

## **If Renewables Are Good Enough For China, They're Good Enough For Us**

A report issued today shows China leading the way in adopting renewable technologies, according to Climate Action Monaro (CAM).

The latest report from the Climate Commission, *The Critical Decade: Global Action Building on Climate Change*, presents an overview of progress in international action on climate change and shows there has been considerable progress by many countries in the past year, particularly in China.

President of CAM, Jenny Goldie, says if China can make the move to renewables, we can too, both nationally and regionally.

"Between 2005 and 2012, China increased its wind power generation capacity by almost 50 times and new solar power capacity expanded by 75 per cent in 2012 alone," says Ms Goldie.

"In 2012, China invested US\$65.1 billion in clean energy. That amounts to 30 per cent of that invested by all G20 nations.

"China has emerged as the renewable energy powerhouse," says Ms Goldie. "It has done so partly because its high emissions are contributing to global warming, but also because the burning of coal is contributing to massive air pollution resulting in major health problems."

Ms Goldie says that, while the Monaro has few air pollution problems, there is a moral obligation to reduce emissions in order to minimise global climate change.

"There's plenty of wind and sun on the Monaro and we should be capturing that energy by means of wind and solar farms."

Ms Goldie added that China is introducing seven emissions trading schemes this year that will cover a quarter billion people, and a national trading scheme is planned, based on these models.

**Further information:**

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