

Surf Coast Energy Group News

April 2010



EVENTS

25th March - 16th April

ROD QUANTOCK – THE PEOPLE WE SHOULD EAT FIRST (AND HOW TO COOK THEM)

Trades Hall, the Quilt Room, cnr of Lygon & Victoria St. Carlton. 7.15

[Rod at 2010 Comedy Festival](#)

Congratulations to Tiffany Gunning and Judy Cameron for picking up our free double passes to see Rod next Thursday.

Saturday 27 March from 11am-1:30pm

The Riverbank Gathering,

the Community Hub, Anglesea hosted by the Surf Coast Shire with local community group reps.

11am-12pm: Produce swap

12pm-12:30pm: Launch of Sceg/Solar Shop programme

12:30pm-1:30pm: Council Conversations

Tues 6th April 7.30

NUCLEAR POWER, WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Presentation and discussion at Spring Creek House, Price St., Torquay

Dr. Bill Williams, MBBS President of the Medical Association for Prevention of War

(Aus) The debate is back in the media. There are some proponents who believe coastal regions within the proximity of major cities make ideal locations for nuclear power plants and others who claim nuclear could substantially reduce our CO2 emissions.

SCEG RULES AMENDMENTS

Tues 6th April 7.30 at Spring Creek House, Price St., Torquay

At this meeting in accordance with the model rules you will be invited to vote in favour of or against a special resolution put forward by the SCEG committee detailing several changes to the model rules for the association.

The model rule changes we propose were sent out with the last newsletter. Copies the proxy form are available by email.

SOLAR NEWS

Solar Photovoltaic

Bulk Purchase Opportunity

Saturday 27th March 12-12.30pm

Solar Shop-Australia is pleased to offer SCEG members a special deal as part of a bulk purchase scheme for the Surf Coast Community. Benefits of this scheme include:

- Discounted prices based on bulk purchase for SCEG members residing in the Surf Coast Shire
- High quality components – Suntech (Monocrystalline) & Kaneka (Thin film) Panels, SMA inverters.
- Installation and system endorsed by Planet Ark
- 25 year performance guarantee on the panels, 5 year installation warranty.
- Finance options available
- Free home solar consultation
- Contributing to a community project - Solar Shop Australia will donate a system for installation on a selected community building in the shire for 15 or more systems installed.

The launch will be followed by information sessions in Torquay and Anglesea

Tuesday 13th April 7.30pm

Spring Creek House

14 Price St, Torquay

Thursday 15th April 7pm

Anglesea Senior Citizens Hall

McMillan St, Anglesea

(Sessions will run for approximately 1- 1 ½ hrs).

Please RSVP to Aaron Lewtas for either session.

Aaron Lewtas, Solar Shop's Renewable Energy Advisor for the Southwest.

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GREEN WEB SEARCH ECOSIA

Ecosia is an internet search engine that saves 2m² of rainforest with each web search. Their search results are as good as Google or Yahoo, and it's free, and it doesn't keep the record of a search more than 48h. And it helps the planet !!! Click on "install" at the bottom right corner of the homepage and "run" Ecosia. Follow the prompts to add this program to your browser as your search engine of choice. So far Ecosia has saved 29,887,249 m² (35,745,150 yd²) of rainforest! video explanation:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vxca_daRFeM&feature=related

Go to www.ecosia.org

CARBON TAX

Thanks to Graeme Stockton for putting this article together following his trip to the Climate Summit last weekend.

The Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme (CPRS) better known to many people as the Carbon Pollution Rewards Scheme is deeply flawed and will not have a chance of getting through Parliament as it is opposed by those on the Right (Liberals) as well as the Left (Greens). However, there is a chance of getting some movement on tackling climate change as an important issue in the lead-up to this year's federal election as the Government is seriously considering supporting the Greens 'Carbon Tax'. A straw poll by those that know say it will get through the Senate if the Govt. decide to run with it.

This tax is proposed as an interim measure being a flat carbon tax of \$23/tonne for the first year of operation and then increasing by a percentage each year thereafter. The tax could merge into a better designed CPRS scheme or a fully designed Carbon tax scheme at a later date if wanted. As such it has the beauty of flexibility, as well as kick-starting the process of Australia doing something about climate change. It is also acknowledged that for the carbon tax to be a true disincentive to polluters the price would need to be about \$100-\$120/tonne- however even at the low starting base of \$23/tonne it would provide the Government with \$10 billion dollars in revenue annually; half of which would go back to working families, poor etc. and the remainder into renewable investment or Overseas Aid etc.

Importantly, there is only a small window of time in which this possibility can be realised because

politically if it is not introduced before the next election the reality is it will not be introduced at all.

What can we do:

In order for this opportunity to be realised, it is imperative that individuals contact their MP (email, phone or better, in person) to urge them to support this bill. The very real danger is this bill will not see the light of day unless the community (read you!) demand it!! Please get active; visit your MP and take a friend along as well.

Darren Cheeseman

Darren.Cheeseman.mp@aph.gov.au

EVENTS FOR MAY

Tues 6th May 7.30

Scceg general meeting at Spring Creek House, Price St., Torquay. Speaker TBA. We welcome your ideas and suggestions.

4th, 5th & 6th May

SHOW ME THE CHANGE a conference with a difference at the Abbotsford Convent Melbourne Evaluation of Behaviour Change - Complexity & the Art of Evaluation. Geoff Brown and team have spent 6 months designing this conference.

Full program at [show me the change](#)

Sat 29th & Sun 30th May

Organising Community Change Workshop

a residential workshop to be held in Anglesea at Eumeralla Scout Camp.

The dates are confirmed, the venue booked and registrations are coming in. The cost is minimal, owing to some wonderful volunteer support to run this workshop.

This is a joint venture between Scceg and Geelong Sustainability Group which we are proud to be hosting on the Surf Coast.

A great opportunity for community organising, public speaking and narrative skills, clarifying your ideas and developing your own personal story. Our goal is to support effective climate action groups, incredible transition towns, smart campaign teams and a re-energized local community movement for 2010.

Check our website to learn more about why this is such a powerful workshop, and register now.

Numbers are limited, so don't miss out!

[Changegeelong](#)

Join SCEG

Visit us online at www.sceg.org.au

Contact SCEGinfo@sceg.org.au

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