

'This is your moment.
This is the time for those
who see and understand and
care and are willing to work
to say this time the warnings
will not be ignored. This time
we will prepare. This time
we will rise to the occasion.
And we will prevail'.

Former US Vice President Al Gore.

Energy Revolution starts here

There is no doubt about it, our world is warming up. As we burn up the planet's coal, oil and gas reserves, and cut down its remaining forests, greenhouse gases are pouring into the atmosphere. The delicate balance of atmospheric gases that sustains life is thickening, trapping more and more heat and irreversibly changing our world.

Already 150,000 people are dying every year because of climate change and, within 50 years, one-third of all land-based species could face extinction. Australians face losing some of our greatest natural icons, the Great Barrier Reef and Kakadu. Many Pacific Islanders face losing their homes to sea level rise.

The good news is that we know exactly what needs to be done to stop climate change - and the technologies we need already exist. With the right policies at national and local levels, we can deploy

them on a large scale. What is needed is an energy revolution.

2006 saw the beginning of the revolution towards a clean energy future - an inspiring and visionary movement for a safe and secure future for generations to come.

In February, twenty-seven committed South Australians completed a challenging five day, 100km walk from Goolwa, at the mouth of the Murray, to Adelaide. The Murray to Mike walkers, supported by Greenpeace and the Conservation Council of South Australia, were challenging Premier Mike Rann by challenging themselves, walking through areas in South Australia which are vulnerable to climate change.

Their walk, and arrival in Adelaide just days before the first birthday of the global climate treaty, the Kyoto Protocol, drew attention to the urgent need for

strong policies on climate change and renewable energy. As a result of this work and the actions of many South Australians, the state committed to cuts of 60% in greenhouse pollution by 2050 and a renewable energy target of 15% by 2014.

With momentum building towards a clean energy future, Sydney and Newcastle councils called for "just transitions" for coal workers and a clean energy future for the Hunter Valley. In an unprecedented move, Newcastle Council demanded a cap on coal exports.

In September, Victoria legislated a renewable energy target of 10% by 2016, up from four per cent. In the weeks that followed the new legislation, over \$1 billion worth of new renewable energy projects were announced in Victoria.

In November in New South Wales, Premier Iemma promised to legislate a

renewable energy target of 10% by 2010 and 15% by 2020.

Hundreds of climate action groups sprang up around the country in 2006. The Walk against Warming saw Australia's biggest ever climate change protests with over 100,000 people rallying nationally.

A Newspoll released in November shows that 91 per cent of Australians believe the Australian Government should change Australia's energy system from coal to renewable energy. In 2006 Green Power customers went up by an incredible 84 per cent in 2006 and sales of Green Power electricity increased by 59 per cent.

Australia still has a long way to go when it comes to energy solutions but the message from the public is clear: the clean energy revolution is beginning.



Main image: Sole wind turbine
© Greenpeace

From left: Protester at Walk
Against Warming in Melbourne
© Greenpeace/Dekker

Centre: Tens of thousands
took part in the Walk Against
warming in Melbourne
© Greenpeace/Dekker

Right: Sydney crowd scene.
Huge crowds of around 50,000
voters joined the Walk Against
Warming in Sydney
© Greenpeace/Amendolia

The biodiversity and environmental integrity of the world's food supply is too important to our survival to be put at risk.



The Future is GE free

Genetically Engineered (GE) food is unpredictable, unnecessary and poses unacceptable threats to human health and the environment. Greenpeace has successfully prevented biotech companies from conducting a massive global experiment with the world's food supply. Thanks to action by Greenpeace and our 9,000 strong True Food Network, as well as our supporters and allies, the vast majority of GE crops still remain confined to just three countries, despite ten years of aggressive lobbying by the biotech industry.

But the threat to our food supply is constant. In 2006 grains importer Cargill imported the first ever shipment of genetically engineered (GE) canola from Canada into Australia. To highlight this unwanted contamination, Greenpeace activists stopped the shipment from offloading at Newcastle port for three hours. As a result of the action, and lobbying from our supporters, Australia's biggest margarine producers Goodman Fielder and Unilever

both committed to only use GE-free canola oil in their products.

The launch of the 4th Edition of the True Food Guide, 2006 also saw major companies such as Haigh's, Arnotts Campbells, Bega, San Remo and Parmalat join the many other numerous top Australian food companies committed to keep GE ingredients out of their products.

Internationally, pressure from Greenpeace resulted in China delaying the approval of GE rice in 2006, despite consistent attempts by industry to get it approved. 2006 also saw the rice traders of the two largest rice exporting countries, Thailand and Vietnam, sign an agreement that commits them to being GE-free.

Growing awareness of the unwanted effects of GE-food has sparked a wave of rejection by consumers and food companies in some of the world's largest markets. Our message is ringing through loud and clear – the future is GE free.

Main image: Greenpeace wants to prevent GE canola from sneaking unlabelled and unwanted into the food chain © Greenpeace/Thomas

Inset: The unloading of the first ever shipment of genetically engineered canola to land in Australia was blockaded by Greenpeace activists © Greenpeace/Thomas



'Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful people could change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.'

Margaret Mead

People Power

Networks of Greenpeace volunteers all over the world are vital in our work to nurture and preserve the environment. Thank you to everyone who gave up their time to help Greenpeace in 2006 – from office volunteers to activists and local group members – we couldn't do it without you!

1. Suva local group volunteers display a banner identifying the Mahkoia Abadi as a known pirate fishing ship. The ship was discovered after local group volunteer Josua Turaganivalu, photographed the vessel in Suva Harbour.
2. At the Sydney Walk Against Warming local group volunteers pose in bed as 'Miss Coal' and John Howard to demonstrate against our Government's alarming, dangerous relationship with the coal industry.
3. After surveying local furniture stores on their wood purchasing policies, Adelaide local group volunteers take action to encourage Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified timber be stocked instead of illegally logged timber.
4. Volunteers attending activism training in the Hunter valley mid 2006 capped it off with a series of actions in Newcastle against the expansion of the coal industry, Australia's largest contributor to climate change.
5. Melbourne local group volunteers take to the streets as part of our international day of action for whales. Hundreds of Victorians add their voice to our anti whaling campaign.
6. Throughout 2006 Perth local group volunteers hold numerous community talks about genetically engineered (GE) food and how to avoid it.
7. Senior Australians get behind the Clean Energy Campaign with the launch of our latest volunteer group - the Grey Power Community. We now have almost 200 registered Grey Power volunteers.
8. 2006 saw the reinvigoration of our office volunteer and intern program in our offices in Sydney, Suva, PNG and Canberra. We welcomed volunteers from Germany, Austria, France, Colombia, UK, Korea and Brazil in addition to the many Australian volunteers and interns.

Main image: Wind power facility in the "Westerwald" © Greenpeace/Langrock/Zenit
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