



The Bullroarer - Tuesday 26th February 2008

Posted by [Phil Hart](#) on February 25, 2008 - 5:24pm in [The Oil Drum: Australia/New Zealand](#)

Topic: [Miscellaneous](#)

[Oil production on rise but not enough to meet growing demand](#)

AUSTRALIA's oil production has increased for the first year since 2000 but energy self-sufficiency continues to decline.

Figures published yesterday by industry analyst EnergyQuest show the Australian petroleum sector grew strongly in 2007 as a result of sustained high oil prices, surging global demand for LNG and higher domestic demand for gas-fired generation.

[Australia on track to meet Kyoto target](#)

AUSTRALIA is back on track to meet its commitments under the Kyoto Protocol.

A Department of Climate Change audit of greenhouse gas emissions, obtained by The Age, indicates that Australia will meet, but not beat, its Kyoto target of 108% of 1990 emissions during 2008-2012.

[Energy Experts To Meet NZ Energy Companies](#)

Key players in the German renewable energy sector arrive in New Zealand this week to meet with local businesses involved in the energy sector and to attend this week's National Power New Zealand 2008 conference.

[PM hears long-lost call of the Left](#)

KEVIN Rudd has been issued with a "progressive left" challenge to drastically accelerate the shift to a republic, introduce a charter of rights, do away with 99-year leases on Aboriginal land, overhaul negative gearing and immediately ban a new coal-fired power plant in NSW.

Suggestions for Labor's first term include taxing the family home, limiting the first-home buyers grant and introducing punitive laws on electricity generation and car emissions.

[Air New Zealand passenger numbers get a boost](#)

Hawke's Bay: [Generator at Whirinaki is running flat out](#)

[Doubts surround Virgin's breakthrough biofuel flight](#)

It may not have been the longest or fastest flight, but a Virgin airlines Boeing 747 has created a first by making the short hop from London to Amsterdam partly powered on biofuel.

Virgin Atlantic chief Richard Branson sees it as a breakthrough, ushering in a new cleaner, greener era in aviation, but some environmentalists say it invites ecological disaster.

But I prefer the way TV3 in NZ reported the Virgin Biofuel flight: [Virgin Atlantic flies on coconuts](#)

Wellington: [High oil prices may raise rates and transport costs](#)

Eureka Street: [Garnaut shows climate change bigger than politics](#)

[Cyclists a hazard, say motorists](#)

More on yesterday's solar power story..

[\\$290m solar future sealed](#)

[Mildura power station to help cut emission levels](#)

[Shoppers put wallets before environment](#)

[Let there be light through regulation, not ownership](#)

What would NSW look like if the Government did not proceed with its plans to secure the state's energy future? No new money for schools and hospitals, perhaps more borrowings despite a global credit crunch, and an out-of-date energy sector that competes with itself for your business.

We simply cannot be constrained by a vocal minority with an expired ideology on utilities. We need to take action now to keep the lights on, keep state finances in the black and keep investing in important public services such as hospitals and schools.



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