

## **Australia's Greenhouse Pollution Up Yet Again**

The National Greenhouse Accounts released today show Australia's total greenhouse gas emissions increased by 0.6 per cent to 546 million tonnes over the year to December 2011, reflecting a long-term trend since 1990.

According to Climate Action Monaro, this highlights the urgent need for action on climate change if the increase in global temperatures is to be kept to two degrees.

"While Australia is on track to keep within its Kyoto Protocol target of 108 per cent on 1990 levels, it is simply not enough," says Jenny Goldie, president of Climate Action Monaro.

"Globally, we are on track to exceed two degrees and there is only a 50:50 chance of keeping the temperature rise to three degrees. This will be catastrophic for both the environment and national economies," she said. "Australia has to do more to keep warming within safe levels.

"We need to target electricity production since emissions from that sector rose 50 per cent between 1990 and 2011. We need to move away from fossil fuels, particularly coal, and move to wind and solar and other clean energy sources."

Ms Goldie welcomed the long-awaited experts review into the proposed \$10 billion Clean Energy Finance Corporation (CEFC) that has been accepted by the federal government.

"Jillian Broadbent of the Reserve Bank, who led the review team, says that in theory the \$10 billion that the CEFC will deploy could unlock more than \$50 billion in private investment in Clean Energy.

"Let us hope so because it is critical we start reducing emissions as soon as possible," says Ms Goldie.

**Further information:**

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