

# Climate Newsletter July 2019

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## ANU Climate News & Events

July 2019

Dear reader

This month, I'm flagging two upcoming reports from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), both of which will explore issues that are highly relevant to Australia's quality of life, economy, health and ecosystems.

The *IPCC Special Report on Climate Change and Land* will be released on 8th August and you can find out what it means for Australia at [our public lecture](#) on Tuesday 13th August. The *IPCC Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate* will be released on 25th September and we'll also be running a public lecture exploring its implications in early October.

At a more local level, the ACT Government have just announced new appointments to the ACT Climate Change Council. I'm delighted to be [have been appointed](#) along with fellow ANU researcher, Assoc Prof Cris Brack. As a global leader in climate action, the ACT Government are not just tackling climate change here, they're also inspiring other jurisdictions around the world to lift their game.

Our main focus will be advising on practical ways to progress towards the ACT's net-zero emissions goal by 2045. I also want to ensure that climate adaptation is well-addressed and done in ways that don't increase the ACT's carbon footprint.

Finally we have a couple of upcoming events discussing the role of business and people power in addressing in climate change - we hope to see you there.

Regards,

Professor Mark Howden  
Director, Climate Change Institute

## Events



### Averting Climate Catastrophe: Extinction Rebellion, Business & People Power

Tues 9 July, 6-7.30pm

[Read more](#)



### Climate change, human rights and poverty

Thurs 18 July, 12.30-2pm

[Read more](#)



### Film screening & panel discussion: 2040

Wed 24 July, 6-8pm

[Read more](#)



### IPCC Special Report on Climate Change & Land: Exploring the implications for Australia

Tue 13 Aug, 6-7.30pm

[Read more](#)

## News



### Time will tell if this is a record summer for Greenland ice melt, but the pattern over the past 20 years is clear

Assoc Prof Nerilie Abram, *The Conversation*, 3  
July

Greenland is warming rapidly because of "climate



Greenland is warming rapidly because of "climate change amplifiers". The evidence tells us that the only way to prevent the destruction of the Greenland ice sheet, and multi-metre rises in global sea level, is to make rapid, deep cuts to greenhouse gas emissions. [Read article](#)



### **We asked people to do climate maths. Their answers depended on their politics**

*Dr Will Grant, The Conversation, 17 June*

In an ideal world, people would look at issues with a clear focus only on the facts. But in the real world, people often look at issues through the prism of their own particular political identity. Even some of the smartest among us will simply refuse to acknowledge facts about climate change when we don't like them. [Read article](#)



### **'Drier than the Millenium Drought': Satellite shows toll of the big dry**

*Featuring Dr Paul Tregoning, The Canberra Times, 17 June*

It was drier in parts of NSW, Queensland, central South Australia, Tasmania and much of Western Australia in December last year than at the height of the Millennium drought. [Read article](#)



### **Australia won't reach Paris target without action on transport, LNG and coal, expert says**

*Featuring Hon Assoc Prof Hugh Saddler, The Guardian, 2 July*

The challenge the Morrison government faces in meeting future climate targets without new policies is underlined by an analysis that breaks down how significantly greenhouse gas emissions are increasing from transport, natural gas and coalmining. [Read article](#)



### **Researchers gather to discuss solutions to the energy challenges facing industry, government and society**

A first-of-its-kind energy conference hosted by ANU examines the energy challenges facing industry, government and society, and the latest cutting-edge research that could offer a way forward. [Read media release](#) or watch [1 min video](#)



## Australia's energy exports increase global greenhouse emissions, not decrease them

*Prof Frank Jotzo & Salim Mazouz, The Conversation, 19 June*

Australia's LNG exports displace a mix of energy sources so it's unclear whether they actually reduce emissions overall. But Australia's coal exports clearly do increase global emissions. The real opportunity to help clean up world energy systems is through large-scale production and export of renewable energy. [Read article](#)

## Other news

[ACT climate researchers appointed to ACT Climate Change Council](#)

[Driving electric vehicle policy:](#) Listen to podcast with Dr James Prest, Dr Liz Hanna & Dr Michael De Percy

[Australia's pathway to becoming an energy superpower](#), featuring commentary by Prof Ken Baldwin

## Other events

[Film Screening: The Map to Paradise - Mon 15 July](#)

Energy Conversations - Green Steel: Forging a new industry in Australia - Tues 27 Aug, 5.30-7.30pm - Save the date

ANU Energy Update & Solar Oration - Mon 2 Dec - Save the date

## PhD Scholarships

[Supplementary PhD scholarships for interdisciplinary research on climate change - closes 31 July](#)



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