Dear reader

Hydrogen has been hitting the headlines with regularity of late, and with good reason. Hydrogen has the potential to create a multi-billion dollar export industry, positioning Australia as a regional leader in the manufacturing and export of hydrogen into the key Asian markets of Japan and South Korea.

The ECI recently made a submission regarding the Chief Scientist's Hydrogen Taskforce issues papers and earlier in the year we made an initial submission to the National Hydrogen strategy discussion paper. In our submissions we maintain that the emphasis should be on “clean” hydrogen, created using renewable energy sources. The rapid reduction in renewable energy costs provide Australia with a comparative advantage because of its excellent renewable energy resource and large land area.

Our experts also report that the top three factors required for a successful hydrogen export industry are 1) driving down renewable energy costs and facilitating 100% renewable energy, 2) consistent and predictable policy settings across the renewable energy / hydrogen value chain and 3) the evaluation of alternative pathway value propositions – especially location of generation and access points, and storage and transport technologies.

I’d like to take this opportunity to invite you to save the date for ANU Energy Update taking place on Monday 2 December, 8.30am - 5pm. This is ECI’s annual flagship event - a one-day summit that brings together energy researchers, policymakers, industry and the public to provide an overview of the latest world energy trends. We look forward to welcoming you there.

Regards,
Director, Energy Change Institute

Events

Global economic gains from complying with the Paris Climate Accord
Tue, 13 Aug, 2 - 3.30pm
Read more

IPCC Special Report on Climate Change & Land: Implications for Australia
Tue, 13 Aug, 6 - 7.30pm
Read more

National Science Week - Living with Climate Change Panel Discussion
Sun, 18 Aug, 1.30 - 4.30pm
Read more

Green Steel: Forging a new industry in Australia
Tue 27 Aug, 5.30 - 7.30pm
Read more

News

The new electricity boom: renewable energy makes staggering leap but can it last?
The Guardian, 29 Jul
Australia now has enough projects committed to meet the national 2020 renewable energy target.
Featuring commentary by Hon A/Prof Hugh Saddler.

While others face climate reality, our government denies the undeniable
Sydney Morning Herald, 1 Aug
We need to find a way to establish a climate transition commission, independent of the
political process, working to set up pathways away from fossil fuels & essential transitions for other industries, writes Prof John Hewson.

Fuelling the climate crisis: why LNG is no miracle cure for Australia's coal addiction

The Guardian, 7 Jul
Report on Australia’s thriving liquified natural gas trade. Australia is a significant player with $38bn in investments on the books. Featuring commentary by Prof Frank Jotzo.

Parliamentary inquiry to examine nuclear power potential

ABC News Mornings, 5 Aug
Australia needs to review its energy mix periodically, says Prof Ken Baldwin (starting at 39.50 mins).

Nature offers potential for endless renewable fuel supplies

ANU Press Release featuring Dr Nick Cox, 7 Aug
Scientists have cracked a key step in nature’s water-splitting recipe, which powers all plant life on Earth and may be harnessed to make a limitless supply of cheap renewable fuel.

Action on climate change, one person at a time

Canberra Times, 24 July
People all over regional Australia are talking about climate change, rather than ignoring it - and this is a positive change that’s hard to overstate, writes Dr Arnagretta Hunter.

Have you got climate zombies? We debunk the myths that refuse to die

ABC Science, 29 July
Commentary by Prof Mark Howden and Emeritus Prof Will Steffen.

More news

Arctic ice loss is worrying, but the giant stirring in the South could be even worse. The Conversation, co-

Heat now on transport, building industry, says new ACT climate councillor, RIOTACT! Featuring Prof Mark Howden, 14 Jul.

The terrible truth of climate change, The Monthly, Dr Joelle Gergis, Aug.

Fact Check: Are there really 54,000 people employed in thermal coal mining? Crikey, featuring A/Prof Ben Phillips, 12 Jul.

More events
Save the date: Public Lecture on UN Climate Change Summit, Mon 2 Sept, 6-7.30pm.
Save the date: ANU Energy Update, Mon 2 Dec, 8.30am - 5pm to be followed by Solar Oration, 6 - 7.40pm.

PhD student opportunities
Using historical weather extremes to improve future climate change risk assessment: student intake.