

CLIMATE ACTION NEWCASTLE

Newsletter 15th August 2008



Green Paper Submissions

The Australian Government is asking for public comment on its discussion paper (also known as a "Green Paper") on a Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme. It's important that lots of people write in demanding real action, because powerful industry groups like coal and aluminium will be pushing hard to continue business as usual. To make a submission, following the instructions on the attached document from Rising Tide Newcastle, or go to:

www.climatechange.gov.au/greenpaper/consultation & follow the instructions.

This is one of the most important contributions we can each make as an individual to the future direction of Australia Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions profile.

Newcastle is Going Solar

You may be aware that CAN is currently working on a project to get as many 1kW Solar Power systems on rooves in Newcastle as possible. We have called for Expressions of Interest (EOI) from suppliers/installers and from CAN members and beyond.



Whilst the closing date for registering your interest in this project closed on Friday 15th August (whilst we assess the EOIs and decide on how best to progress this project) if you have not yet contacted CAN to register your interest please do so by emailing can@climateaction.org.au and we may be able to consider late 'applications' (no promises though ☺)

For more information on this project visit the CAN website
<http://climateaction.org.au/campaigns/newcastles-going-solar>

Turn the Tide – Peak Carbon by 2010

Another grassroots climate action group called *Climate Change Balmain-Rozelle* in Sydney have come up with this exciting project to send a clear message to our elected leaders that Greenhouse Gas emissions must start to decline by 2010 at the latest if we are to have any chance of stopping runaway climate change.



This project is easy for anyone to get involved. All you need to do is gather a group of friend and either make a banner, or email Climate Action Newcastle (CAN) (can@climateaction.org.au) to borrow a banner, and have a photo taken with your group of friends and send the photo to turn.the.tide.kevin@gmail.com

Go to www.climatechangebr.org/page20.htm for more details on this exciting project.

GetUp Climate Torch Relay

GetUp has invented a new device to respond to the climate crisis. You can hold it in one hand. It combines solar power, a wind-turbine, and.... a lemon.



To get involved and help organise the Newcastle leg of the GetUp Climate Torch Relay on 22nd August contact CAN as soon as possible on can@climateaction.org.au

Australian firm unveils plans to build 'world's biggest solar plant'

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2008/08/12/2333041.htm?section=australia>

An Australian engineering firm has announced plans to build what it says would be the world's biggest solar plant in Australia within three years.

Worley Parsons has launched a study into finding possible sites to host the \$1 billion plant. The study is backed by nine Australian companies including miners BHP Billiton and Rio Tinto. The Managing Director of the Worley Parson's sustainability arm, Peter Meurs, says the project is ambitious.

"It could provide power for 300,000 homes - each power station - and our vision is that Australia's a suitable place for this and we could build up to 34 of these power stations by 2020," he said.

The Managing Director of Worley Parson's sustainability arm, Peter Meurs, says the search will focus on desert locations.

"The ideal location for a thermal solar power station is a desert type location, you want maximum solar with the least cloud cover or interference and our dry desert locations are ideal," he said.

The Greens say the decision is an acknowledgment that clean coal technology is not achievable. Green's Climate Change spokeswoman, Christine Milne says it is a big boost for the renewable energy sector and should be supported by the Federal Government.

"This is really an acknowledgment that clean coal is never going to be achievable and the coal industry itself is leapfrogging clean coal and recognising the power of renewable energy and solar thermal in particular," she said.

See next page for CAN Calendar

2008 Calendar



Last updated 15th August 2008

AUGUST

- 15th Bulk Solar - Closing Date EOI from CAN members & supporters
15th Senate Inquiry on National Feed-In Tariff Laws - Closing Date
www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/eca_ctte/renewable_energy/index
20th Meeting to decide successful EOI for Bulk Solar Project (Hamilton)
22nd GetUp Climate Torch Relay (in Newcastle) www.getup.com.au
23rd Climate Action Groups Strategy Meeting 3 (10am-2pm Sydney)
26th Transition Towns Meeting (Waratah)
28th Hunter's Transition to Renewable Power Generation (7-9pm St Albans Hall, Charlestown)
28th-30th Sydney 2009 Save Water Save Energy Expo
www.savewatersaveenergyexpo.com.au

SEPTEMBER

- 3rd CAN 2nd Birthday Party Celebrations (The Bennett Hotel Hamilton, Cnr Denison & Steele St @ 6:30pm)
4th HVRF Lecture – Prof. Steffen Lehmann (*Buildings and Cities: How can we achieve sustainable urban growth for the post-industrial city?*)
5th Prof Ross Garnaut releases supplementary draft report (National Press Club Address 12:30pm ABC TV)
10th Submissions due to Federal Government Green Paper
www.climatechange.gov.au/greenpaper/consultation
13th Sustainable House Day www.solarhouseday.com
21st Climate Bill Rally (Canberra) www.climateride.org.au
30th Final Report – Garnaut Review Released www.garnautreview.org.au

OCTOBER

- 4th-6th NSW Grassroots Climate Summit (proposed by Rising Tide) contact Rising Tide at risingtide@risingtide.org.au

NOVEMBER

- 29th-30th SMART ENERGY EXPO NEWCASTLE 2008 (Honeysuckle)

DECEMBER

- 1st - 12th United Nations (UN) Conference of the Parties (COP14) - Poland