



**Climate Change Balmain-Rozelle**

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22nd June 2006

**The Honourable Frank Sartor**

Minister for Planning

Level 34 Governor Macquarie Tower

1 Farrer Pl

Sydney NSW 2000

Dear Sir,

RE: your reply to our email dated 11<sup>th</sup> May 2006 from Climate Change Balmain-Rozelle; ref: D06/2485

*Climate Change Balmain-Rozelle* is deeply concerned with the impacts greenhouse gases (mainly CO<sub>2</sub>) will have on the future vitality of the planet.

As such we find NSW Greenhouse Plan of "actions" and "initiatives" an inadequate response in light of the fact that your department has approved many new coal "projects" and is considering yet another coal-fired power station (near Ulan).

Just one of these coal "projects" (Wilpinjong) will produce enough coal, annually, to emit 13 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> into the atmosphere when combusted. This is equal to emissions of about 1 million households every year. The "life" of Wilpinjong is anticipated to be 25 years.

Another, Anvill Hill, has reserves of about 157 million tonnes of coal.

The ports at Newcastle are preparing for an increase of coal exports by over 65% in the next 5 years. That's 120 million tonnes of coal in 2010, equivalent to 360 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> when combusted fully.

When one adds the CO<sub>2</sub> emitted from the diesel used in blasting and extraction (these mines function 24 hours per day, 7 days per week), and considers the longevity of these mines, 25 to 40 years, and how many more your Government is currently considering, the mind boggles at the quantity of CO<sub>2</sub> that NSW coal mines are contributing to global warming.

While most of the coal is destined for power stations in the northern hemisphere (China), it would be churlish of us to ignore the impacts those CO<sub>2</sub> emissions will have. Our atmosphere is global after all.

Increased CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are the problem we are all responsible for.

Here in Balmain and Rozelle, we are informing residents about the link between burning fossil fuels, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and global warming. Most residents, especially parents, are easily able to understand the links and embrace energy efficient practices in their homes. The main practice is of course choosing a clean, renewable fuel source from their energy providers.

Climate Change Balmain-Rozelle believes that, for the future of the planet, we need to reject fossil fuels as an energy source.

Paradoxically, the NSW Labor government obviously supports a flourishing fossil fuel industry.

While the human and environmental costs of the coal industry are beginning to mount and be seen by ordinary residents and businesses, the government continues to reap hundreds of millions of dollars a year without any practical commitment to a clean, renewable energy industry.

We look to your Department to ensure that the predicted increases in coal consumption over the next 5 years don't eventuate, and expect approvals for new mines and coal-fired power stations will no longer be on the agenda for a NSW government leading in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Yours faithfully,

Sue Lewis

On behalf of  
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c.c. Bruce Taper, Director, Sustainability Unit

*We are still waiting to hear from Sartor himself!*