



August Big Picture news 2018

Energy Efficiency Forum

On Tuesday August 21 at 10 am at Emerald Library energy efficiency guru Professor Alan Pears will present the talk below. He will also answer any of your energy questions. We hope to see you there. Please note this is an experimental, day time forum organised in partnership with Emerald U3A.

'How will disrupted energy policy, technology and climate change influence how I create a zero carbon, comfortable home with affordable energy bills in the Dandenongs?'

Ethical Investment forum

Financial adviser Adam Carey of Ethical Investment Services will talk investing without causing social and environmental damage. Emerald Library, Tuesday October 2nd at 10 am.

Ian Dunlop on the NEG

His quote says it all especially given that he used to be high in the coal industry. "The investment certainty business craves will be non-existent until climate action is accepted as the absolute priority in determining energy policy. But achieving this will require political leadership".

Wanted, a dummy!

DRREA is looking to buy or loan a mannequin to use for displays at community events like Stringybark Festival. If you can help please email me.

From Renew magazine

This caught my eye in the recent issue, 144. Sceptics sometimes say China and India are not doing anything as a way of justifying our suggested inaction. This suggests a different story.

"By far the largest electric bus fleet is in China, where 9500 new e-buses are added every 5 weeks. Shenzhen alone has 16,000 all electric buses" It goes on to say "that for every 1000 e-buses on the road, around 500 barrels of diesel fuel per day are eliminated".

So what is happening in India?

Investment in renewable power in India topped fossil fuels for the first time in 2017, according to the International Energy Agency (IEA). This is one of the most striking insights contained within the IEA's [annual update](#) of global energy investment, which was published on July 13. Excerpt from Carbon Brief

The Pears Report

In his 'Pears Report' in issue 144 of Renew magazine Alan Pears noted that the "Greenhouse and Energy Minimum standards (GEMS) regulations (that set minimum energy performance and labelling standards for appliances saved the average Australian household between \$140 and \$220 on their electricity bill per year".

He quantified it even further stating "in 2016, the net savings of GEMS regulations to the Australian economy was in the range of \$870 million to \$1.58 billion, with greenhouse gas savings of between 4.5 and 6.9 million tonnes". They do say energy efficiency "is the low hanging fruit".

Vic can!

The state of Victoria is likely to meet its 40 per cent renewable energy goal five years early – in 2020 rather than the targeted 2025 – according to the latest analysis from Green Energy Markets.

The latest Renewable Index Report from GEM says Australia sourced 20.2 per cent of its electricity from renewables in the month of June, and is on target for 33 per cent renewables by 2030, including rooftop solar – [as it forecast last month](#). Excerpt from RenewEconomy July 25

New Wind!

According to the Australian Wind Alliance In the last 12 months, no less than 10 new wind farms were completed, adding over 900 megawatts of capacity and increasing Australia's wind power fleet by 25%. July 30. This is pre NEG!

Hydrogen breakthrough

Hydrogen as an energy source for sustainable transport has great potential, but for use in the transport industry there is one big problem: the highly flammable gas in its pure form must be compressed and stored safely in order to be transported for use as a fuel.

Today, a breakthrough method developed by the CSIRO to transport hydrogen safely in the form of ammonia was tested in Pullenvale, Brisbane.

CSIRO Chief Executive Larry Marshall was one of the first to take a ride in the vehicles supplied by Toyota and Hyundai, both automakers who have invested considerable time and money in the development of fuel cell technology for cars.

CSIRO principal research scientist Michael Dolan said it was the first time, worldwide, that a hydrogen car had been powered by hydrogen derived from ammonia.

TV reports on this development suggested Australia could become an energy superpower.

True or false or good or bad in terms of climate I think this suggestion was based on this quote.

“Ammonia stores almost twice as much energy than liquid hydrogen and is easier to ship and distribute, opening up possibilities for an export market.” Source Renew Economy

No advantage!

The next day after the above story Renew Economy on April 8 published this article.

One of the last advantages touted for the hydrogen fuel-cell electric vehicle (FCEV) over the battery electric car (BEV) is the speed of hydrogen refuelling vs battery charging.

With the recent start of the US and European roll-outs of 350kW chargers using the newly agreed 350 kW CCS standard (called Ultra-Fast charging to separate it from the 50 kW CHAdeMO and earlier 50 and 150 kW CCS fast-charging), that advantage has now effectively been lost.

350 kW charging would allow a 100 kWh EV battery to charge to 80% in less than 15 minutes. That equates to adding another 400 km worth of charge in the time it takes to drink a coffee. (Which, after travelling 450- 500 km if beginning on a full charge, you should be stopping for longer than that anyway!).

PTO for some 'Interesting facts'

The Minerals Council has paid for Coalition MPs to tour Japanese coal power stations

<https://www.dailymercury.com.au/news/mp-in-japan-to-try-secure-clean-coal-station-in-ma/3478823/>.

George Christensen told reporters he has invited Japanese companies to build new coal plants in North Queensland.

- From the small amount of information released analysts have concluded the NEG

-as currently designed - makes allowances for just 14MW of large scale wind and solar to be built after 2022

<https://reneweconomy.com.au/neg-promises-death-of-wind-and-solar-and-even-battery-storage-83047/>

- And the consulting firm who did the government's official modelling publicly criticised the NEG's emissions targets as being woefully inadequate
<https://acilallen.com.au/insights/neg-emissions/>.

Thanks to 'Climate for Change' for the above facts

Minimal Modelling behind NEG

Below is part of a Renew Economy article from August 14. Little of no modelling is consistent with no tender for ½ a billion dollars to the Great Barrier Reef Foundation.

Outrage has erupted in political and energy market circles over the failure of the federal government to produce any detailed modelling for the controversial National Energy

Guarantee.

There has been widespread disbelief about the claims of the Energy Security Board used to justify the NEG – particularly its claims that wind and solar and large-scale battery storage investment would simply come to a halt for most of the next decade, with or without the NEG, and that the NEG could somehow reduce bills by a further \$150 a year.

The Coalition government has been under pressure to release the detailed assumptions that backed the modelling, and was ordered to do so by the Senate on Monday.

But on Tuesday morning, in a statement from Senator Simon Birmingham's office, it simply regurgitated the spreadsheet and other [documents released last week by the ESB](#), with no modelling to explain how it arrived at its contested assumptions.

“There is nothing new (in this document),” said Ric Brazzale of Green Energy Markets. “This is quite extraordinary. States are being railroaded into accepting the detailed design without thorough assessment – it's unheard of for such an important policy intervention.”

The Greens, which led the call for the release of the modelling, along with a group of more than 20 independent energy analysts, said it confirmed what was feared.

“There is no proper modelling, just a single Excel spreadsheet,” Greens spokesman Adam Bandt said.

Hopefully some hills folk will attend this interesting event below.

The program for the Darebin Climate Emergency Conference happening in Northcote on the 11th and 12th September is now available. There are over 30 speakers and experts (many of who will be known to you!) It is heartwarming to see a local council (Darebin) putting on this important event. It would be great to see you there. See below for how to book.

Best wishes

Karen

Darebin Climate Action Now

Darebin Climate Emergency Conference

Date: 11th & 12th September 2018, 8.30am -5pm.

Venue: Northcote Town Hall 189 High Street, Northcote.

Cost: No cost

Bookings:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/darebin-councils-climate-emergency-conference-tickets-47804763334>

Well done EJA!

The Environmental Justice Australia Clean Air team has recently completed a road trip. Members of their legal and research team hit the highway to visit three east coast air

pollution hot spots — Lithgow, Gladstone and Rockhampton. No surprises the emission standards of the power stations visited were much lower than European standards. Local health impacts were considerable.

To me this is an aspect too often forgotten about because of the focus on greenhouse gas emissions. It is another salient reason why we need to transition quickly to renewable energy. They next roadtrip will be to the LaTrobe Valley. No surprises perhaps re what will be revealed there.

We hope you found this Big Picture News informative.

P Cook
DRREA