

A Positive Future for Australia

There has never been a more pressing time to promote the widespread use of renewable energy sources. Australia has already started to see the effects of anthropogenic climate change with rising air and ocean temperatures, increased atmospheric greenhouse gas concentrations and extreme fire seasons (CSIRO, 2014). Renewable energy sources such as solar, wind power and bioenergy lessen the reliance on coal and oil and make use of natural resources that are abundant in Australia. The use of these sustainable energy sources is rising. However making them the primary source of energy will require major changes to the status quo. Getting the majority of Australians on board with renewable energy will require education and promotion about its benefits, and clarity about its perceived risks. Coal mining contributes significantly to the economy and culture of Queensland, and there exists a debate within the community and government about the economic impact of renewable energy versus its benefits to the environment. Helping to change attitudes, promote understanding and inspire action are the first steps toward a positive, sustainable future for Australia.

References

- CSIRO and Bureau of Meteorology. (2014). State of the Climate 2014.

Elizabeth Crossan, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia