

No new coal mines

Rod Campbell, March 2025

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NO new coal mines



NO new coal mines

OPINION

You must be coking! Are new coalmines OK if they help make steel?

July 21, 2023 by Rod Campbell in Crikey

Climate & Energy Environment



Rod Campbell
Research Director

Originally published in Crikey on July 21, 2023

Some critics argue we should lay off metallurgical coalmines because they're used for

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NO new coal mines



Baal Bone Colliery

AEMR 2006

Managed by
xstrata
coal

During the reporting period there were no changes to the product transportation process. However, Baal Bone has been advised that the contact to supply a boutique “nut-coal” to Nowra will not be renewed when it expires at the end of January 2007. This contract has been awarded to the Invincible Colliery.

No NEW coal mines

- No new or “greenfield” mines
- No extensions beyond existing approvals
- No test pits, bulk samples, exploration.

No new COAL MINES

There is no need for investment in new fossil fuel supply in our net zero pathway



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Net Zero by 2050

A Roadmap for the Global Energy Sector

Beyond projects already committed as of 2021, there are **no new** oil and gas fields approved for development in our pathway, and no new coal mines or mine extensions are required. The unwavering policy focus on climate change in the net zero pathway results in a sharp decline in fossil fuel demand, meaning that the focus for oil and gas producers switches entirely to output – and emissions reductions – from the operation of existing assets. Unabated coal demand declines by 98% to just less than 1% of total energy use in 2050. Gas demand declines by 55% to 1 750 billion cubic metres and oil declines by 75% to 24 million barrels per day (mb/d), from around 90 mb/d in 2020.

Who wants no new coal mines?



SUVA DECLARATION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

2nd - 4th September, 2015
Grand Pacific Hotel, Suva, Fiji



6. **Express grave concern** that the continued increase in the production of fossil fuels, particularly the construction of new coal mines, undermines efforts to reduce global GHG emissions and the goal of decarbonising the global economy;

Who wants no new coal mines?

Over 220 of the world's leading climate scientists and eminent experts have signed the Australia Institute's open letter.

An Open Letter

Australia Must Accelerate Climate Action, Not Climate Annihilation

To the Australian Government

World leaders convene this week at the United Nations Climate Ambition Summit in recognition that the global community must accelerate efforts to prevent irreversible and catastrophic climate change.

The United Nations Secretary General, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), International Energy Agency (IEA), and scientists from all over the world have made it clear there is no room for new gas, coal and oil projects in the global carbon budget.

Yet, in Australia, over 10,000 miles from where leaders will meet to demonstrate their commitment to climate action, vast areas of the continent are covered by coal, gas and oil production and licenses.

Fossil fuels produced in Australia currently result in 1.5 billion tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions annually.

In this – the 'decisive decade' for climate – there are over 100 new coal and gas projects in development in Australia according to official data.

If all these projects proceed, research by the Australia Institute shows they would add a further 1.7 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent to the atmosphere every year – roughly the equivalent emissions of the entire Russian Federation, the world's fourth-largest polluter.

Accelerating the pace and scale of climate action means an end to new fossil fuel approvals and subsidies.

As the world's third largest exporter of fossil fuels, Australia has a special responsibility to stop fuelling the increase in global emissions caused by Australian fossil fuel production, both in Australia and overseas.

We call on the Australian Government to follow the advice of the United Nations, the IEA and the IPCC and prevent any further new fossil fuel developments in Australia.

<p>Laureate Professor Peter Doherty AC Nobel Prize Laureate 1996, Australian of the Year 1997</p> <p>Adjunct Professor Bill Hare Director, Climate Analytics</p> <p>Adjunct Associate Professor Martin Carey</p> <p>Associate Professor Sarah Perkins-Kirkpatrick</p> <p>Associate Professor Ben Southwell Deputy Director, Melbourne Climate Futures, The University of Melbourne</p> <p>Dr Jodie Oerghel Senior Lecturer, The Australian National University</p> <p>Dr Peter Kubisa Climate Scientist and Author</p> <p>Dr Rosemary Stanton OAM Senior Visiting Fellow, School of Medical Sciences, The University of New South Wales</p> <p>Professor Anne de Vernal University of Quebec in</p>	<p>Bill McKibben Founder, 350.org, Third Act Australia</p> <p>Carman Lawrence AO Former Premier of Western Australia</p> <p>Christine Milne AO Ambassador, Global Greens</p> <p>Distinguished Professor Terry Hughes FAA James Cook University</p> <p>Distinguished Research Professor Plains Manley AC FAA The University of Western Australia, Australian of the Year 2002</p> <p>Dr Benita Prosser Former Secretary to the Treasury, Former Governor of the Reserve Bank of Australia</p> <p>Dr David Horowitz Founder and Director, Social Justice Fund</p> <p>Dr Douglas LaFleur Chief Scientist, Australian Centre for Corporate Responsibility</p>	<p>Dr Timon Buff AO Honorary Senior Fellow, The University of Melbourne</p> <p>Dr Tim Flannery Australian of the Year 2007, Chief Cooperative, Climate Council</p> <p>Emeritus Professor David Shearman AM The University of Adelaide</p> <p>Emeritus Professor John Church FAA The University of New South Wales</p> <p>Emeritus Professor Mark Lawrence MBE AO Former Head of Medicine & Former President of International Union of Nutritional Sciences, Monash University</p> <p>Professor John Harewood Crawford School, The Australian National University</p> <p>Professor John Whitman Senior Research Fellow, Melbourne Climate Futures, The University of</p>	<p>Graeme Madden Former Secretary General, Club of Rome</p> <p>Greg Searns Former Regional President BP Australia</p> <p>Ian Dunlop Former Chair, Australian Coal Association, Former CEO, Australian Institute of Company Directors, Broadbent Centre for National Climate Restoration</p> <p>J M Coetzee Writer, Nobel Laureate 2003</p> <p>Julian Vincent 2022 Goldman Environmental Prize Recipient</p> <p>Adam Swaine Ambassador for Mathematics and Science, The University of Sydney</p> <p>Laureate Professor John Hoggins Professor of Economics, University of Queensland, Former Board Member of the Climate Change Authority</p> <p>Professor John Shepherdson The University of</p>
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Who wants no new coal mines?



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Guterres calls for phasing out fossil fuels to avoid climate 'catastrophe'

"Financial institutions everywhere must end lending, underwriting, and investments in coal anywhere - including new coal infrastructure, power plants, and mines," he said.

There is no need for investment in new fossil fuel supply in our net zero pathway

Beyond projects already committed as of 2021, there are no new oil and gas fields approved for development in our pathway, and **no new coal mines or mine extensions are required.** The unwavering policy focus on climate change in the net zero pathway results in a sharp decline in fossil fuel demand, meaning that the focus for oil and gas producers switches entirely to output – and emissions reductions – from the operation of existing assets. Unabated coal demand declines by 98% to just less than 1% of total energy use in 2050. Gas demand declines by 55% to 1 750 billion cubic metres and oil declines by 75% to 24 million barrels per day (mb/d), from around 90 mb/d in 2020.

iea

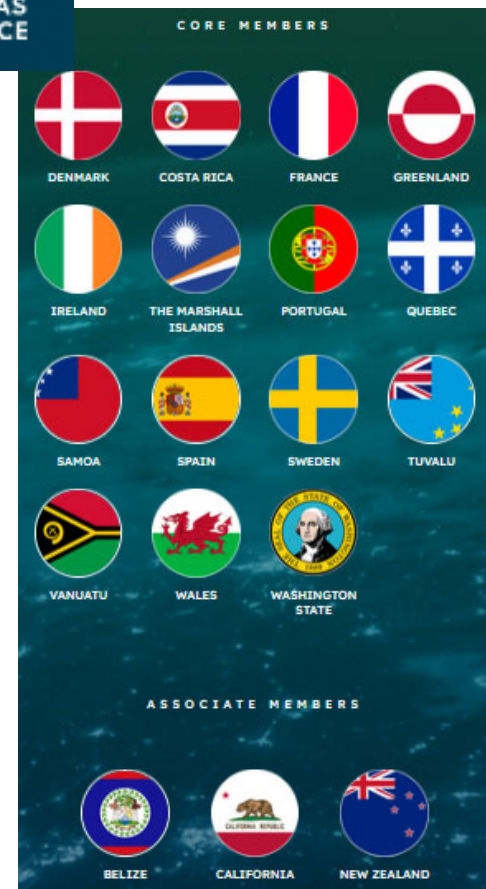
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Net Zero by 2050

A Roadmap for the Global Energy Sector

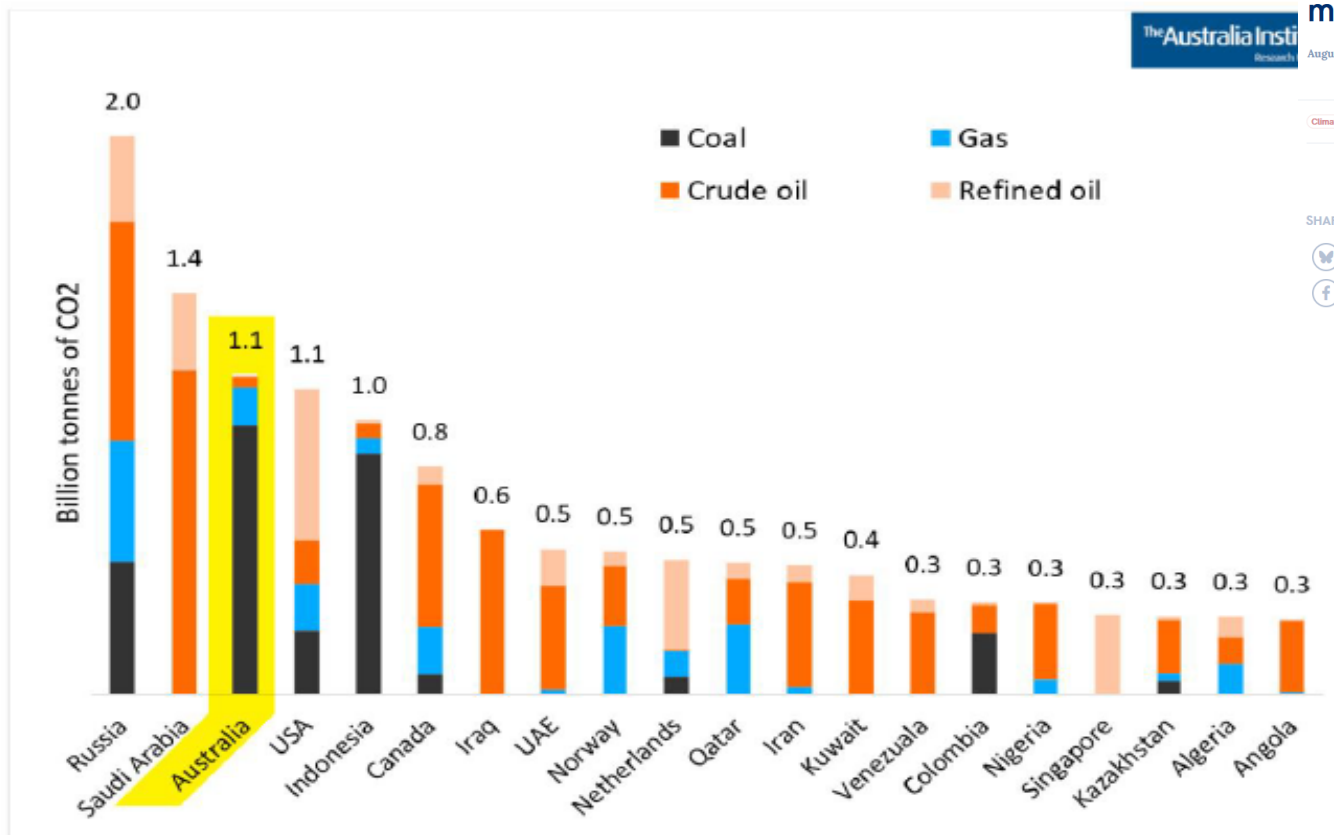
Who wants no new coal mines?



Why is this important in Australia?

Why is this important in Australia?

Figure: World's biggest fossil fuel exporters, CO₂ Gt potential of exports



CLIMATE CHANGE, FOSSIL FUEL MINING

High Carbon from a Land Down Under: Quantifying CO₂ from Australia's fossil fuel mining and exports

August 19, 2019 by Tom Swann

Climate & Energy Environment

SHARE



Australia is the world's third biggest exporter and fifth biggest miner of fossil fuels by CO₂ potential. Its exports are behind only Russia and Saudi Arabia, and far larger than Iraq, Venezuela and any country in the EU. Yet Australia's economy is more diverse and less fossil fuel intensive than many other exporters. Australia has an opportunity to reduce its carbon footprint by...

AUTHOR

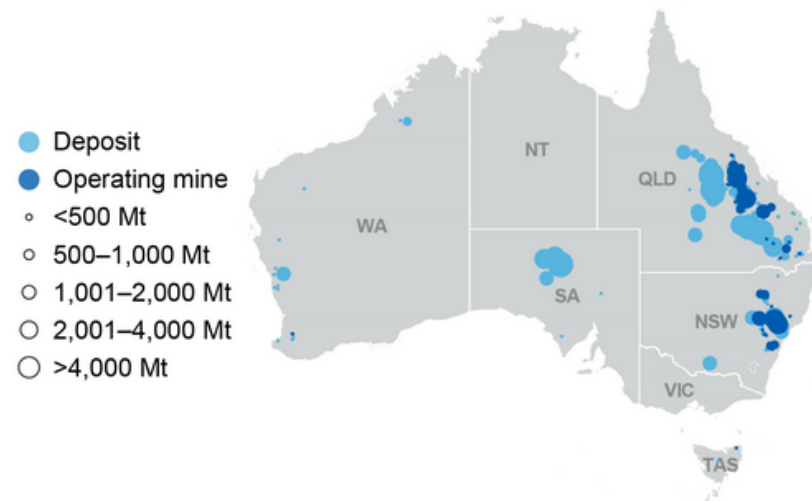


Tom S

Why is this important in Australia?

- 400+ million tonnes per year
 - Only 70 million tonnes used Domestically
- 36 mines in NSW
- 56 mines in Qld
- 50 new coal mine proposals

Major coal deposits



Why is this important in Australia?

Notification of approval decision

Caval Ridge Mine Horse Pit Extension, Moranbah, Bowen Basin, Queensland (EPBC 2021/9031)

This decision is made under section 130(1) and 133(1) of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). Note that section 134(1A) of the EPBC Act also applies to this approval. That provision provides, in general terms, that if the approval holder authorises another person to undertake any part of the action, the approval holder must take all reasonable steps to ensure that the other person is informed of any conditions attached to this approval, and that the other person complies with any such conditions.

Approved Action

person to whom the approval is granted (approval holder)	BM Alliance Coal Operations Pty Limited ACN: 096 412 752
--	---

Action	To construct, operate and decommission an extension to the existing Caval Ridge Coal Mine Horse Pit, approximately 5 kilometres south-west of Moranbah in the Bowen Basin, Queensland. See EPBC Act referral 2021/9031.
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Approval decision

decision	My decision on whether or not to approve the taking of the action for the purposes of each controlling provision for the action are as follows.
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Controlling Provision	Decision
-----------------------	----------

Listed threatened species and communities (section 18 and section 18A)	Approved
--	----------

Unconventional gas or large coal mining development with impact on water resources (section 24D and section 24E)	Approved
--	----------

period for which the approval has effect	This approval has effect until 31 December 2062
--	---

conditions of approval The approval is subject to conditions under the EPBC Act set out in

OFFICIAL



Australian Government
Department of Climate Change, Energy,
the Environment and Water

Notification of approval decision

Lake Vermont Meadowbrook Coal Mine Project, Queensland (EPBC 2019/8485)

period for which the approval has effect	This approval has effect until 1 October 2088
--	---

Environment Assessments Queensland Branch

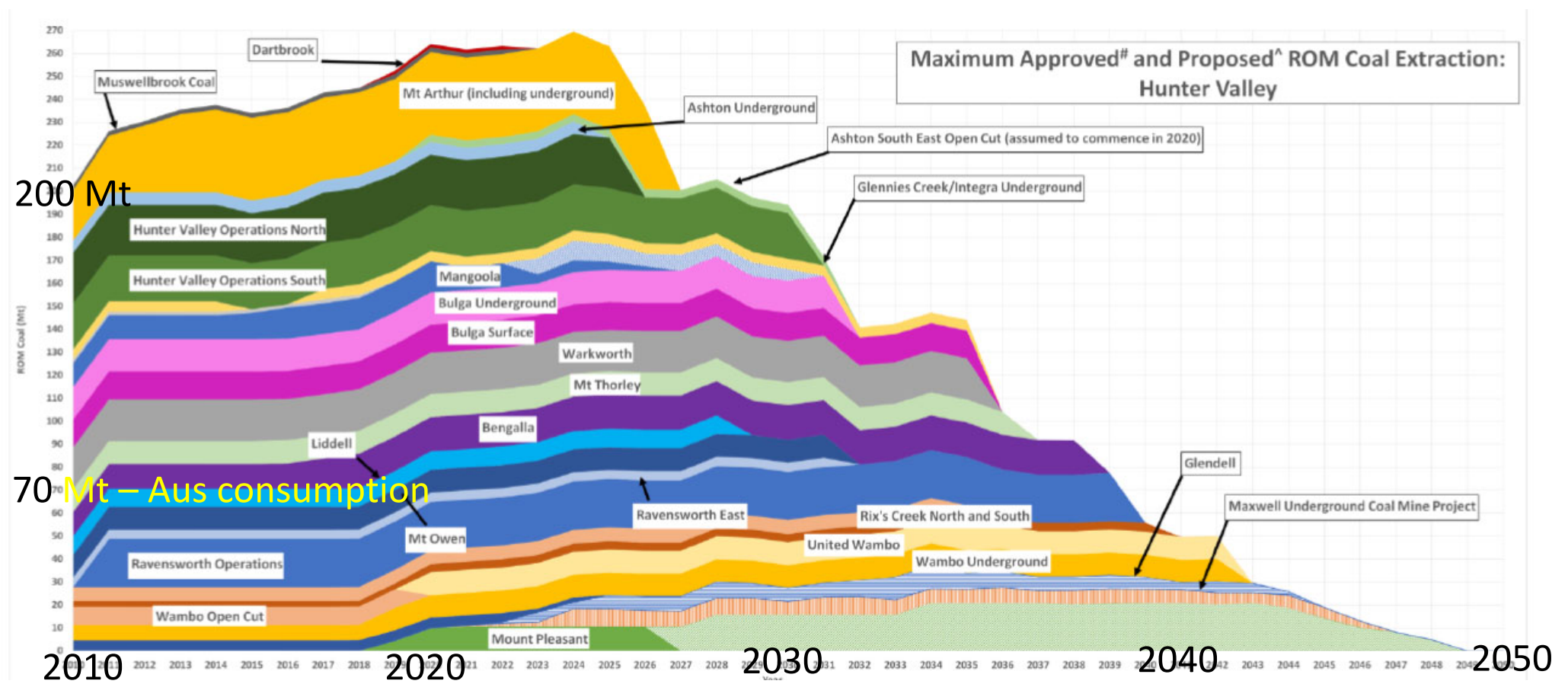
signature

date of decision	19 December 2024
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What would happen if NNCM

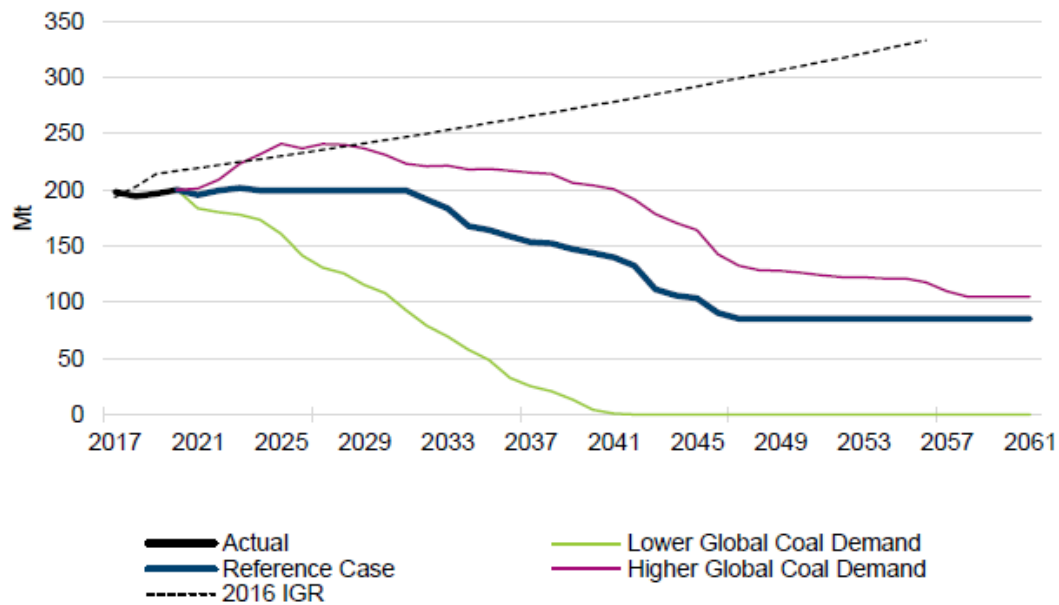


What would happen if NNCM



What would happen if NNCM

Chart 3 NSW Treasury and Department of Regional NSW projected coal volumes (total tonnage)



Source: NSW Treasury; Department of Regional NSW.

The sensitivity of the NSW economic and fiscal outlook to global coal demand and the broader energy transition for the 2021 NSW Intergenerational Report

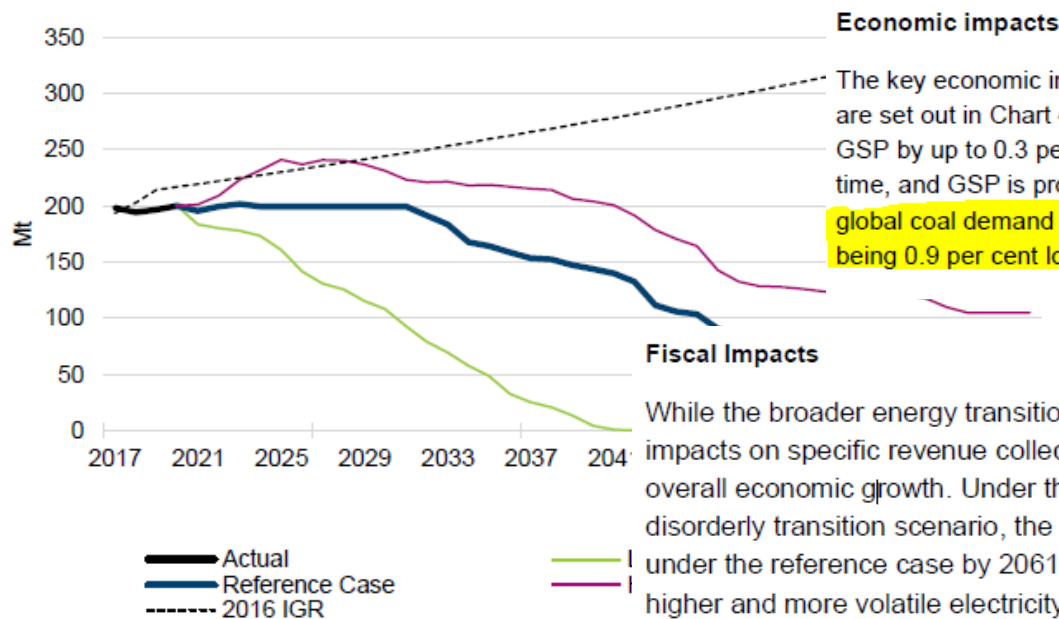
Nick Wood, Maddy Beauman & Philip Adams¹

¹ The views in this paper are those of the authors, and do not necessarily reflect those of NSW Treasury. This publication can be accessed from Treasury's website www.treasury.nsw.gov.au.



What would happen if NNCM

Chart 3 NSW Treasury and Department of Regional NSW projected coal volumes (total tonnage)



The key economic impacts of the differences in global coal demand produced by the CGE modelling are set out in Chart 4. Compared with the reference case, the higher global coal demand scenario lifts GSP by up to 0.3 per cent by 2041, although this scenario trends closer to the reference case over time, and GSP is projected to be only 0.1 per cent higher than the reference case by 2061. The lower global coal demand scenario, in which coal production in NSW ceases after 2042, results in GSP being 0.9 per cent lower than the reference case in 2041 and remaining 0.6 per cent lower in 2061.

Fiscal Impacts

While the broader energy transition scenarios do not impact the fiscal position through direct impacts on specific revenue collections, they have an indirect impact through their effect on overall economic growth. Under the higher global coal demand scenario + slow and disorderly transition scenario, the fiscal gap is projected to be 0.08 per cent larger than under the reference case by 2061. As with the broader economic impacts, the effect of higher and more volatile electricity prices, and lower uptake of electric vehicles fully offset higher revenue from coal royalties. Under the lower global coal demand + higher EVs scenario, the fiscal gap is projected to be 0.10 per cent larger than under the reference case by 2061, with higher uptake of electric vehicles moderating, but not fully offsetting lower coal royalties revenue.

Source: NSW Treasury; Department of Regional NSW.

Why is NNCM good climate policy?



LSE Research Online



Fergus Green, Richard Dennis
Cutting with both arms of the scissors: the economic and political case for restrictive supply-side climate policies

Why is NNCM good climate policy?

- Simplicity – low admin costs, higher certainty
- Affects long-term prices
- Avoids infrastructure “lock-in”



LSE Research Online



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Cutting with both arms of the scissors: the economic and political case for restrictive supply-side climate policies

Why is NNCM good climate policy?

- Simplicity – low admin costs, higher certainty
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- Avoids infrastructure “lock-in”
- Politically easier
 - People understand NNCM, no one understands Safeguard Mechanism.
 - Climate action imposed on polluters.
 - Limited public support for long term coal exports
 - Benefits existing coal mines.
- Diplomatically beneficial.

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Why is NNCM good climate policy?

This was published 9 years ago

Glencore warns on taxpayer support for new coal projects

Brian Robins

Updated October 7, 2015 — 8.20pm, first published at 4.51pm

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Commodity trading giant Glencore has fired a shot across the bows of those who support the use of public funds for projects such as the Adani coal mine in Queensland, arguing it would hurt rest of the industry.

"Bringing on additional tonnes with the aid of taxpayer money would materially increase the risk to existing coal operations," Peter Freyberg, the head of the group's coal division, said.

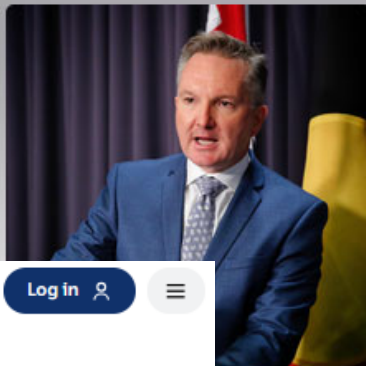
The Sydney Morning Herald

Who doesn't want NNCCM?

ABC NEWS



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RADIO NATIONAL BREAKFAST →

'No new coal or gas is a slogan, not a policy': Bowen

Tue 7 Mar 2023 at 7:35am



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I'll be the best friend you ever had, Peter Dutton promises miners

By chief digital political correspondent Jacob Greber

Government and Politics

Tue 10 Sep

"I want to build on our strengths in major commodities like iron ore, coal, gas, gold and copper."



Who doesn't want NNCCM?



- The lights will go out!
- You want to end coal TOMORROW!
- We'll lose so many jobs!
- We'll lose so much money!
- It won't make a difference to Australia's emissions!
- If we don't dig it up, someone else will!
- The world needs steel!

Who doesn't want NNCCM?



- If we don't dig it up, someone else will!



693. The Commission notes that the Department's position that the Project and Recommended Revised Project's contribution to Australian and global GHG emissions will be very small and therefore have limited impact. However, the Commission does not accept the Department's assessment that refusal would not reduce global GHG emissions, as a gap in supply will almost certainly be filled by another coal resource locally or overseas as no evidence to support this argument was provided to the Commission.
694. The Commission does not have evidence before it to determine whether, if the Project or Recommended Revised Project is not approved, the Applicant will need to secure an alternative source of coal and that this coal may be of an inferior quality and may lead to poorer environmental outcomes, as was asserted in the Applicant's letter dated 8 March 2019 and in the Department's Preliminary Assessment Report. The Commission agrees with Preston CJ that, in any event, an unacceptable impact does not become acceptable because the Applicant may end up pursuing an alternative development that has unacceptable impacts:

Who doesn't want NNCCM?



• STEEL!



- Climate doesn't care.
- Already approvals to late this century, one application to 2119.
- Most mines produce "both kinds".
- Green steel is coming.
- Anyone seriously worried about climate impacts of steel would look to reduce demand for it.

Where to?



Tanya Plibersek
@tanya_plibersek

What a difference a decade makes.



Readers added context they thought people might want to know

Tanya claims she has approved 0 “new” coal mines in 2024. This is misleading as she has approved numerous new coal mine project applications, which are significant expansions to existing projects.



CRUIKEY WORM

Tanya Plibersek in hot water over no ‘new’ coal mine claims

The environment minister has come under heavy criticism for approving four coal mine expansions, and hundreds of Australians have been flown home from Vanuatu following the country’s devastating earthquake.



RICH JAMES • DEC 20, 2024 • 10 MIN READ

‘Bizarre is an understatement’: Tanya Plibersek boasts of ‘no new coal mines’ same day she approved four coal mine extensions

Environment Minister Tanya Plibersek has been called out and fact-checked for a “bizarre” decision to boast that the Albanese government had approved “no new coal mines” the very same day she approved four coal mine extensions.



Patrick Hannaford Digital Reporter

3 min read December 19, 2024 - 10:28PM sky news .COM.AU

345 Comments

No new coal mines

Questions????