

Council For The National Interest

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An Open Letter to the people of Collie, personally and all Western Australians generally

The Council for the National Interest (CNI) is gravely concerned for the future of the people of Collie following the announcement by Liberal Leader Zak Kirkup to switch to renewable energy for Western Australia and thus close down Collie's coal fired power stations to deliver cheaper power bills and for the State Government to achieve net-zero emissions of greenhouse gases by year 2020.

Mr Kirkup's proposal is scientifically flawed and will not produce cheaper power bills. It will lead to a massive loss of jobs and threaten the viability of Collie's businesses and many other Western Australian businesses and households as electricity prices rise.

The alleged culprit in greenhouse gases is Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) which is a colourless, odourless incombustible gas which is not a pollutant and does not warm the Earth. CO₂ is necessary for plant, animal and human life on Earth and is at historically low, near starvation levels of around 412 parts per million (ppm) in the atmosphere of the Earth.

During the past thirty years CO₂ in the atmosphere has been increasing slowly at about 2ppm annually. NASA satellite mapping shows that the Earth has been greening at an increase of about 5 per cent per decade in this period due to the increase in CO₂ levels.

In Western Australia today, the cheapest form of secure, reliable energy is produced by coal fired power stations. Coal fired power stations using clean coal technology do not emit sulphur, arsenic or mercury but do emit CO₂ which is beneficial to the Earth.

CNI urges all Western Australians but particularly those, resident in Collie and surrounding areas, to reject Mr Kirkup's New Energy Jobs Plan. Further, whatever government is in power should be pressed to ensure that Collie coal fired power stations are maintained updated and increased to encourage more industry to establish in the surrounding areas.

Signed Denis J Whitely
Executive Director
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