



## **INTERNATIONAL REPORT: CALLS FOR NATIONAL CLIMATE ACTION**

Climate Change Balmain-Rozelle today calls on all levels of government to step up the transition away from coal and other fossil fuels.

The [IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C](#) released today by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) says limiting global warming to 1.5C will require rapid, far-reaching and unprecedented changes in all aspects of society. It says that even with 1C warming, the world has already experienced more extreme weather, rising sea levels and diminishing Arctic sea ice.

The group has asked to meet with local Federal MP Anthony Albanese to discuss how government should respond to this alarming news.

Climate Change Balmain-Rozelle president Dominic Case says: "Coal has brought wonderful advances in our civilization over the past couple of centuries. But now that we have learnt how much damage it is doing to the atmosphere, there can be no question: it is time to stop. The science is clear: excessive greenhouse gas emissions are upsetting the stability of the environment that our civilization relies on. "

The report shows that climate impacts such as sea level rise, health risks, food and water insecurity, and the consequences of extreme weather, will be far worse at 2C above pre-industrial levels than at 1.5C. On the present trajectory, we will experience an increase of 3C or more, and face the risk of reaching dangerous tipping points.

Without action tens of thousands of jobs and livelihoods in Australia will be at risk from extreme weather. Tourism currently supports more than 60,000 jobs on the Great Barrier Reef but as this IPCC report reveals, warming of 2 degrees is expected to result in a greater than 99 per cent loss of coral.

The report says that limiting warming to 1.5C will require the very rapid decarbonisation of the global economy.

"Australia is among the twenty countries with the highest emissions of greenhouse gases. We have the highest per-capita emissions in the OECD and we are the world's biggest coal exporter. But we have developed clean alternatives to fossil fuels, and switching our energy rapidly over to them is a vital first step. This means no new coal, a shift to 100 % renewable energy as soon as possible, and reaching zero emissions well before mid-century." said Mr Case.

"No country can solve this problem alone: all of us together must do all we can. Australia is a wealthy and well-resourced country: it can, and must, play its part.

"The Paris agreement requested countries to submit a next set of climate commitments by 2020, so this is an important opportunity to take bolder action. "

"It is time to set aside partisan viewpoints and act to protect lives, livelihoods and the environment," says Mr Case.

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**Climate Change Balmain-Rozelle** is a group of Sydney inner west residents eager to reduce Australia's excessive greenhouse gas emissions. The group aims to help create a world which is much less reliant on fossil fuels, thus heading off the greatest catastrophe now facing the earth, that of global warming.

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