



The race to net zero: strategies, solutions and decisive climate action

Wednesday 6th October 2021

All times are in Australian Eastern Daylight Time (AEDT)

08:30 OPENING | Opening remarks from the Chair
Lisa Davies, *Editor, The Sydney Morning Herald*

CLIMATE EMERGENCY

08:40 ADDRESS FROM THE IPCC | The science, the risk, and the opportunities
Please note this is a pre-recorded session.
Professor Jim Skea, *Co-Chair, Working Group III, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)*
and *Professor of Sustainable Energy, Imperial College London*
Moderator: Nick O'Malley, *National Environment and Climate Editor, The Sydney Morning Herald*

EMBEDDING SUSTAINABILITY IN THE BUSINESS

09:10 EXECUTIVE ROUNDTABLE | The view from the top: transforming business for the better

- Sustainability in culture, strategy and corporate identity: how businesses made the transformation
- How to harness the power of employees
- The perspective of the board
- What courageous leadership looks like

Panellists

Liz Chatwin, *Country President, AstraZeneca Australia*

Steven Worrall, *Managing Director, Microsoft Australia*

Sally Reid, *Executive General Manager, Global Client Solutions, Institutional Banking & Markets, Commonwealth Bank of Australia*

Paul Gleeson, *Managing Director, Energy, Resources & Water, Aurecon*

Moderator: John McDuling, *National Business Editor, The Sydney Morning Herald*

09:50 FIRESIDE CHAT | Google's most ambitious decade of climate action yet
In September 2020, Google reached an important milestone. It eliminated its entire carbon legacy. This means that as a company, the entire lifetime net carbon footprint is now below zero.
In this decisive decade Google is going even further, aiming to be the first major company to be entirely carbon free. Google will take on the challenge of operating on 24/7 carbon-free energy in all data centres and campuses across the globe. From partnerships, to investing in manufacturing, hear how Google is working to achieve its next sustainability moonshot.
Please note this is a pre-recorded session
Kate Brandt, *Head of Sustainability, Google*
Moderator: Nick O'Malley, *National Environment and Climate Editor, The Sydney Morning Herald*

10:20 Networking and refreshment break

10:50 **PANEL** | The tools, strategies and capabilities needed for a low carbon transition

- How are companies measuring, estimating and tracking GHG emissions and carbon offsets?
- What are the tools and technologies that the most sustainably-minded companies are using?
- Examining the role of the Chief Sustainability Officer and how it is evolving
- Social license: balancing responsibility and profit
- Learning and engagement beyond the organisation, collaboration with partners
- Linking business strategy, sustainability and SDGs

Panellists

Janette O'Neill, *Group Head of Sustainability*, **QBE Insurance**

Chris Foley, *Head of Energy and Environment*, **Kmart Group**

Meredith Banks, *Head of Sustainability*, **Vicinity Centres**

Tom Penny, *Head of Environment*, **Telstra**

Moderator: John Tomac, *Partner*, **PwC Australia**

11:30 **CASE STUDY**

Brad Banducci, *CEO*, **Woolworths Group**

11:50 **RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT** | Waste as a renewable resource: a new materials revolution

- Green steel and green tiles: Australian inventions shaking up construction
- The path to commercialisation in Australia and partnership possibilities for corporates
- How companies apply innovative, sustainable materials and processes today
- The need to align recycling and manufacturing through new technologies
- Creating circular economies and turning problematic waste into valuable materials
- Green Steel™ and Green Ceramics™ innovations and the need for greater cooperation and partnership with researchers and businesses

Laureate Professor Veena Sahajwalla, *Director*, **Centre for Sustainable Materials Research & Technology, UNSW Sydney**

Moderator: Nick O'Malley, *National Environment and Climate Editor*, **The Sydney Morning Herald**

12:20 **Lunch and networking break**

ENERGY

13:20 **SCIENCE SPOTLIGHT** | Australia's energy transition

Dr Alan Finkel AO, *Special Adviser to the Australian Government on Low Emissions Technology and Chair, Technology Investment Advisory Council*, **Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources**

13:30 ENERGY EXECUTIVES ROUNDTABLE | Partners and pariahs in the new age of energy

- Stress-testing strategies for different climate scenarios
- The technologies and timeline behind Australia's energy transition including carbon capture and storage, green hydrogen and gas
- How is the renewable energy sector ensuring supply and price stability?
- How are our energy generators, resource extractors and other heavy emitters reducing their emissions, and is this enough?
- Is Australia the automotive third world? What's getting in the way? What government regulations and actions are needed for a robust EV strategy?

Panellists

Matthew Halliday, *Managing Director and CEO, Ampol Limited*

Michael Bartsch, *Managing Director, Volkswagen Group Australia*

Dr Fiona Wild, *Vice President, Climate Change and Sustainability, BHP*

Sally Torgoman, *Managing Director, PwC Australia*

Moderator: Nick O'Malley, *National Environment and Climate Editor, The Sydney Morning Herald*

14:10 MINISTERIAL ADDRESS

The Hon Matt Kean MP, *Minister for Energy and the Environment NSW*

Moderator: Lisa Davies, *Editor, The Sydney Morning Herald*

14:40 Networking and refreshment break

CIRCULARITY

15:10 PANEL | What will it take to create a self-sustaining circular economy?

- Circularity in product design
- Where are we up to with a circular economy in NSW, and in Australia? What progress can we build on?
- What is the state of recycling infrastructure in Australia?
- Avoiding landfill: Which avenues do specific industries have to reduce waste, particularly industries such as e-waste?
- What is the role of government, industry and brand owners?

Panellists

Sanjay Dayal, *Managing Director and Group CEO, Pact Group*

Lisa Mclean, *CEO, NSW Circular*

Alex Holt, *General Manager of Sustainability, Woolworths Group*

Richard Smith, *Director of Sustainability, Amcor Flexibles Asia Pacific*

Gyanam Sadananda, *Director, Government & Public Sector, Supply Chain and ESG, PwC Australia*

Moderator: Peter Hannam, *Environment Editor, The Sydney Morning Herald*

15:50 INTERNATIONAL KEYNOTE

Please note this is a pre-recorded session.

Emily Woodland, *APAC Co-Head of Sustainable Investing, BlackRock*

16:10 PANEL | Sustainable investment and low-carbon banking

- How can we fast-track a zero-carbon economy through climate finance and responsible investment in Australia?
- Restructuring the financial system: what kinds of reforms are needed? Are Australia's financial institutions, the government and the market ready? How do we get there?
- Engagement versus divestment and the role of investors
- Expectations from customers, corporates and from within the company
- Applying and using SDGs to develop strategy and engage employers
- Measuring and tracking financed emissions

Panellists

Ian Learmonth, *CEO, Clean Energy Finance Corporation (CEFC)*

Emma Herd, *CEO, Investor Group on Climate Change*

Alex Toone, *Managing Director and Global Head of Commodities and Trade, Institutional Banking & Markets, Commonwealth Bank of Australia*

Moderator: John McDuling, *National Business Editor, The Sydney Morning Herald*

16:50 CLOSING | Closing remarks from the Chair**17:00 END OF SUMMIT**

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