



## Science the benchmark of an educated society

SMH Editorial

19 October 2014



A CSIRO study found up to 40 per cent of Australians don't engage with science. *Photo: Louie Douvis*

Last week Treasurer Joe Hockey denied Australia is the highest greenhouse gas emitting country in the OECD per capita, despite evidence to the contrary.

In August, Liberal politician Eric Abetz repeated an unfounded link between women who have had an abortion and breast cancer while being interviewed on prime time TV.

Meanwhile, highly influential Tony Abbott supporter Maurice Newman continues to deny the globe is warming.

Read more: <http://www.smh.com.au/comment/smh-editorial/science-the-benchmark-of-an-educated-society-20141019-118cwl.html#ixzz3GqcHt5cm>

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## How do Australians engage with science?

Listen now Download audio show transcript

Sunday 19 October 2014 7:45AM

Dr Suzette Searle from the Centre for the Public Awareness of Science at the Australian National University in Canberra, designed a survey to provide an overview of Australians' engagement with science and technology. It found that Australians have extremely positive attitudes about science, but they are not always clear about the details.



IMAGE: AUSTRALIANS HAVE AN EXTREMELY POSITIVE ATTITUDE ABOUT SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (GETTY/NIKOLAS)

Sundays 7:45am  
Presented by Robyn Williams

<http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/ockhamsrazor/how-do-australians-engage-with-science3f/5815968>

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## Australian unsure on how to engage with science and technology

Monday 20 October 2014 3:07PM  
Dr Suzette Searle



IMAGE: THE SURVEY FOUND THAT THREE OUT OF FOUR AUSTRALIANS HAD A POSITIVE SCORE OF TECHNOLOGY IN A SOCIAL INSTITUTION (GETTY IMAGES)

**Dr Suzette Searle**, from the Centre for the Public Awareness of Science at the Australian National University in Canberra, designed a survey to provide an overview of Australians' engagement with science and technology. It found that Australians have extremely positive attitudes about science, but they are not always clear about the details.

Sundays 7:45am  
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<http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/ockhamsrazor/australian-unsure-on-how-to-engage-with-science-and-technology/5826562>



**Michael Moore** is CEO of the Public Health Association of Australia and is the president elect of the World Federation of Public Health Associations  
<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2014/oct/21/coal-seam-gas-or-clean-drinking-water-it-cant-be-both>

## Take it from us in India: the world needs renewables, not more Australian exported coal

Carmichael's coal will be exported to India from Queensland. But India's clean energy industry is already booming – we don't need your coal



**Debi Goenka**

theguardian.com, Wednesday 22 October 2014 10.47 AEST

 Jump to comments (106)



A labourer takes a break from shovelling coal at a coal yard on the outskirts of Jammu. Photograph: Mukesh Gupta/Reuters

Here are little known facts about coal: its use is responsible for 400,000 premature deaths per year globally, and many more illnesses. In India, coal contributes to between 80,000 to 115,000 premature deaths and 20m new asthma cases annually. It is also responsible for around 40% of the greenhouse gas emissions that are dramatically changing the world's climate and impoverishing millions of people.

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2014/oct/22/take-it-from-us-in-india-the-world-needs-renewables-not-more-australian-exported-coal>

# Fossil fuel divestments are putting the Abbott government on notice

ANU's decision to end investment in fossil fuels is democracy up against crony capitalism



**Christine Milne**

theguardian.com, Saturday 18 October 2014 09.00 AEST

 Jump to comments (246)



Students support ANU's move to divest from some fossil fuel companies. Photograph: Fossil Free ANU/Facebook

The decision by the Australian National University to end its investment in fossil fuels is a bellwether moment for Australia. It's democracy up against crony capitalism, science up against ideology and renewable energy against the old polluting industries.

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2014/oct/18/fossil-fuel-divestments-are-putting-the-abbott-government-on-notice>

## Global warming costs the economy

Published 14 October 2014

Moving to a non-carbon economy would be cheaper than burning carbon in the long run, explains Dr Karl.

By [Karl S. Kruszelnicki](#)



Up in smoke: limiting carbon emissions would have "hardly any effect on economic growth, and might actually lead to faster growth" say some economists (*Source: rai36de/iStockphoto*)


Welcome back to the final episode of my epic series on the so-called 'pause' in global warming.

Global warming poses some of the most complex risk management issues known to the human race.

<http://www.abc.net.au/science/articles/2014/10/14/4106758.htm>

22 October 2014, 6:15am AEST

## Bushfire season in New South Wales grows longer and stronger

**AUTHOR**  
 **Lindsey Hughes**  
Professor, Department of Biological Sciences at Macquarie University

**DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
Lindsey Hughes receives funding from the ARC for her work as an ecologist and expert on the impacts of climate change on species and ecosystems. She is the Co-Director of the Climate Change Research Centre at Macquarie University and the Director of the Biodiversity Node of the NSW Adaptation Research Hub. She is also a member of Climate Scientists Australia and the iNetwork Group of Concerned Scientists.

Macquarie University is not a member of The Conversation and does not financially support the project. Find out more.

The Conversation is funded by CSIRO, Melbourne, Monash, RMIT, UTS, UWA, ACU, ANU, ACB, Baker IDI, Canberra, CDU, Curtin, Deakin, Flinders, Griffith, the Harry Farrelly Institute, JCU, La Trobe, Monash, Murdoch, Newcastle, UQ, QUT, SAAHRI, Swinburne, Sydney, UNDA, UNE, UNSW, USC, USQ, UTAS, UWS, VU and Wellington.



Shelby Hunter, looking across the challenge of managing the New South Wales bushfire season in getting harder. (iStockphoto)

In New South Wales in 2013, bushfires in January and October collectively burned 768,000 hectares of bushland and destroyed 279 homes. Tragically, two people lost their lives and the damage was estimated at more than A\$180 million.

<http://theconversation.com/bushfire-season-in-new-south-wales-grows-longer-and-stronger-33245>

13 October 2014, 6:08am AEDT

## Outrage at ANU divestment shows the power of its idea

### AUTHOR



**Frank Jotzo**

Director, Centre for Climate Economics and Policy at Australian National University

### DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Frank Jotzo has grants from the Australian Research Council and the Australian government. None of his grants relate to divestment. He is in no way involved in ANU investment choices.



Provides funding as a Member of The Conversation.  
[anu.edu.au](http://anu.edu.au)



ANU's divestment decision is only worth A\$15 million - but the outcry suggests it will be more influential than the numbers suggest. AAP Images

Is the Australian National University's decision to sell its shares in some resource companies merely tokenistic? Far from it. The **outrage** from the affected companies shows how much influence universities can wield when they put their money where their mouth is.

**JOBS**

<http://theconversation.com/outrage-at-anu-divestment-shows-the-power-of-its-idea-32736>

## Feral cats: how we can solve this problem

*Andrew Cox ABC Environment 17 Oct 2014*

Solving the problem of feral cats in the Australian environment will require long-term, well-resourced steps. But with the right will, it can be done.

CONSERVATION MANAGERS learnt a long time ago that feral animal control is not simply a matter of blasting away at individual animals, and this is especially the case for cats.

With the much-needed emerging focus on feral cats, we can be certain there will be lots of strong opinions and a proliferation of unrealistic 'silver bullet' solutions.



**1 female feral cat. 1 night**



**ate:**



**1 webbed toed gecko**



**2 painted dragons**



**2 barred wedgesnout ctenotus skinks**



**3 mallee dragons**



**4 regal striped skinks**



**5 lined earless dragons**



**5 wedgesnout ctenotus skinks**



**5 crickets, 2 centipedes, 1 grasshopper and 1 scorpion**

Andrew Cox is chief executive of the [Invasive Species Council](http://www.abc.net.au/environment/articles/2014/10/17/4107725.htm) which campaigns for better laws and policies to protect the Australian environment from weeds, feral animals and exotic pathogens. <http://www.abc.net.au/environment/articles/2014/10/17/4107725.htm>

## Feral cats force the spotlight onto Australia's environmental future

Sara Phillips ABC Environment 21 Oct 2014



Hunting down all the feral cats in Australia would cost hundreds of billions. *Credit: Supplied*

The problem of feral cats seems insurmountable. Yet to do nothing seems shameful. It's a quandary Australians need to get used to.

<http://www.abc.net.au/environment/articles/2014/10/21/4109544.htm>

## Science vs tall tales in the feral battle

Posted By: **Andrew Miller** on 25/09/2014 4:00:00 AM | Comments (1)

 Comments

1



*You don't control cats just by funding the idea of doing so*  
IT WAS a famous line, from an iconic television series – *Seinfeld*.

"Jerry, just remember. It's not a lie ... if you believe it."

Wise advice to Jerry Seinfeld – and perhaps a lesson to be heeded when it comes to seeking the elusive Tasmanian fox.

While it might sound funny, it is sage advice which should be applied to any decision, by any government, which seeks to control invasive pests or animals.

<http://www.stockandland.com.au/blogs/a-matter-of-opinion/science-vs-tall-tales-in-the-feral-battle/2713181.aspx>

17 October 2014, 6:33am AEDT

## To eradicate feral cats, we need to know how many are out there

### AUTHOR



**Tim Doherty**  
PhD Candidate at Edith Cowan University

### DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Tim Doherty receives funding from Earthwatch Institute Australia and the Holsworth AMBA Research Endowment.

Edith Cowan University is not a member of The Conversation and does not financially support the project. Find out more.

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A feral cat in the bush. Tim Doherty, Earthwatch Institute

### JOBS

Director, Australia In Situ Institute  
University of Melbourne

During a [speech in Parliament](#) on October 17 1996 — 18 years ago today — then Liberal MP Richard Evans called for the “total eradication of domestic and feral cats from the Australian mainland and offshore islands by the year 2020”.

<http://theconversation.com/to-eradicate-feral-cats-we-need-to-know-how-many-are-out-there-33014>

21 October 2014, 5:02pm AEDT

## Dams are not the smart way to secure water for agriculture

### AUTHOR



**Willem Vervoort**

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### DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Willem Vervoort received and has received funding from Australian Research Council, Rainpower (M. Auckin, former CRC's related to Colton)



THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY

Provides funding as a Member of The Conversation.  
usydney.edu.au



The Ord River dam, completed in 1971, formed Australia's largest artificial lake in the far north-west. [Source: City of Darwin/DAIR, CC BY-NC-SA.](#)

Some 27 irrigation and dam projects are highlighted in the [green paper for agricultural competitiveness](#) released this week by agriculture minister Barnaby Joyce.

<http://theconversation.com/dams-are-not-the-smart-way-to-secure-water-for-agriculture-33193>

15 October 2014, 6:30am AEDT

## Why Australia's outback is globally important

### AUTHOR



**John Woinarski**

Professor (conservation biology) at Charles Darwin University

### DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

John Woinarski was employed as a consultant by Pew Charitable Trusts to report on the ecology, condition and future of the Australian Outback.



Provides funding as a Member of The Conversation.  
cdu.edu.au



Indigenous rangers at the Fish River Station in the Northern Territory. [Indigenous | and | Conservation](#)

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There are places in Australia that are awe-inspiring, spectacular, mysterious; they touch our spirit and help define our nation.

<http://theconversation.com/why-australias-outback-is-globally-important-32938>

22 October 2014 8:15am AEST

## Trans-Pacific Partnership threatens a green trade deal

AUTHOR



John Madras

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DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

John Madras does not work for, consult to, own shares in or receive funding from any company or organisation that would benefit from this article, and has no relevant affiliations.

Monash University is not a member of The Conversation and does not financially support the project. Find out more

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A green trade deal would encourage the development of renewable energy in big carbon emitters such as China. [AAP: Dan Peled](#)

<http://theconversation.com/trans-pacific-partnership-threatens-a-green-trade-deal-32957>

## Abbott has been mugged by reality

By [Mungo MacCallum](#)

Posted Mon at 1:52pm Mon 20 Oct 2014, 1:52pm



[Photo: The main event at the G20 looks to be whether or not climate change gets a guernsey and here again it appears Tony Abbott is on a loser. \(AAP: Dan Peled\)](#)

***The political realities of the G20 have meant Tony Abbott isn't likely to get his way - particularly when it comes to Putin and climate change. He's not going to like that, writes Mungo MacCallum.***

There are times when our Prime Minister gets mugged by reality. But it doesn't mean that he has to like it.

It appears he has, reluctantly, accepted that there is nothing he can do to prevent Vladimir Putin from attending the G20 summit in Brisbane. The rest of the world (and in particular the heavies, Barack Obama and Angela Merkel) has spoken.

And this gave way to his petulant threat to shirtfront the Russian president - we bet he will, or perhaps he bets he will. Well, I can't speak for him, but I'll bet he won't.

Mungo Wentworth MacCallum is a political journalist and commentator.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2014-10-20/mungo-abbott-has-been-mugged-by-reality/5826002>



<http://www.smh.com.au/photogallery/federal-politics/cartoons/alan-moir-20090907-fdxk.html>

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## Australia's electricity sector - old and inefficient

▶ Listen now ▶ Download audio show transcript

Sunday 26 October 2014 7:45AM

According to Andrew Stock, a Councillor with the Climate Council, Australia is one of the world's top 10 emitters of carbon dioxide from electricity and heat production. The worst contributor to greenhouse gas emissions is fossil-fuelled electricity generation. Andrew Stock suggests that we need to plan for the future, as our electricity sector is ageing and inefficient.

IMAGE AUSTRALIA'S ELECTRICITY SECTOR IS OLD AND INEFFICIENT. WE NEED TO PLAN FOR THE FUTURE NOW. (GETTY/EVLLOYDPHOTOGRAPHY)

**Sundays 7:45am**  
Presented by Robyn Williams

<http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/ockhamsrazor/australia27s-electricity-sector-is-old-and-inefficient/5830548>

## The Case for a Legal Ivory Trade: It Could Help Stop the Slaughter

By John Frederick Walker

*Although most conservationists oppose it, a proposal to allow a partial lifting of the ban on ivory trading would benefit Africa's elephants. With proper controls and enforcement, a legal trade would choke off demand for illicit ivory and discourage the poaching now decimating the continent's elephant populations.*



As someone who cares deeply about elephants, I find it hard to read about the number of these magnificent creatures now slain in Africa for their tusks, and even harder to look at images of their crumpled corpses and chain-sawed faces. Like many, I believe that unless something can be done to stop the carnage, elephants may disappear from many of their traditional ranges. <http://e360.yale.edu/feature/point-the-case-for-a-legal-ivory-trade-it-could-help-stop-the-slaughter/2814/>

17 October 2014, 8:25am AEST

### Divestment backlash shows companies need to improve sustainability reporting

**AUTHOR**  
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CAROL ANNETT IS A PART-TIME PROFESSOR AT MONASH UNIVERSITY AND CONSULTS THROUGH INTEGRATED SOLUTIONS. SHE HELDS OTHER ADVISORY POSITIONS AND EQUITIES IN MULTIPLE COMPANIES.

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Monash University's decision to divest from fossil fuels has been widely praised. However, Tony Abbott's criticisms of the ANU's divestment decision will come back to bite him. The tide of change is such that Vice-Chancellor Ian Young and the ANU Council will be seen as leaders. Others will follow.

<http://theconversation.com/divestment-backlash-shows-companies-need-to-improve-sustainability-reporting-33079>

## The enchanting wonder of learning science and maths

SMH Editorial







Victorian rivers had a chance to recover. *Credit: Carolyn Swann (ABC Environment)*

With stock grazing licences on river banks up for renewal, the Victorian government had a chance to help its ailing rivers...and blew it.

THE VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT has missed a golden opportunity to get a massive environmental gain for minimal financial pain. They have ignored a once-in-five-year chance to halt a threatening process listed under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act*. At the same time they have squandered the chance to promote the public benefits of improved water quality, erosion control and river restoration, and provide private benefits to farmers through increased land values and healthier stock. Not to mention the increased amenity value of a revegetated and reconnected landscape.

Juliet Le Feuvre is [Environment Victoria's Healthy Rivers Campaign Manager](http://www.abc.net.au/environment/articles/2014/10/20/4108584.htm).  
<http://www.abc.net.au/environment/articles/2014/10/20/4108584.htm>

## Ignore Abbott, we shouldn't feel bound to coal

By [Greg Jericho](#)

Posted about 6 hours ago Wed 22 Oct 2014, 9:42am



[Photo: Who says coal is the only way to bring people out of energy poverty? \(AAP: Dan Peled\)](#)

***Tony Abbott may think coal is "good for humanity" but it's not particularly good for climate change. We shouldn't feel bound to keep singing coal's virtues now we know its impact, writes Greg Jericho.***

It's been a big few weeks for coal and also for the climate. We've had the ANU divestment decision, Tony Abbott opening a mine and telling us all that "coal was good for humanity", Joe Hockey attempting to have us think it is "absolutely ridiculous" to believe Australia is one of the "dirtiest, most greenhouse emitting countries in the OECD group", and we also had the announcement that September was the hottest September on record.

*Greg Jericho writes weekly for The Drum. His blog can be found here and he tweets at @grogsgamut. View his full profile here. <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2014-10-22/jericho-ignore-abbott-we-shouldnt-feel-bound-to-coal/5831720>*

## Seafood strangled by green-tape 'snakes'

Posted By: **Barry O'Sullivan** on 8/08/2014 4:00:00 AM | Comments (7)



*Relentless pressure from green groups has created a spider's web of green tape*  
WHAT'S the difference between an Aussie cow and an Aussie prawn?

For starters, you are much more likely to find a slab of Aussie sirloin on a plane or boat headed for the bright lights of Asia because Australia exports between 60 and 70 per cent of its beef output. <http://www.stockandland.com.au/blogs/bush-matters/seafood-strangled-by-greentape-snakes/2707946.aspx>

## Tony Abbott's chance to get real on climate solutions

SMH Editorial

17 October 2014



Tony Abbott's insistence that "coal is good for humanity" represents a dangerously outdated world view. *Photo: AAP*

"Coal is vital for the future energy needs of the world," Prime Minister Tony Abbott said this week. "So let's have no demonisation of coal."

The *Herald* agrees coal will continue to contribute to the global and Australian economies for decades. We also reject that championing the coal industry necessarily equates to an

economic "suicide strategy", as claimed by German Chancellor Angela Merkel's former adviser, Hans Joachim Schellnhuber.

Read more: <http://www.smh.com.au/comment/smh-editorial/tony-abbotts-chance-to-get-real-on-climate-solutions-20141016-116xby.html#ixzz3GqchFgnC>

## Should the world try to limit global warming to 2 degrees Celsius?

By [Don Aitkin](#) - posted Wednesday, 8 October 2014

I've argued before that there seems to be a shift in the wind, in that sceptical papers about aspects of global warming are being published, and that real debate is going on at least in the blogosphere, and quick debate, too. It's all much faster than was the case a few years ago, when the doctrine of 'if it's not peer-reviewed I won't read it' was alive and well. And here is a case in point.

*Nature* published [a piece](#) on the first day of this month with the provocative title 'Ditch the 2C warming goal!' For *Nature* to do this is another straw in the breeze, because it has been a bastion of the orthodoxy, and the 2C target is part of the orthodoxy. The authors, Victor and Kennel, are serious and well-credentialed, and they are not sceptics in the ordinary sense: in fact they are all about limiting emissions, but think that the 2C target is not the way to go.

**Don Aitkin** has been an academic and vice-chancellor. His latest book, *What Was It All For? The Reshaping of Australia* was published by Allen & Unwin.

<http://www.onlineopinion.com.au/view.asp?article=16753>

1 October 2014, 5:46am AEST

## Stopping global deforestation will take more than more words

### AUTHOR



**Peter Kanowski**

Master of University House and Professor of Forestry at Australian National University

### DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Peter Kanowski was a Deputy Director General of the Centre for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) for two years, to mid-2014, and is currently completing work for CIFOR but is unrelated to the article



Provides funding as a Member of The Conversation.  
010.004.00

### JOBS

Director, Australia India Institute  
University of Melbourne



At the recent UN Climate Summit governments, business and NGOs vowed to stop deforestation by 2020. [Read more about it](#) [http://bit.ly/1WU1d0C](#)

At the recent UN Climate Summit in New York there was little in the way of new climate policy announcements, but 27 countries did sign a new forest agreement — the [New York Declaration on Forests](#).

<http://theconversation.com/stopping-global-deforestation-will-take-more-than-more-words-32265>

25 September 2014, 6:26am AEST

## A view from the 2014 UN Climate Summit in New York

### AUTHOR



**Don Henry**

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### DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Don Henry receives funding from the Australian Conservation Foundation. He is a former CEO of the Foundation.



Provides funding as a Founding Partner of The Conversation.  
010.melb.edu.au



US president Barack Obama addresses the 2014 UN Climate Summit. [http://bit.ly/1WU1d0C](#)

The 2014 UN Climate Summit has wrapped up in New York. What has progressed and what big challenges remain in the run up to and beyond the Paris negotiations in December 2015?

<http://theconversation.com/a-view-from-the-2014-un-climate-summit-in-new-york-32118>

# What exactly do 98% of climate researchers believe?

By [Barry York](#) - posted Monday, 20 October 2014

"If 98% of doctors said you needed urgent surgery, wouldn't you have it?!" "If 98% of aeronautical engineers told you that your next flight is unsafe and likely to crash, would you listen to them or to the 2% who say otherwise?" John Kerry, US Secretary of State, claimed in May this year that the consequences of climate change could be "crippling" and that "97% of the world's scientists tell us this is urgent". Last year, a tweet in President Barack Obama's name asserted that "Ninety-seven percent of scientists agree: climate change is real, man-made and dangerous." Note: "dangerous". Obama cited a study of climate science consensus led by University of Queensland academic, John Cook. (About which, more later).

<http://www.onlineopinion.com.au/view.asp?article=16779>

# Iron ore miners, beware: China is not going to keep buying our resources

MICHAEL SAINSBURY | OCT 22, 2014 1:06PM | [EMAIL](#) | [PRINT](#)



China's economy is slowing, and its housing market is in the toilet. While Treasury forecasts suggest everything is fine, underneath the surface the cracks are beginning to show.

China's economic growth in the third quarter was 7.3% compared with the same time last year — its worst since 2009 — amid a continued downturn in the property sector. Iron ore miners, beware.

<http://www.crikey.com.au/2014/10/22/iron-ore-miners-beware-china-is-not-going-to-keep-buying-our-resources/>

23 September 2014, 3:01pm AEST

# Leaders skip UN talks as China looks to go it alone on carbon

AUTHOR



**Alex Lu**  
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DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Alex Lu receives funding from Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia



Provisional funding as a Member of The Conversation  
griffith.edu.au



China's President Xi Jinping and India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi will both skip the UN climate talks, but that doesn't mean the world's biggest emitters aren't acting. [Photo: AP](#)

Here are a few notable absentees among the more than 120 world leaders gathered in New York for today's **United Nations Climate Summit**. Perhaps most notable of all is the head of the world's **highest-emitting nation**, China's President Xi Jinping

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ISSUES

<http://theconversation.com/leaders-skip-un-talks-as-china-looks-to-go-it-alone-on-carbon-32023>

13 October 2014, 6:08pm AEST

# 15 years from now, our impact on regional sea level will be clear

AUTHOR



**John Clark**  
CEO of PWC in QLD



**Sarah Feng**  
Senior Marine Scientist, PWC (retired) in QLD

DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

John Clark receives government funding as a member of regional sea level research

Griffith University and Pacific North West Ocean Observing System (PNOOS) are co-funders of the research. The research is funded by the Queensland Government through the Queensland Research and Innovation Foundation (QRIF) and the Queensland Government through the Queensland Research and Innovation Foundation (QRIF).



John Clark is the Pacific North West Ocean Observing System (PNOOS) CEO. Photo: PNOOS via Getty Images



<http://theconversation.com/15-years-from-now-our-impact-on-regional-sea-level-will-be-clear-31821>

# Movin' to the country: Naphthine's rural strategy

CHARLES RICHARDSON | OCT 22, 2014 1:05PM | [EMAIL](#) | [PRINT](#)



Most pundits and pollies discount rural seats, but country Victoria could be the crucial difference Denis Naphthine's Coalition government needs to retain power.

Most political professionals, whether campaigners or pundits, live in the cities, as of course do most voters, so election coverage tends to be concentrated there. But every now and then, something reminds us that country seats can have a decisive impact on election results.

One such case was the 1999 Victorian election, which surprisingly put Labor into power

<http://www.crikey.com.au/2014/10/22/movin-to-the-country-naphthines-rural-strategy/>

**"ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT isn't rocket science, it's a lot more complex."** Nick Dexter natural resource manager at Booderee National Park