

**CONFERENCE
PROGRAM**

**CLIMATE
INTEGRITY
SUMMIT 24**

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The **Australia
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30 yrs
Research that matters. | of big ideas

The Australia Institute's Climate Integrity Summit brings together leading experts in economics, ecology, policy and governance, along with key parliamentarians and journalists to discuss a credible and achievable climate policy that serves the Australian people and broader global community.

20 MARCH 2024 || PARLIAMENT HOUSE • CANBERRA

Welcome to the Climate Integrity Summit 2024.

2023 has shown us a planet on the brink of collapse. Cyclones, heatwaves, catastrophic floods, fires and landslides have killed people, destroyed ecosystems and decimated communities. And yet Australia is still yet to repair all the homes lost in the Black Summer bushfires of 2020 or the devastating Lismore floods of 2017 and 2022.

No Australian government, state or federal, is ready to deal with the compounding consequences of new disasters occurring faster than we can recover from previous ones. The new normal of overlapping climate catastrophes will undermine regional communities, economic stability and national security.

Unabated climate change is an enormous risk, but to be clear it is caused by the unabated fossil fuel subsidies and unabated gas and coal mine approvals that Australian governments remain addicted to.

The climate isn't just changing. It has already changed, and we are already paying a high price. How much worse things get is up to us. The United Nations Global Stocktake has confirmed that current global efforts to reduce emissions and safeguard against the worst impacts of climate change are dangerously insufficient.

The science says there is still a window, albeit a rapidly closing one, for the world to stay within the limits of 1.5 degrees of global warming. To have any chance of achieving this, we, as a global community, must dramatically and urgently change course.

As one of my mentors, Professor Tony McMichael, once said to me, *"Never forget that 1.5 degrees is a lot better than 2 degrees, and that 2 degrees is a lot better than 2.5 degrees. Never stop working for more."*

As the world's 13th largest economy and the world's third largest fossil fuel exporter, Australia has a special responsibility to not only demonstrate courage and leadership on climate at home but also to use our wealth and creativity to help our trading partners, regional neighbours, and those most vulnerable to the climate crisis cope with the harm our fossil fuel exports have done so much to cause.

The Australia Institute's 2023 Climate Integrity Summit established the six principles that must sit at the heart of policymaking to ensure it is robust, grounded in truth and uncorrupted in all senses of the word.

Climate policy with integrity is:

- 1. Simple:** The two fundamental things that need to happen to address climate change are to stop burning fossil fuels, and to stop clearing land.
- 2. Science-based:** The science calls for absolute reduction in emissions, not creative baselines, or reduced emissions intensity, or offsets.
- 3. Independent:** Policy decisions should be made independently, not by vested interests.
- 4. Transparent:** Climate integrity means having nothing to hide, at any level.
- 5. Government-driven:** Ultimately it is the ambition of government that will determine the ambition of industry.
- 6. Conservative:** We need to be honest with ourselves about the size of the task and the scale of our willingness to act.

With these principles the opportunity exists for Australia to genuinely drive decarbonisation and investment, both here and abroad.

In the words of the United Nations Secretary-General, Antonio Guterres, *"Let me be very clear again: the phase-out of fossil fuels is essential and inevitable. No amount of spin or scare tactics will change that."*

In the words of Selwin Hart, the Secretary General's Special Adviser for Climate Action, *"There has never been more clarity on what needs to be done, by whom, and within what timeframe to prevent a climate catastrophe."*

The solutions exist. If we want to rapidly reduce greenhouse gas emissions, then we need to stop subsidising fossil fuel production and consumption (and save \$11 billion per year), start taxing the fossil fuel industry heavily (for example, with a carbon tax and expanded petroleum resource rent tax), and invest far more in energy efficiency and renewables.

The Australia Institute's 2024 Climate Integrity Summit brings together experts from academia, politics, not-for-profit and the private sector to explore the different dimensions of integrity in our climate policies, in order to help us all understand the solutions and how to implement them.

Thank you to all the speakers for taking the time to share their expertise, and to the audience for participating today and taking this message beyond this event.



Dr Richard Denniss
Executive Director
The Australia Institute

> **Opening & Closing Remarks**



Dr Richard Denniss
*Executive Director,
The Australia Institute*

Executive Director of the Australia Institute, Dr Richard Denniss is a prominent Australian economist, author and public policy commentator, and has spent the last twenty years moving between policy-focused roles in academia, federal politics and think-tanks.

He was also a Lecturer in Economics at the University of Newcastle and former Associate Professor in the Crawford School of Public Policy at ANU.

He is a regular contributor to *The Monthly* and the author of several books including: *Big: The Role of the State in the Modern Economy*, *Econobabble*, *Curing Affluenza* and *Dead Right: How Neoliberalism Ate Itself and What Comes Next?*

> **Keynote**



**Rt Hon
Mr Enele S Sopoaga PC**
Former Prime Minister of Tuvalu

Mr Enele S Sopoaga, former Prime Minister and Minister for Public Utilities of Tuvalu, was appointed President of the SIDS DOCK Assembly in September 2016, being the leader of the member states across the Pacific, Caribbean, Africa and Indian Ocean regions.

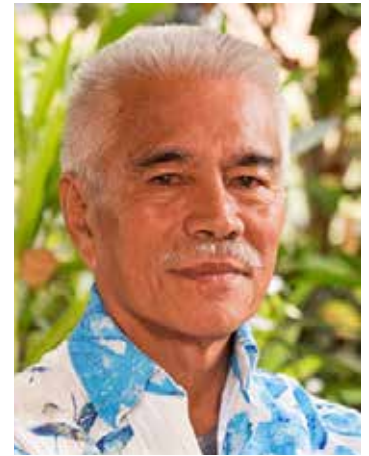
As a Tuvaluan diplomat and politician, he was elected to parliament in the general election of 2010.

He served as Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Environment and Labour. Following an unsuccessful bid for the premiership in December 2010, he became Leader of the Opposition during Prime Minister Willy Telavi's government.

Enele earned a certificate in diplomatic studies from Oxford University in 1990 and a master's degree from the University of Sussex.

He is a member of the Pacific Elders' Voice.

> **Address: 'Navigating Australia & the campaign to end coal'**



**His Excellency
Mr Anote Tong**
Former President of Kiribati

Anote Tong was the President of the Republic of Kiribati from 2003 to 2016 when he retired after holding office for the mandatory three term limit.

Throughout his terms in office he highlighted the human dimensions of the climate change challenge with a special focus on the existential threat it poses for Pacific Island and other communities on the front line. Whilst in office he was a Board Member of Conservation International (CI), and upon leaving office in 2016 was appointed as a Distinguished Fellow of CI.

In 2015 he was awarded the SunHak Peace Prize and has been nominated twice for the Nobel Peace Prize, was awarded the Edmund Hilary Award, the Peter Benchley Ocean Award, as well as other awards for his work on climate change and ocean conservation.

To date, he continues his advocacy work on these and other regional issues speaking to various audiences worldwide. He is a member and current chair of the Pacific Elders' Voice group which comprises former national, academic and diplomatic leaders from the Pacific region.

> Address: Assistant Minister for Competition, Charities, Treasury and Employment



Hon Dr Andrew Leigh MP
Assistant Minister for Competition, Charities, Treasury and Employment

Dr Andrew Leigh is the Assistant Minister for Competition, Charities, Treasury and Employment, and Federal Member for Fenner in the ACT.

Prior to being elected in 2010, Andrew was a professor of economics at the Australian National University. He holds a PhD in Public Policy from Harvard, having graduated from the University of Sydney with first class honours in Arts and Law.

Andrew is a past recipient of the Economic Society of Australia's Young Economist Award and a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Social Sciences.

> Address: 'Removing the fossil fuel industry's influence on politics and parliament'



Senator Larissa Waters
Australian Greens Leader in the Senate and Senator for Queensland

Larissa Waters is the first Greens Senator for Queensland and is the Leader of the Australian Greens in the Senate. She took office in July 2011 and is the Federal spokesperson on Women and Democracy.

Senator Waters is an environmental lawyer who worked in the community sector for 9 years advising people how to use the law to protect the environment. She was named Australian Young Environmental Lawyer of the Year 2010 by the Law Council of Australia.

She is passionate about representative democracy and public participation, accountability in government, equality for women, and protecting our environment.

As Leader of the Australian Greens in the Senate, she is working to improve federal laws to put an end to domestic and family violence, promote gender equality and empowerment of women and girls, transition to renewable energy sources, and clean up politics by ending corporate donations to political parties which buy favours for the big end of town.

> Address: 'The climate crisis is an integrity crisis'



Polly Hemming
Climate & Energy Director, The Australia Institute

Polly Hemming is the director of the Climate and Energy Program at The Australia Institute. She has extensive experience working in policy, marketing and engagement roles in both not-for-profit and public sectors.

Her current work focuses on carbon markets, climate integrity and greenwash. In a former life she led a government-run ecolabel promoting climate action by the private sector and maintains a strong interest in non-state climate ambition and the policies and regulation that interact with this.

Her previous roles have included academic publishing, remote Indigenous education, refugee advocacy and science communication, bringing a range of perspectives and experiences to her work.

> Address: 'Climate change action from the Top Western Torres Strait'



Dr Aunty McRose Elu
Advocate for Torres Strait communities and climate change

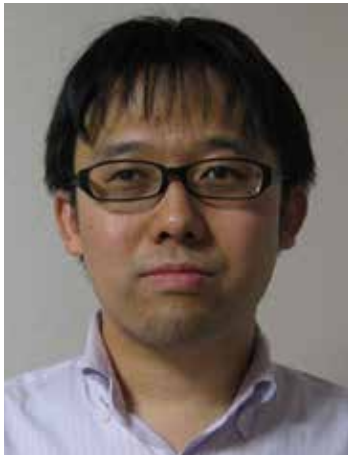
Torres Strait Island Elder Dr Aunty McRose Elu is a tireless advocate for her community. She has an unwavering vision to bring about change to better the lives of children and families.

Dr Elu is committed to reconciliation and sharing the traditional practices of her people at local, state and federal levels. She was instrumental in negotiations to legally recognise the traditional customary adoption practices of Torres Strait Islander families - which led to the introduction of a landmark Bill to the Queensland Parliament.

Since 1980, Dr Elu has been drawing global attention to the impacts of climate change on the Torres Strait, including speaking at the UN and to business and political leaders. As a member of the Australian Religious Response to Climate Change (ARCC), she advocates for renewable energy and sustainable methods of production.

Dr Elu also provides essential translation for Torres Strait Islander communities to help them access services and lobbies for funding to support community capacity building.

> Address: 'Does Japan really need Australia's gas?'



Dr Yuki Tanabe
Program Director, Japan Center for a Sustainable Environment and Society

Yuki Tanabe joined Japan Center for a Sustainable Environment and Society (JACES) in 2003, and became a Program Director in 2005. He oversees the Sustainable Development and Aid Program (SDAP) including policy and project research and advocacy activities on social and environmental issues in development projects funded by Japanese financial institutions.

He also has been a campaign coordinator of Stop Japanese Fossil Finance coalition which aims to urge Japanese financial institutions to stop financing for overseas fossil fuel projects including the JBIC funded Barossa gas project in Australia. He is a member of Development Project Accountability Committee, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan, and a member of JICA's Advisory Committee on Environmental and Social Considerations.

> Video Report: 'We can't see the forest for the carbon'



Stephen Long
Senior Fellow and Contributing Editor, The Australia Institute

Stephen Long is a highly acclaimed journalist, renowned for his forensic investigative reporting, analysis and commentary.

During a long career he worked as a senior reporter on the ABC's flagship investigative journalism program, Four Corners, as economics correspondent and as national finance correspondent, filing across nearly all ABC outlets.

He also worked as a senior reporter and columnist at The Australian Financial Review covering industrial relations and labour markets, and as a reporter at the Sydney Morning Herald.

Stephen is a Walkley Award winner, a winner of the Citigroup Award for Economic and Financial Journalism and the Commonwealth Media Award. He studied political economy and history at the University of Sydney.

> Address: 'Gomeri Ngaar, Bigan Ngaar (Gomeri are strong when our Law is strong)'



Polly Cutmore
Gamilaraay/Wirri/Anaiwan Elder and Traditional Owner

Maria "Polly" Cutmore is an elder and advocate for her people, the first peoples of the northern floodplains of New South Wales, the Wirriyaroi and the Gamilaroi peoples.

Polly has spent her life working for different aboriginal organisations and the NSW Government. She now lives on country and has dedicated the rest of her life to creating a better future for her people, by stopping mining and gas, getting water outcomes for her community and land for traditional owners.

She supports a movement to go back and care for country, and developing Aboriginal business based around reviving traditional foods and medicines.

> Address: 'Carbon Myth Industry'



Mark Wootton
Farmer and Environmental Steward, Jigsaw Farms

Mark Wootton AO is a geographer by training and a farmer by practice. He is deputy Chair of the Victorian Agriculture Climate Change Council. He was past Chair and founder of the Climate Institute from 2005 to 2017.

With his wife, Eve Kantor, he produces carbon neutral beef, lamb, wool and timber at Jigsaw Farms near Hamilton in south west Victoria, Australia.

Jigsaw Farms is a 3,500 hectare high input, high output livestock operation spanning six properties. The operation runs 20,000 Merino ewes and 620 head of cattle. The family has also planted 18% of the land to trees (half for high value saw log timber and the other half for biodiversity plantings and waterway restoration).

> Address: 'Redlight for Greenwashing: ASIC's action on greenwashing'



Jennifer Balding
Senior Manager, Investigation and Enforcement, Australian Securities and Investments Commission

Jennifer is Senior Manager of an Investigation and Enforcement team within ASIC's Enforcement & Compliance Group. She leads ASIC's enforcement action associated with financial services, credit and corporations sectors and led a number of ASIC's recent greenwashing enforcement actions.

Jennifer has more than 30 years' enforcement, litigation and regulatory experience in several senior roles across ASIC, the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority and the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions.

Before joining ASIC, Jennifer worked in commercial litigation with a national law firm and holds a Bachelor of Laws/Bachelor of Arts from Macquarie University.

> Address: 'Why maintaining ambition for 1.5°C is critical'



Dr Bill Hare
CEO of Climate Analytics, member of the UN High-Level Expert Group on the Net-Zero Emissions Commitments of Non-State Entities

Dr Bill Hare is a physicist and climate scientist with 30 years' experience in science, impacts and policy responses to climate change and stratospheric ozone depletion. He is a founder and CEO of Climate Analytics, which was established to synthesise and advance scientific knowledge on climate change and provide state-of-the-art solutions to global and national climate change policy challenges. He is an Adjunct Professor of Energy at Murdoch University.

He has contributed actively to the development of the international climate regime since 1989, including the negotiation of the 1992 UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, the 1997 Kyoto Protocol, and the Paris Agreement in 2015.

He was a Lead Author for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Fourth Assessment Report, for which the IPCC was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007. He led the influential World Bank Turn Down the Heat reports series in 2013-2014, and has authored, or co-authored, many peer-reviewed articles in leading academic journals including *Nature Climate Change*, *Nature*, *Climatic Change*, *Regional Environmental Change*, and *Climate Policy*.

> Address: 'Climate Envoy for the Marshall Islands'



Tina Stege
Climate Envoy for the Marshall Islands

Tina Eonemto Stege is the Climate Envoy for the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

Born in Saipan, raised on Kwajalein and Majuro, and educated in Honolulu, she brings a Pacific focus to her community-based work on a range of issues, from the impacts of nuclear testing to sustainable development and climate adaptation.

Stege received her BA from Princeton University and her M.A. in Anthropology from the Université d'Aix-en-Provence.

> MC



Liz Morison
Climate Initiatives Lead, The Australia Institute

Liz Morison is the Climate Initiatives Lead in the Climate and Energy Program at the Australia Institute.

Liz joined the Australia Institute as an inaugural Anne Kantor Young Women Environmentalists Fellow.

Her work in climate and environmental integrity is informed by her multidisciplinary background in research and data analysis, journalism, communications and community organising. She holds an Honours degree in Conservation Biology, with a focus on the impacts of climate extremes on ecosystems.

Panel #1 // We know what works: *The power of political leadership and evidence-based policy*

> Panel Chair

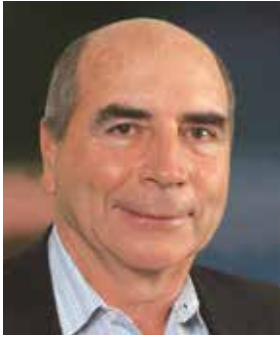


Rachel Withers
*Editor-in-Chief,
The Politics*

Rachel Withers is the editor-in-chief of *The Politics*, a new independent media outlet offering commentary and criticism on Australian politics.

She was previously a contributing editor at *The Monthly*, where she helmed the daily *auspol* newsletter, as well as writing essays for print.

She has a Master's degree in Cultural Reporting and Criticism from NYU and has freelanced for *Slate*, *Vox*, *Crikey*, and *The Saturday Paper*.



Bernie Fraser
*Former Governor, Reserve
Bank of Australia*

Bernie Fraser has decades of experience in public economic policy in Australia, including serving as Governor of the Reserve Bank from 1989 to 1996. He has worked in the Commonwealth Public Service for 25 years, spending time as Secretary to the Treasury from 1984 to 1989, three years in the Department of Finance and three years as Director of the National Energy Office.

More recently, Mr Fraser has had extensive involvement in the not-for-profit industry superannuation movement, including as an independent director of several funds and as chair of Members' Equity Bank.

He was chair of the Climate Change Authority for three years before resigning in September, 2015. Bernie Fraser has received Honorary Doctorates from the University of New England and Charles Sturt University. He is also an honorary Professor of Economics at the University of Canberra.



Dr Monique Ryan MP
*Independent Member for
Kooyong*

Dr Monique Ryan was formerly Director of the Neurology Department of the Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne and a professor of medicine at both Melbourne and Monash Universities.

In May 2022, Dr Ryan was elected Independent member for the federal seat of Kooyong, having stood on a platform of action on climate change, integrity in government, gender equity and health care.

She is the first woman and first Independent to ever hold this seat. Her areas of climate focus in the coming year are electric vehicle affordability and availability, household electrification strategies, native forest logging, and the Middle Arm development in the Northern Territory.



Dr Sophie Scamps MP
*Independent Member for
Mackellar*

Dr Sophie Scamps is the Independent Member for the Federal electorate of Mackellar. Sophie made history at the 2022 election by becoming the first Independent to win the Northern Beaches seat since it was first formed in 1949.

She won the seat after promising a new way of doing politics, putting the community first and campaigning on a platform of climate action, integrity, and equality.

Before deciding to stand as an Independent in the 2022 election, she was a practicing GP in Narrabeen while she also served the community as a doctor in the Emergency Department of Mona Vale Hospital.

Whilst studying medicine at the University of Sydney and then Oxford University in the UK, she was an elite athlete. Her athletics achievements include qualifying for the 1992 Olympics in 800m, while she was also a gold medallist at the World Junior Athletics Championship. She continues to be involved in athletics to this day.

She is also the founder of *Our Blue Dot*, a community-led NGO that aims to help individuals and community groups reduce their impact on the environment.



Dr Fergus Green
*Lecturer in Political Theory
& Public Policy, University
College London*

Dr Fergus Green is a Lecturer in Political Theory & Public Policy in the Department of Political Science at University College London.

He works on the politics, governance and ethics of decarbonisation—including the "just transition" agenda, fossil fuel supply, and Green New Deal-style policy programmes.

He has published in academic journals ranging from the *American Political Science Review* to *Nature Climate Change*, and has contributed to the UN Environment Programme's fossil fuel Production Gap Report. After completing undergraduate degrees in law and arts at the University of Melbourne, Fergus worked as a lawyer in Melbourne specialising in climate change law.

He moved to London in 2012 after receiving a Sir John Monash Scholarship to support his graduate studies at the London School of Economics & Political Science (LSE), where he completed a PhD in political theory and worked as a Policy Analyst & Research Advisor to Professor Nicholas Stern.

Panel #2 // The ecosystem of accountability: *Holding government and industry to account*

> Panel Chair



Paul Karp
*Chief Political Correspondent,
The Guardian*

Paul Karp is Guardian Australia's chief political correspondent. He has reported from the federal parliamentary press gallery since he arrived in Canberra in 2016.

Before that, Paul was chief reporter of Workforce, a Thomson Reuters industrial relations news service.



Shane Rattenbury
MLA
*ACT Minister for Climate
Change and Sustainability*

Shane Rattenbury MLA is an elected member for Kurrajong and the leader of the ACT Greens.

Shane was first elected to the ACT Legislative Assembly in 2008, and has served as Speaker and crossbench MLA, as well as holding various Ministries.

Shane is currently Attorney-General, Minister for Water, Energy and Emissions Reduction, Minister for Gaming and Minister for Consumer Affairs. He is also the ACT Greens' spokesperson for Treasury and First Nations affairs.



Regina Featherstone
*Senior Lawyer, Human
Rights Law Centre*

Regina Featherstone is a Senior Lawyer in the Human Rights Law Centre's Whistleblower Project, the first pro bono legal service in Australia dedicated to protecting whistleblowers and creating stronger public interest accountability mechanisms in the government and private sector. Her work focuses on assisting whistleblowers to come forward with allegations of environmental wrongdoing and misdeeds of the fossil fuel industry.

Prior to joining the Human Rights Law Centre, Regina was a Senior Associate at Allens and a solicitor at Redfern Legal Centre. Regina has also worked as a refugee lawyer in Nauru and Australia.

Currently, Regina is joint Social Justice Practitioner-in-Residence at The University of Sydney, conducting research on sexual harassment and non-disclosure agreement use.



Belinda Noble
Founder, CommsDeclare

Belinda spent 20 years in news journalism, working as a reporter and supervising producer for TV stations in Australia, Asia and the UK. She moved to corporate communications and PR in 2011, firstly working in local government, and then as Head of Media & Communications for Australian Red Cross.

She now prioritises climate action in her work and private life – aiming to build support in the communications industry, reduce science denial and greenwashing.

She has a Masters in Leadership, a Graduate Diploma in Management, a BA in Communications and accreditations in public consultation, emergency management and customer experience.

Comms Declare is harnessing the power of communications, marketing, media and advertising to supercharge the transition to a climate-friendly future. We are a volunteer group that is constructive, fact-based and non-partisan.

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WEDNESDAY 20TH MARCH 2024
AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENT HOUSE • CANBERRA

Time	Session	Speaker
9.00am	Registration <i>Parliament House Theatre Parliament House</i>	
9.30am	Introduction	Liz Morison Climate Initiatives Lead, The Australia Institute
	Welcome to Country	Violet Sheridan
9.40am	Opening Remarks	Dr Richard Denniss Executive Director, The Australia Institute
9.50am	Keynote	Rt Hon Mr Enele S Sopoaga PC Former Prime Minister of Tuvalu
10.10am	The climate crisis is an integrity crisis	Polly Hemming Climate & Energy Program Director, The Australia Institute
10.30am	Address: Assistant Minister for Competition, Charities, Treasury and Employment	Hon Dr Andrew Leigh MP Assistant Minister for Competition, Charities, Treasury and Employment
10.40am	Panel #1 > We know what works: <i>The power of political leadership and evidence-based policy</i>	<i>Chaired by</i> Rachel Withers Bernie Fraser Former Governor, Reserve Bank of Australia Dr Monique Ryan MP Independent Member for Kooyong Dr Sophie Scamps MP Independent Member for Mackellar Dr Fergus Green Lecturer in Political Theory & Public Policy, University College London
11.45am	Lunch <i>Theatre Foyer</i>	

Time	Session	Speaker
12.45pm	<i>Navigating Australia & the campaign to end coal: Reflections from a Pacific leader</i>	His Excellency Mr Anote Tong Former President of Kiribati
1.05pm	<i>Removing the fossil fuel industry's influence on politics and parliament</i>	Senator Larissa Waters Australian Greens Leader in the Senate and Senator for Queensland
1.15pm	<i>Panel #2 > The ecosystem of accountability: Holding government and industry to account</i>	<i>Chaired by</i> Paul Karp Shane Rattenbury MLA ACT Minister for climate change Regina Featherstone Senior Lawyer, Human Rights Law Centre Belinda Noble Founder, CommsDeclare
2.15pm	<i>Climate change action from the Top Western Torres Strait</i>	Dr Aunty McRose Elu Advocate for Torres Strait communities and climate change
2.30pm	<i>Does Japan really need Australia's gas?</i>	Dr Yuki Tanabe Program Director, Japan Center for a Sustainable Environment and Society
2.50pm	<i>Break</i> <i>Theatre Foyer</i>	
3.20pm	<i>We can't see the forest for the carbon</i> <i>Video report</i>	Stephen Long Senior Fellow and Contributing Editor, The Australia Institute
3.30pm	<i>Gomeroi Ngaar, Bigan Ngaar (Gomeroi are strong when our Law is strong): Gomeroi, Native Title and Santos</i>	Polly Cutmore Gamilaraay/Wirri/Anaiwan Elder and Traditional Owner
3.40pm	<i>Carbon Myth Industry</i>	Mark Wootton Farmer and Environmental Steward, Jigsaw Farms
3.55pm	<i>Redlight for Greenwashing: ASIC's action on greenwashing</i>	Jennifer Balding Senior Manager, Investigation and Enforcement, Australian Securities and Investments Commission
4.10pm	<i>Why maintaining ambition for 1.5°C is critical</i>	Dr Bill Hare CEO of Climate Analytics, member of the UN High-Level Expert Group on the Net-Zero Emissions Commitments of Non-State Entities
4.30pm	<i>Address: Climate Envoy for the Marshall Islands</i>	Tina Stege Climate Envoy for the Marshall Islands
4.40pm	<i>Closing Remarks</i>	Dr Richard Denniss Executive Director, The Australia Institute
5pm	<i>Close</i>	

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