has seen the little town of Wollar all but wiped out — but one man, Col Faulkner, is holding out and says he’s staying for the long haul.

“They’ve been coming around trying to buy me out ever since the mine started,” he told 7.30.

“But I always told them, ‘not for sale’. ...

The mine was scheduled to close in 2027, but the latest extension approval means it will now get bigger and operate longer.



Peabody has bought all but four properties in the village of Wollar – but one man won't sell. Photo: Lock the Gate

To pave the way for the expansion, the mining company has, in recent years, set about buying up huge tracts of land in the region, including homes in Wollar.

Now it owns all but four properties in the village. ...

<https://www.couriermail.com.au/business/booming-coal-prices-have-failed-to-lure-explorers-back-to-queensland/news-story/0cfff433aaba716c66a8bf99c9e520b4>

Booming coal prices have failed to lure explorers back to Queensland

John McCarthy, Courier-Mail, 04/07/2018

Booming coal prices have failed to lure explorers back to Queensland, according to the State Government.

The Government’s mining journal said record and near record coal prices had been reached over most of past the year, but coal exploration expenditure in Queensland remained “fairly subdued” at only \$99 million for the 12 months to March. ...

<https://www.theherald.com.au/story/5501159/regulator-drops-mining-company-prosecution-over-secret-5-million-fund/?cs=305>

Resources Regulator will not prosecute a mining company over an unpaid secret \$5 million Hunter community fund

Joanne McCarthy, Newcastle Herald, 03/07/2018

The Resources Regulator will not prosecute a mining company over an unpaid secret \$5 million Hunter community fund after an investigation revealed significant NSW Government agency failures, including that government representatives knew the fund

wasn’t paid for more than four years.

The regulator accepted an enforceable undertaking from Hong Kong-backed Ridglands Resources on June 22 in lieu of prosecution after acknowledging the company provided information to the Department of Planning “from which the status of the fund could be clearly discerned”, after the contract was signed in February, 2013. ...

GAS, GAS, GAS

<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2018/jul/03/exxonmobil-spent-10m-fighting-australian-tax-office>

ExxonMobil spent \$10m fighting Australian Tax Office

Christopher Knaus, The Guardian, 03/07/2018

Multinational oil giant Exxon Mobil has spent \$10m fighting Australian tax authorities, including in disputes against the petroleum resources rent tax.

ExxonMobil has faced persistent allegations over its tax affairs in Australia. The company has not paid corporate tax since 2013 and does not expect to do so until 2021.

ExxonMobil says it is caught in a set of unique circumstances – caused by a large expenditure on capital investment and falling prices – which have left it without a taxable income.

But a recent report by the Tax Justice Network exposed the links between the company’s Australian operations and tax havens in the Bahamas and the Netherlands. ...

<https://www.theaustralian.com.au/business/mining-energy/oil-price-surge-tipped-to-drive-81bn-lng-windfall/news-story/b4d89bc9f2119c0524f4d0821c16ce6a>

Oil price surge tipped to drive \$8.1bn LNG windfall

Matt Chambers, The Australian, 03/07/2018

Rebounding global oil prices are set to deliver an \$8.1 billion windfall to export revenue over the next two years, as the nation's expanding LNG sector gets a double benefit from rising output and higher prices, helping boost export revenues to a record \$238bn this financial year, the federal government's commodity forecaster says. ...

The export boost is good news for liquefied natural gas exporters Santos, Origin Energy, Shell and Chevron on the east and west coasts.

And it will provide more company tax and Petroleum Resource Rent Tax to the federal government, although this will be limited by big deductions for the LNG exporters after the construction binge over the past decade that is boosting volumes. ...

<https://www.couriermail.com.au/business/office-of-chief-economist-predicts-boom-times-for-lng/news-story/016d50f8ccec8a69ded0178a270c4a0d6>

Office of Chief Economist predicts boom times for LNG

John McCarthy, The Courier-Mail, 02/07/2018

LNG has become the forgotten boom and is expected to overtake metallurgical coal in export income this financial year.

A report from the Office of the Chief Economist said the value of Australia's LNG exports would increase from \$30.8 billion in 2017-18 to \$42.4 billion in 2019-20, driven by higher volumes and higher prices.

"LNG is forecast to overtake metallurgical coal as Australia's second highest resource export by value in 2018-19," it said. ...

The report pointed out that although income from resources was booming it was largely attributed to a decline in the Australian dollar.

<https://thewest.com.au/business/public-companies/strike-gas-theory-checking-out-in-south-australia-ng-b88884591z>

Strike gas theory checking out in South Australia

Matt Birney, West Australian, 02/07/2018 (SPONSORED)

Strike Energy is confident that its innovative hydraulic stimulation of the potentially ground breaking Jaws-1 coal seam gas well has achieved every-



Strike Energy's Cooper Basin operation. The West Australian has run a series of sponsored stories talking up the company's trial of new, extreme fracking technology.

Photo: Strike

thing needed for the well to become "a major productive area" and the company is now on a determined pathway towards booking a gas reserve at the South Australian project.

In an update to the ASX, the emerging east coast gas producer provided the results of detailed technical work undertaken since last month's completion of Jaws-1 at the company's 66.67%-owned Southern Cooper Basin Project.

The deep, horizontal well is designed to develop gas flows from what would be Australia's deepest commercial coal seam gas deposit. If successful, Strike could potentially unlock a massive 11 TCF of gas from the wider Southern Cooper Basin project. Gas flows of this magnitude would be a genuine game changer in the energy-starved east coast market. ...

<https://independentaustralia.net/environment/environment-display/csg-waste-trail-where-has-all-the-contaminated-fracking-filth-gone.11659>

CSG waste trail: Where has all the contaminated fracking filth gone?

Johanna Evans, Independent Australia, 04/07/2018

What happens to the enormous volumes of waste generated from the mining and refining of coal seam gas (CSG) extraction?

Modelling suggests the industry could produce 31 million tonnes of waste salt over the next 30 years but no one really knows. ...

In Queensland, a large proportion of the waste generated by CSG activity is hazardous, contaminated waste and was, prior to 2013, classified as regulated waste. In 2013, the Newman Government changed the definition of regulated waste, effectively letting the CSG companies off the accountability hook. This has dished up a toxic untraceable legacy for Queensland that is being distributed throughout the community via "beneficial reuse" amendments to the legislation— "socialising"

the cost of waste disposal and basically disguising the waste trail. ...

• *Johanna Evans is a graphic designer and member of North West Protection Advocacy, which campaigns for a CSG free NSW.*

FOSSIL POLITICS

<https://www.smh.com.au/national/the-real-question-on-subsidies-is-what-do-we-want-less-of-20180629-p4zoma.html?csp=95742713bb229475f9846b43823be772>

The real question on subsidies is, what do we want less of?

By Richard Denniss, SMH, 30/06/2018

One thing that unites the Australian Parliament is that subsidies are a great idea. Whether it's the Liberals' enthusiasm for subsidising weapons exports, the Nationals' love of subsidising coal mines, Labor's love of subsidising manufacturing or the Greens passion for subsidising renewables ...

The best thing about subsidising new products that the community wants more of is when you fund them by scrapping existing subsidies for things we want less of. That is, in Australia today we spend billions of dollars per year on subsidies to coal mines and subsidies for diesel fuel use which, quite literally, encourage increased pollution. In short, Australian taxpayers pay to do themselves harm.

If, however, we redistributed those subsidies away from mature industries that cause us harm towards infant industries that do us good, then we simply cannot lose. ...

• *Richard Denniss is the Chief Economist for The Australia Institute*

https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2018/jun/30/weve-turned-a-corner-farmers-shift-on-climate-change-and-want-a-say-on-energy?CMP=share_btn_fb

'We've turned a corner': farmers shift on climate change and want a say on energy

Katharine Murphy, The Guardian, 30/06/2018

Out in the bush, far from the ritualised political jousting in Canberra, attitudes are changing. Regional Australia has

turned the corner when it comes to acknowledging the reality of climate change, says the woman now charged with safeguarding the interests of farmers in Canberra.

Fiona Simson, a mixed farmer and grazier from the Liverpool plains in northern New South Wales, and the president of the National Farmers' Federation, says people on the land can't and won't ignore what is right before their eyes. "We have been experiencing some wild climate variability," Simson tells Guardian Australia's politics podcast. "It's in people's face" ...

She says it's time to see the climate change-driven transition under way in the energy market as opportunity, rather than something to resist. "I think farm representation and farmers generally have come quite a long way in their attitude to climate, and climate change and climate variability and dealing with all of these things, and accepting some of the facts behind the science." ...

<https://www.theaustralian.com.au/opinion/columnists/judith-sloan/youre-fashionable-fiona-but-get-a-grip-on-the-facts/news-story/8addda430aaad6ec4eb7379159182179>

You're fashionable Fiona, but get a grip on the facts

Judith Sloan, *The Australian*, 04/07/2018

The National Farmers Federation, represented by Fiona Simson, who came to Canberra to offer up her organisation's support for the NEG. ...

My advice to the NFF and Simson is to stick to your knitting. Getting into bed with climate change enthusiasts is a quick route to the introduction of a raft of new policies that will damage the farming community.

Most farmers are hard-nosed characters who will adapt to changing weather patterns as they always have. It's time the NFF began to stand up for the farmers rather than take fashionable positions on topics that are poorly understood by its leadership. The NEG is the prime example.

<https://www.echo.net.au/2018/07/echo-editorial/>

Echo editorial: Nats fail farmers

Aslan Shand, *Byron Echo*, 04/07/2018

On November 30, 1987 – thirty years ago – Monash University hosted the inaugural Greenhouse conference that was to start planning a response to the global warming that scientists had been warning of since at least the 60s. Yet it is only in recent weeks that the National Farmers Federation (NFF) has turned a corner on climate change.

The NFF president Fiona Simpson was reported in *The Guardian* on Saturday saying that 'people on the land can't and won't ignore what is right before their eyes. "We have been experiencing some wild climate variability... It's in people's face" ...

By systematically ignoring climate-change science the Nationals could not have done regional Australia a greater disservice. Farmers and graziers are and will continue to be on the front line of climate change. ...

The Nationals should be greener than The Greens. ...

They had the opportunity and influence to bring genuine, considered and influential voices to the debate from the beginning. If they had, Australia could have been at the forefront of preparations for climate change. This was an opportunity squandered.

They should have led the debate. They could have inspired a generation.

<https://www.couriermail.com.au/news/opinion/editorial-strong-coal-market-means-full-development-of-the-galilee-basin-and-lots-of-jobs/news-story/d0f17d9dbd00f85c0e0e45c8906bf148>

Editorial: Strong coal market means full development of the Galilee Basin and lots of jobs

The Editor, *Courier-Mail*, 02/07/2018

Former US senator and ambassador to India and the United Nations Daniel Patrick Moynihan was a man of pithy wisdom. He liked to say that "everyone is entitled to his own opinions but not his own facts", an unchallengeable re-

buke to those who use falsehoods and fabrications to build cases for political purposes.

This is most frequently seen in the arguments put forward to make many environmental cases – particularly those which set out to demonise an energy source or damn a development proposal.

In Queensland, this has been central to the campaign against coal as a source of energy. Environmental radicals sit in their West End homes with heating and airconditioning, driving petrol-guzzling cars and generally living in a way that consumes plenty of energy, most of it coming from fossil fuel sources, particularly coal.

They have used their inner-city comfort to throw rhetorical rocks at job-producing projects such as the Carmichael megamine being developed by the Adani conglomerate. ...

Australia's Resources Minister, Queenslander Matt Canavan, is right when he says coal is regaining its title as the king of this country's exports. ...

Critically, a strong international market for our coal means the Adani project will be on a more sound economic footing and the Galilee Basin can be opened up fully to development and production – generating something like 16,000 direct jobs.

<https://www.couriermail.com.au/news/queensland/coal-king-again-as-world-demand-causes-prices-to-surge/news-story/d0d0f13a500fe475b9208b85a4e86a44>

Coal 'king' again as world demand causes prices to surge

Renee Viellaris, *Courier-Mail*, 02/07/2018

Coal will be declared "king" again by Resources Minister Matt Canavan amid eye-watering price surges that will resuscitate the fortunes of Adani's mega mine and entrench battle lines for Turnbull Government agitators fighting for another coal-fired power station. ...

Senator Canavan will point to today's release of the Chief Economist's Resources and Energy Quarterly June report to vindicate his assurances that coal is not dead, and to underscore that billions of dollars flowing to federal and state coffers come from the black rock. ...

YOU'RE FASHIONABLE FIONA, BUT GET A GRIP ON THE FACTS



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with your comments & tips



<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2018/jul/02/matt-canavans-optimistic-coal-forecast-contradicts-his-own-department>

Matt Canavan's optimistic coal forecast contradicts his own department

Gareth Hutchens, *The Guardian*, 02/07/2018

A senior federal minister has claimed new coal export figures strengthen the investment case for Adani's Carmichael coalmine and the development of Queensland's Galilee basin, but a report from his own department appears to show the opposite.

The Department of Industry, Innovation and Science released a report on Monday that included projections for global commodity prices and volumes.

A story in *The Australian* claiming coal was set to regain its spot "as the nation's biggest export earner", overtaking iron ore in 2018-19, quoted the resources minister, Matthew Canavan, as saying "the market conditions are right" for Queensland's Galilee basin to start digging up large amounts of coal.

"At current prices we'd be mad not to open up the Galilee basin as soon as possible," he was quoted as saying.

"Opening up the Galilee would generate 16,000 direct mining jobs and tens of billions in taxes." ...

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

"This is not a booming market, it is one in long-term structural decline as the world moves to lower-pollution forms of electricity generation to address climate change.

"We need to manage the ongoing transition in our economy, including the long-term structural decline of thermal coal, with policies to create new jobs and industries and deliver a just transition to thermal coal communities. Anything short of that is selling workers, communities and our collective future short."

<https://independentaustralia.net/politics/politics-display/the-coalitions-coal-infection-is-it-contagious.11653>

The COALition's coal infection: Is it contagious?

Graeme McLeay, *Independent Australia*, 02/07/2018

When a large number of apparently sane people suggest, not only prolonging existing coal-fired power but building more coal-fired power stations, we must consider what is causing the psychosis ...

It is incumbent on a doctor to get the diagnosis right.

When a patient comes complaining that he has been abducted by aliens, psychosis comes to mind. But when others follow who are also seemingly deranged, the doctor must search more widely for the cause.

And so it is with Canberra when a large number of apparently sane people suggest, not only prolonging existing coal-fired power but building more coal-fired power stations.

Was it an infection they picked up on a visit to the climate-denying Heartland Institute? Or something in the environment, perhaps? Maybe it's that lump of coal they passed round in Parliament? ...

Leaving aside Canberra's delusional sickness, climate change and the pollution from fossil fuels are very real health threats to Australians, especially the young who continue to be exposed to pollution from coal and transport and under the business as usual – or worse – scenario expressed by Kelly, Morrison, Abbott and others, will be for a long time to come.

• *Dr Graeme McLeay is a retired anaesthetist and member of Doctors for the Environment Australia, which concerns itself with links between the environment – particularly climate change – and human health.*

<https://www.echo.net.au/2018/07/human-rights-charter-needed-mullum-meeting-hears/>

Human rights charter needed, Mullum meeting hears

Eve Sinton, *Byron Echo*, 02/07/2018

Former Human Rights Commissioner Gillian Triggs has called for an Australian charter of human rights.

Speaking at the Ngarra Institute's annual lecture in Mullumbimby last Saturday (June 30), Professor Triggs said Australia is the only democracy without a bill of rights, and over-reach in executive power by successive governments in the 21st century was deeply damaging to the public. ...

<https://www.northerndailyleader.com.au/story/5500699/barnaby-joyce-to-chair-govts-regional-mining-committee/>

Barnaby Joyce chairs regional mining committee

Jamieson Murphy, *Northern Daily Leader*, 03/07/2018

New England MP Barnaby Joyce will chair an inquiry in to how developing the mining sector can support businesses in regional economies.

The inquiry will look at a range of issues that affect landholders and businesses in mining regions, including the payments and royalties offered by mining business, barriers to getting involved in the industry and how the industry can support regional communities.

Mr Joyce said he was looking forward to chairing the Innovation, Industry, Science and Resources Committee. ...

NSW Minerals Council CEO Stephen Galilee said the inquiry was important to get the right policy setting for the industry, which already played a huge role in the region's economy. ...

<https://www.nvi.com.au/story/5503594/community-event-the-latest-step-in-anti-mining-campaign/>

SOS Liverpool Plains to host Protecting the Plains winter event

Namoi Valley Independent, 03/07/2018

The community is being encouraged to help in efforts to protect the Liverpool Plains and its communities from proposed coal and coal seam gas projects.

An upcoming community event at the Breeza community hall hosted by SOS Liverpool Plains is the next chance locals will have to show their support.

The event will feature a variety of updates from guest speakers including CCAG chair Susie Lyle, Kamilaroi elder Neville Sampson and Lock the Gate's George Woods. ...

<https://www.couriermail.com.au/news/queensland/lnp-convention-to-debate-introduction-of-nuclear-power-plants-to-queensland/news-story/9d38d49acd7d6f6fb-504f95e8183c311>

LNP convention to debate introduction of nuclear power plants to Queensland

Steven Scott, *Courier-Mail*, 05/07/2018

The Turnbull Government will be urged to consider developing a nuclear power industry under a plan to be debated at the LNP convention.

The controversial resolution, proposed by Fairfax MP Ted O'Brien's branch, could lead to a plan for generators across the country if it is adopted by the party and then acted on by the

government. The branch does not list possible sites for nuclear power plants in the resolution but urges the Federal Government to “consider the feasibility of nuclear powered energy generation in Australia”.

A 2007 study by the left wing Australia Institute identified 17 suitable sites for nuclear power plants including six in Queensland — Townsville, Mackay, Rockhampton, Bundaberg, the Sunshine Coast and Bribie Island. ...

<https://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/rendezview/stop-flogging-the-dead-horse-of-nuclear-power/news-story/5925c0dc48f1a7ff7d6a9f90ae07533a>

Stop flogging the dead horse of nuclear power

Terry Sweetman, Daily Telegraph, 06/07/2018

The problem for the proponents of nuclear power is that we’ve been down this track before and not all that long ago. In fact, we’ve been talking about nuclear power since 1952 when then South Australian premier Thomas Playford confidently proposed that one be built on the shores of Spencer Gulf. The next and probably most serious proposal was to build one on Commonwealth territory at Jervis Bay in 1969 but this idea went into meltdown when the locals got nervous and the unions got aggro. ...

In 2006, [Ziggy] Switkowski was able to breezily report: “Since Three Mile Island in 1979 and Chernobyl in 1986, the nuclear industry has developed new reactor designs which are safer and more efficient.” Then along came Japan’s Fukushima disaster. ...

If the motion is debated seriously this weekend, proponents may be able to produce much in the way of supportive technical and financial evidence, even warming up the Switkowski report. But that will count for nothing when it comes to the Not In My Backyard syndrome and politicians of all shades know it.

<https://www.queenslandcountrylife.com.au/story/5505933/commitment-vital-to-protect-prime-ag-land/>

Commitment needed to protect prime ag land

Stuart Armitage, QFF president, Qld Country Life, 04/07/2018

The inability of the current, overly complicated planning framework to properly protect the state’s small amount of truly prime agricultural land (about 3 per cent) has been raised by the Queensland Farmers’ Federation (QFF) countless times. Solutions have been put forward and well

received. However, despite verbal commitments from ministers and senior bureaucrats to do something about it, we are yet to see any action. Why? ...

In Queensland, we continue to see the permanent loss of the best farm land in the state from manufacturing, industrial uses, urban sprawl, services, utilities, and mining. Further, the pressures on prime agricultural land continue to mount and the current application of the ‘contestability of land’ by urban-focused planners is misguided.

Consider Queensland’s recently released 2018 exploration program. This year, an additional 44,300sq km has been made available for mineral, petroleum and gas, and coal resource exploration – more than double the 19,140sq km of land that was opened up in 2017. Cane and fruit and vegetable farmers in the Bundaberg region have recently been dealing with the impacts of this encroachment, with 3000 hectares of gas exploration licenses accessed by a gas exploration company. And they are rightfully concerned about the potential impacts of unconventional gas development on agricultural production and the environment.

We know that this uncoordinated approach to planning has already resulted in at least 113,690ha of the best agricultural land in Queensland being lost to alternative uses. ...

CLIMATE WARS

<https://www.theaustralian.com.au/national-affairs/climate/tony-abbott-wants-liberal-party-to-abandon-emissions-targets-exit-paris-agreement/news-story/21a43bd7093b3f62939dc5a5b35c380c>

Tony Abbott wants Liberal Party to abandon emissions targets, exit Paris agreement

Joe Kelly, The Australian, 03/07/2018

In his boldest attack on the Turnbull government, Tony Abbott has called on Australia to exit the Paris climate agreement and abandon emissions targets in order to “save” the Liberal party. ...

Defending his call to leave the Paris agreement, Mr Abbott points to the decision of the Trump Administration to pull the US out of the deal and argues that his government would never have signed-up without US participation. ...

<https://www.smh.com.au/politics/federal/follow-donald-trump-on-climate-tony-abbott-urges-pm-20180703-p4z-pah.html>

Follow Donald Trump on climate, Tony Abbott urges PM

Latika Bourke, SMH, 03/07/2018

Tony Abbott has urged Malcolm Turnbull to follow Donald Trump’s lead and ditch the commitments made under the Paris climate agreements, signed by Mr Abbott himself when he was prime minister.

The former PM now says he never anticipated the climate change reduction targets he signed up would be binding. But he was immediately repudiated by one of his supporters - junior minister Angus Taylor - who said Australia would honour its international agreements. ...

“Storms are not more severe; droughts are not more prolonged; floods are not greater; and fires are not more intense than a century ago – despite hyper-ventilating reportage and over-the-top claims from Green politicians,” the former prime minister said. ...

This autumn was Australia’s fourth-hottest in more than a century of data according to the BOM. ...

<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2018/jul/03/tony-abbott-urges-withdrawal-from-paris-agreement-despite-signing-australia-up-as-pm>

Tony Abbott urges withdrawal from Paris agreement, despite signing Australia up as PM

Katharine Murphy, The Guardian, 03/07/2018

Tony Abbott, the prime minister who signed Australia up to the Paris agree-

NATS DEMAND THREE COAL POWER STATIONS

Abbott call: pull out of Paris deal

EXCLUSIVE
TONY KELLE

The Nationals are demanding the construction of “a minimum of three” baseload power stations as the price of their support for Malcolm Turnbull’s national energy generation, as Tony Abbott last night called on the government to withdraw from the Paris climate agreement.

Delivering a lecture to the Australian Environment Foundation – a climate sceptic think tank – in Melbourne last night, the former prime minister argued that abandoning the Paris targets would help “save” the Liberal Party and protect its legacy over the next 10 years.

“He defended his criticism of the energy guarantee as well as his push to build new coal-fired power stations by advising that a profound oversight of climate policy that would harm Australia has been led by Donald Trump.”

“Withdrawing from the Paris Agreement that is driving the national energy guarantee would be the last way to keep prices down and employment up, and to save the party from a political legacy that could haunt us for the next decade at least,” Mr Abbott said.

The comments add to pressure on the national energy guarantee as the Nationals push their energy-agnostic agenda.

A two-page list of demands aimed at reviving the threat of coverage risk for potential investors in coal baseload power stations, including coal-fired stations, is being protected by the

INSIDE

The inconvenient truth is Australia would not have signed the Paris Agreement without the United States being a party to it.

GRAHAM LUSTED PM

TONY ABBOTT PM

PROPOSAL
Deliver a 5 billion dollar fund (donated) to ensure reliable energy until it is delivered to Australian electricity users in the short, medium and long term.

From the Nationals’ list of demands:

Natural gas is a “pragmatic and sensible policy position” to support the Prime Minister’s energy policy.

The confidential working document – obtained by The Australian – sets out the position of the minor Coalition party and advocates for the creation of a \$1 billion fund to “ensure (a) reliable energy until it is delivered to Australian electricity users in the short, medium and long term”.

Only coal, gas or traditional hydro projects capable of delivering electricity “24 hours a day, seven days a week, regardless of weather conditions” would be eligible for assistance under the proposal.

Operating under a “government-owned” company model, the suggested fund would keep any new power stations off

Knowing what we know now, we would not have made the Paris Agreement. Now that we do know, we should get out of it.

Repeating the already diverse energy debate as a struggle for the soul of the Liberal Party, Mr Abbott said that it took “character to do what’s right” as well as “courage to disagree with your peers”.

“Far from backing the government”, Mr Abbott said, “the energy policy are trying to secure it with a policy that would be different from Labor’s.”

Mr Abbott also criticised how Sydney Australia’s emissions targets or abandoning them to “believe would actually be achieved in 2030 through natural

Continued on Page 6

NEWS BREAKERS PM
2018/07/03

News this week ... from previous page

ment before losing the Liberal party leadership in 2015, now says Australia needs to pull out of the treaty to end “the emissions obsession that’s at the heart of our power crisis”.

In a significant escalation of his campaign against the national energy guarantee, and in an overt political attack on Malcolm Turnbull, Abbott used a speech to a group of climate sceptics on Tuesday night to claim he would not have signed up to the Paris treaty had he known the US would withdraw from it. ...

<https://www.theaustralian.com.au/national-affairs/climate/tony-abbott-calls-for-australia-to-pull-out-of-paris-climate-deal/news-story/9f82081b55b0e2940b7956f00d-03463b?login=1>

Tony Abbott calls for Australia to pull out of Paris climate deal

Joe Kelly, *The Australian*, 04/07/2018

The Nationals are demanding the construction of “a minimum of three” baseload power stations as the price of their support for Malcolm Turnbull’s national energy guarantee, as Tony Abbott last night called on the government to abandon the Paris climate agreement.

Delivering a lecture to the Australian Environment Foundation — a climate sceptic think tank — in Melbourne last night, the former prime minister argued that abandoning the Paris targets would help “save” the Liberal Party and protect its legacy over the next 10 years. ...

<https://www.theaustralian.com.au/opinion/tony-abbott-bells-the-cat-why-are-we-still-in-global-climate-pact/news-story/9a7eafb83ab8a89c292b0ee0cba5f77>

Tony Abbott bells the cat: why are we still in global climate pact?

Graham Lloyd, *The Australian*, 04/07/2018

There is a core truth in Tony Abbott’s incendiary climate change speech that is sure to infuriate polite society. ...

His summation of climate science will no doubt produce howls of derision but Abbott’s views are widely shared. ...

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-07-04/tony-abbott-says-pull-out-of-paris-climate-agreement/9937972>

Tony Abbott wants Australia to pull out of the Paris Climate deal

Louise Yaxley, *ABC*, 04/07/2018

Former prime minister Tony Abbott says Australia should withdraw from the Paris Climate Agreement that he

signed up to as PM three years ago. ...

Mr Abbott has repeatedly cited Chief Scientist Alan Finkel to explain his call for Australia to withdraw from the Paris Agreement.

He quoted Dr Finkel as saying “nothing that Australia does to reduce emissions will make the slightest difference to climate”.

But Dr Finkel recently said he was taken “totally out of context”. ...



<https://www.smh.com.au/politics/federal/abbott-s-real-agenda-in-reigniting-favourite-fire-20180704-p4zpeg.html>

Abbott’s real agenda in reigniting favourite fire

John Hewson, *SMH*, 04/07/2018

Tony Abbott is at it again, seeking to undermine Malcolm Turnbull, this week on energy policy but he will now seize any opportunity and manufacture any argument to undermine Turnbull’s leadership. So much for his integrity. So much for his commitment that he wouldn’t. ...

Underlying Abbott’s attack on the government’s energy policy is the mistaken belief that he has credibility on climate and energy. Not only has he held more positions on climate than the Karma Sutra, but he chooses to believe his own version of history. ...

Basically, Abbott is so completely out of touch with the electorate on climate and reliant on such “fake” news and evidence that his agenda can’t really be

climate, but rather to destroy Turnbull. Enough is enough.

• *John Hewson is a professor at the Crawford School of Public Policy, ANU, and a former Liberal opposition leader with a business interest in solar thermal power.*

<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2018/jul/05/australia-must-cut-role-of-gas-and-end-climate-war-to-fix-power-prices-business-group-says>

Australia must cut role of gas and end climate war to fix power prices, business group says

Katharine Murphy, *The Guardian*, 05/07/2018

Australia needs to resolve the decade-long war on climate and energy policy, and also decrease the role of gas in the electricity system, if Australian households and businesses are to experience durable reductions in their power bills, according to an influential business group.

With the Coalition’s internal brawl on the national energy guarantee bubbling away as the policy reaches its critical stage, the Ai Group has produced a new report on the outlook for energy prices that notes that resolving the current political stoush would “help to ease electricity prices by unblocking investment in new supply and reinvestment in existing assets”.

The same report also notes that the role of gas in the system remains a significant challenge with or without an ultimate resolution of the Neg, and it says power prices will not ease in eastern Australia unless the reliance on gas generators in the system can be reduced. ...

FFB

SACRIFICE ZONE

Cloudcatcher Media’s feature-length film:
battle to save the Pilliga

<https://vimeo.com/257444267>

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