



The Bullroarer - Tuesday 3rd February 2009

Posted by [Big Gav](#) on February 3, 2009 - 7:47am in [The Oil Drum: Australia/New Zealand](#)

Topic: [Miscellaneous](#)

The Australian - [Rudd's green jobs plan to insulate economy](#)

KEVIN Rudd will use a multi-billion-dollar green jobs package to stimulate the economy as new figures show the budget will be at least \$15 billion a year in deficit for the next four years, before adding in the cost of new spending. More than 2.2 million owner-occupied homes will qualify for free ceiling insulation under the Prime Minister's plan, an element of a multi-pronged economic stimulation package expected to be announced tomorrow.

SMH - [We love a sunburnt country \(our air-conditioners, too\)](#)

BLACKOUTS that left Adelaide and Melbourne residents sweating in soaring temperatures could hit Sydney as power grids strain and the city braces for 42-degree heat. The Energy Networks Association, which represents gas and electricity companies, said grids were stretched to capacity and warned of more power failures.

"More blackouts will come as we get warmer temperatures. We've got temperatures and energy demand both at records at the moment," the association's chief executive, Andrew Blyth, said. The Federal Government had to invest \$50 billion in upgrading energy infrastructure nationally to drag it out of the 1950s, he said.

Drive.com.au - [Mitsubishi electric car charged for 2010](#)

An electric car looks set to go on sale in Australia next year for as little as \$30,000. The top secret plan to sell the Mitsubishi i-MiEV, codenamed Project Green Drive, has been in the pipeline for almost a year led by a team predominantly in their 20s and 30s.

SMH - [Coalition pays lip service to reducing emissions](#)

With the Nationals so entrenched against the scheme - despite its promised compensation for households, assistance to polluters, initial exemption for agriculture, and creation of thousands of "green" jobs - it is little wonder Malcolm Turnbull produced

his own policy 10 days ago that pays lip service to reducing emissions, while avoiding an emissions trading scheme.

With the Coalition divided, Turnbull pushed a scheme involving planting trees, returning carbon to the soil, making buildings more energy efficient and promoting carbon capture and storage, with the suggestion Labor had ignored all these alternatives.

In reality, Labor, in addition to its scheme, has pledged well over \$1 billion for clean coal and renewable energy projects, and is already studying the viability of returning carbon to the soil.

The Australian - [Solar power will create jobs, say Greens](#)

Senator Brown and the Greens' only Qld MP, Ronan Lee, today launched a plan to create more than 7600 green-collar jobs in the sunshine state. Senator Brown said retrofitting Queensland homes with better insulation and solar hot water tanks would reduce power bills for consumers and create 3200 jobs by its fifth year of operation. ...

Mr Lee said the party would also invest in two 250 megawatt solar power stations for Townsville and the Darling Downs. "Between them they would create 4000 jobs in the construction phase, and 400 ongoing positions," he said.

The Australian - [Warning of more heatwave blackouts](#)

AUTHORITIES have been warned to prepare for more damaging power blackouts, as the massive financial losses and the number of deaths from the heatwave that has crippled southeast Australia grow. Temperatures in Adelaide reached 40C again yesterday and the soaring temperatures are forecast to remain throughout this week. South Australian police yesterday declined to reveal the number of sudden deaths reported to them over the weekend, but it is believed there were up to a dozen yesterday and a few more on Saturday.

Blip.tv - [Charmaine Watts at SEANZ talks about renewable energy in New Zealand](#)

Charmaine Watts, Chief Executive Officer of the Sustainable Electricity Association of New Zealand (SEANZ), talks about the energy situation in her country and her group's efforts to encourage the deployment of more renewable energy generation there, recorded between LA and the North Island of New Zealand

WorldChanging - [Resource: Green Urbanism Down Under](#)

Australia and America share many cultural similarities. Among them: roots in Great Britain, a "New World" legacy of both optimism and exploitation, and a car-centric culture. But while Australia has become a trailblazer on the path to sustainable urban development, the United States still has much to learn.

Guide2.co.nz - [L&M Petroleum Granted Second Term To Drill Waiau Field](#)

L&M Petroleum has been granted a second five-year term to drill the onshore Waiau field, 60km west of Invercargill, which it shares with Mighty River Power. .. L&M was obliged to drill at least two coal seam gas wells this year with the first scheduled for May, depending on rig availability.

SF Chronicle - [Ausra's Robert Fishman talks about funding solar](#)

Q: Can renewable power keep growing now that oil and natural gas prices are low again?

A: The real question that people have to ask themselves is not what the cost of renewable energy is compared to natural gas-fired energy. It's what are you really trying to solve here? We're trying to solve security issues with imported energy, and solve climate change and create jobs. Also remember, energy prices at the moment are artificially low because of the low economic activity.

SMH - [Blow for energy proposal](#)

THE state's first industrial biomass energy plant is under a cloud after major electricity companies have decided not to recognise it as an accredited supplier of renewable power. A woodchip mill near Eden plans to build a biomass plant on site, burning waste wood to create electricity both to run the mill and supply the local power grid. Opponents argue that burning wood to create power is no cleaner than burning coal, and more inefficient.

The Australian - [AGL is ready to go on acquisition trail](#)

AGL is already Australia's largest owner of renewable energy, with about 27 per cent of its total generation capacity in clean energy investments such as wind farms and hydro-electric plants. Fraser has big plans to boost the company's renewable energy assets to ride the expected long-term growth in the sector, with plans to expand in wind farms, hydro-power and coal seam gas as well as less proven technologies such as geothermal (hot rocks). "We can see, in the long term, between 40 to 50 per cent of our generation capacity will come from renewables," he says,

ABC - [Customers should shoulder full energy cost: suppliers](#)

Electricity suppliers say consumers should be expected to pay the full cost of power under the Federal Government's plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Voxy - [Green Party Presents Policy Challenge](#)

"The Government should make it a rule to only buy the most fuel-efficient cars - the best-in-class," Norman said at the Green Party's Picnic for the Planet. "The best car for the job will save the country at least \$30m a year in fuel costs." Initiatives such as fuel-efficiency in the Government's vehicle fleet were the building blocks for a Green New Deal, Dr Norman said. "It is a response to both the financial crisis and the climate crisis."

In another new call, the Green Party Co-Leader challenged John Key to set standards for smart electricity meters: "You should be able to choose to run your dishwasher late at night and pay the cheapest rate for electricity; and sell power to the grid from rooftop solar panels." "My challenge to John Key is to show that his is a smart government by requiring smart meters that will reduce peak power demand and save consumers money."

Dr Norman's speech reiterated a call to reinstate the Green Homes Fund for families "facing another winter huddling by heaters they can hardly afford." Norman described the billion-dollar Fund as a common-sense "shot of adrenalin for the building sector" that would create jobs and cut power bills.

ABC - [Melb water storages drop 5pc](#)

The hot, dry conditions have led to a substantial reduction in Melbourne's water storages.

Peak Energy - [The benefits of an intercontinental energy grid](#)

ScienceAlert has an article on a DESERTEC Australia proposal to link the Australian gas an electricity grids with east Asia - The benefits of an intercontinental energy grid.

Peak Energy - [Oil players stockpile cheap crude on tankers](#)

Peak Energy - [Cheap, superefficient LED Lights On The Horizon](#)

Peak Energy - [Flush Hour: Oslo Buses Fueled By Biogas](#)

Peak Energy - [Severn Tidal Power Project Update](#)

Peak Energy - [The Ten Best Green Jobs for the Next Decade](#)

Peak Energy - [Green Walls In Chile](#)

Peak Energy - [The farms race](#)

Peak Energy - [Rudd Calls For New World Order](#)



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