

# CLIMARTE

## ARTS FOR A SAFE CLIMATE

21 August 2020  
Crib Point Inquiry and Advisory Committee  
Planning Panels Victoria

### **SUBMISSION: Crib Point gas import jetty and gas pipeline project**

Dear Sir/Madam,

By every measure, AGL's proposed gas project is egregious and gratuitous.

As Australia's horrific 2019/2020 Inferno Summer demonstrated, we are already experiencing advanced climate and biodiversity collapse as a direct result of mining and burning fossil fuels (among other greenhouse gas intensive activities).

Warnings date back more than half a century. Based on the best available science, all fossil fuel projects represent direct threats to the local and global community and must be phased out as quickly as humanly possible. Not only has the fossil fuel industry known of the grave dangers of its products since the 1970s, it has aggressively driven [campaigns to mislead and deceive on climate facts while promoting misinformation](#).<sup>1</sup> There is no time left. There can be no excuses.

AGL is [Australia's largest polluter](#) by a long shot. AGL is also an extremely wealthy and capable energy company with enormous capacities to work with local communities to rapidly transition Australia's energy system.<sup>2</sup>

AGL is well aware of the [incredible innovations](#) and steeply declining costs of clean energy alternatives, as well as for the cutting edge distribution and storage systems that support them.<sup>3</sup> Rolling out these technologies now will deliver clean and secure energy while [creating millions of safe and stable jobs](#) in local economies that desperately need them.<sup>4</sup>

As esteemed economics Professor Ross Garnaut (along with many other globally recognised sustainable technology experts) argues, Australia has the capacity to become ["the superpower of the post-carbon world"](#).<sup>5</sup> And as a proudly progressive state, Victoria should be leading the way.

So, why is AGL pushing ahead with another toxic, climate wrecking project that is destined to become a stranded asset sooner than later?

And why is the Victorian Government even allowing such an ecocidal and antisocial project to be considered now?

Whether it's sitting in our Parliaments or in corporate boardrooms, we all deserve better from our leaders. There is no time left. There can be no excuses.

Yours faithfully,

CLIMARTE Board of Directors

Guy Abrahams  
Fiona Armstrong  
Peter Christoff (Chair)  
Gabrielle de Vietri  
Deborah Hart  
Bronwyn Johnson (Executive Director)  
David Leece (Treasurer)  
Sarah McConnell  
Lauren Rickards

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/exxon-knew-about-climate-change-almost-40-years-ago/>  
Shannon Hall, 'Exxon Knew about Climate Change almost forty years ago', *Scientific American*, 26 October 2015

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.smh.com.au/business/the-economy/the-dirty-top-ten-these-are-australia-s-biggest-polluters-20190228-p510u5.html> Cole Latimer, 'Power companies top list of nation's biggest emitters', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 28 February 2019

<sup>3</sup> <https://bze.org.au/research/>, Link to Beyond Zero Emissions Research section

<sup>4</sup> <https://bze.org.au/the-million-jobs-plan/>, 'The Million Jobs Plan' by Beyond Zero Emissions, launched 29 June 2020

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.smh.com.au/federal-election-2019/australia-can-be-superpower-of-post-carbon-world-says-ross-garnaut-20190515-p51nsb.html>, Peter Hartcher, 'Australia can be 'superpower of post carbon world', says Ross Garnaut', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 15 May 2019