

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

The crises of climate breakdown and biodiversity loss are two of the most serious issues of our time.

We are constantly being updated on the science and it is getting worse. The IPCC is sending out dire warnings, and we are all experiencing it here and abroad. Devastating 'one in 100 year' events are happening frequently. We're witnessing global temperature records, floods, fires, storms and drought. Australia is falling behind in its international commitment to reduce carbon emissions. We urgently need a coherent policy to accelerate the transition to a low carbon future, embraced by a partnership between the public and private sectors.

It is happening now, on our watch, to us! We need to act **FASTER, TOGETHER.**

All around us, communities, governments and businesses are declaring a climate emergency, and calling for urgent and significant action to protect people and the planet. We already have the technology we need to create an ecologically sustainable and efficient economy including energy and agricultural systems. It is in these areas where the opportunity for growth in value truly lies.

We must **transition to low carbon solutions and clean technology.** We have a moral imperative to take action now and provide leadership, especially regarding energy, materials, and infrastructure decisions.

Australia's principal engineering association, Engineers Australia, has a strong policy on climate change.

Engineers Australia accepts the comprehensive scientific basis regarding climate change, the influence of anthropogenic global warming, and that climate change can have very serious community consequences.

Their policy clearly identifies the pivotal role engineers need to take.

Engineers are uniquely placed to provide both mitigation and adaptation solutions for this serious global problem, as well as address future advances in climate change science.

Our good conscience and professional "Code of Ethics" requires us to be discerning and do what we think is right. The "Code of Ethics" specifically requires us to:

1. Demonstrate integrity

1.1 Act on the basis of a well-informed conscience

4. Promote Sustainability

4.2 Practise engineering to foster the health, safety and wellbeing of the community and the environment

If we know something is going to harm people, we must say stop. If someone asked you to design a bridge that you knew would fail, you would have a moral and professional obligation to stop.

We know many individuals and organisations in our profession are prioritising technological and ecological innovation to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change. They are developing resilience plans, updating standards, choosing materials and re-designing supply chains to minimise environmental impact. There are more examples, AND we need the whole profession to act faster, and more fully.

What can we do?

Our community and planet need you to champion **a faster transition to a low carbon future.**

We call on you to do the following:

- Join our declaration @ www.engineersdeclare.org.au.
- Put action on climate change at the centre of your decision-making.
- Work on climate positive projects. Step away from the ones that are harmful.
- Share this letter and @EngDeclareAu with your colleagues and friends.
- Build the capacity and capability of industry to be climate positive through innovation and collaboration.
- Share your stories and build solidarity! Tell us about positive examples of business and engineers who have made climate positive work decisions.

We will look back on this year as a turning point. Let's make it the year we unified and mobilised as a profession to lead Australia towards a safe and sustainable, low carbon future. We are uniquely placed to do this.

We are the engineers of tomorrow. We need to get the design right - a design that makes life better for people and for our living world.

Yours with concern and hope,

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We are supported by the following eminent Australians:

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