

NEWS RELEASE FROM
CLIMATE CHANGE AUSTRALIA
(HASTINGS BRANCH)
PO Box 2389, Port Macquarie NSW 2444



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PORT MACQUARIE HOSTS REGIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY FORUM

Over twenty climate change groups will gather in Port Macquarie this week-end to plan a significant boost to renewable energy in Australia. The workshop is the first of many around Australia and is being jointly hosted by Climate Change Australia – Hastings Branch (CCA-H) and the national 100% renewable campaign.

CCA_H president Harry Creamer said that community groups are becoming frustrated by the lack of government support for renewable energy.

“There is a lot of interest in clean, renewable energy, and the jobs it will provide in our regional towns. The rapid uptake of solar panels across the Port Macquarie – Hastings region is an indication of that”, Mr Creamer said.

“Australia is far from realising its full potential. In one of the sunniest countries in the world, it seems strange that we aren’t building large-scale solar plants like they are overseas”, he said.

According to Mr Creamer, a price on carbon plus a major increase in renewable energy is essential to stabilise electricity price rises.

“The delay in implementing clear policy on future energy supplies and the lack of a commitment to renewable energy is creating uncertainty and driving stop-gap measures which are more expensive”, he said.

“The longer we delay, the more expensive it gets to combat climate change and secure affordable energy for our future needs”.

Participants will be coming from as far away as Bega, Wagga Wagga and the Tweed. Local MP Rob Oakeshott has been invited to address the workshop.

The opportunity will also be taken to discuss a proposal for a North Coast Energy Strategy.

“The weekend will be a good opportunity to learn more about the opportunities renewable energy offers regional towns”, Mr Creamer said.

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Inquiries: Harry Creamer (0431 158 252); Steve Lockhart (6583 6393) or below.