

The Manager

Maules Creek Continuation Project

Major Projects.

Dear Sir/Madam,

This is a submission concerning the Maules Creek Continuation Project.

I object to the Maules Creek Continuation Project being given the go-ahead on a couple of grounds which I will set out below.

For the first objection I would like to draw your attention to the following peer reviewed scientific paper. If you read nothing else from this Paper, please kindly read this extract below from the papers Abstract.

Link to the Document¹ <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/26607949/>

by [Yadigar Sekerci](#)¹, and [Sergei Petrovskij](#)²–25th November 2015
Mathematical Modelling of Plankton-Oxygen Dynamics Under the Climate Change

Affiliations

- PMID: **26607949**
- DOI: [10.1007/s11538-015-0126-0](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11538-015-0126-0)

Abstract

“Ocean dynamics is known to have a strong effect on the global climate change and on the composition of the atmosphere. In particular, it is estimated that about 70% of the atmospheric oxygen is produced in the oceans due to the photosynthetic activity of phytoplankton. However, the rate of oxygen production depends on water temperature and hence can be affected by the global warming. In this paper, ... We show that a sustainable oxygen production is only possible in an intermediate range of the

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production rate. If, in the course of time, the oxygen production rate becomes too low or too high, the system's dynamics changes abruptly, resulting in the oxygen depletion and plankton extinction. Our results indicate that the depletion of atmospheric oxygen on global scale (which, if happens, obviously can kill most of life on Earth) is another possible catastrophic consequence of the global warming, a global ecological disaster that has been overlooked”.

There already exists massive dead zones² hundreds of square kilometres in size in our Marine environments. So this forecast above is very real.

If you love your grandchildren, and if you have a spiritual heart and mind, please do not give the Maules Creek Continuation Project the go-ahead.

The second ground for rejecting the Maules Creek Continuation Project is set out here.

Following are some very brief extracts from the 20 March 2023 text of United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres’ video message for the press conference to launch the Synthesis Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change³:

“Dear friends, humanity is on thin ice — and that ice is melting fast.

As today’s report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) details, humans are responsible for virtually all global heating over the last 200 years. The rate of temperature rise in the last half century is the highest in 2,000 years. Concentrations of carbon dioxide are at their highest in at least 2 million years. The climate time-bomb is ticking.

“Every country must be part of the solution. Demanding others move first only ensures humanity comes last. The Acceleration Agenda calls for a number of other actions. Specifically:

“No new coal, the phasing out of coal by 2030 in Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) countries, and 2040 in all other countries [Australia is a member of the OECD].

“Ending all international public and private funding of coal.

² <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/25385668/>

³ <https://press.un.org/en/2023/sgsm21730.doc.htm>

“Ensuring net-zero electricity generation by 2035 for all developed countries and 2040 for the rest of the world.

“Ceasing all licensing or funding of new oil and gas — consistent with the findings of the International Energy Agency.

“Stopping any expansion of existing oil and gas reserves.

“Shifting subsidies from fossil fuels to a just energy transition.

“Establishing a global phase down of existing oil and gas production, compatible with the 2050 global net-zero target.

“I urge all Governments to prepare energy transition plans consistent with these actions and ready for investors.

“The longer we wait on any of these crucial issues, the harder it will become.

“The transition must cover the entire economy. Partial pledges won’t cut it.

“We have never been better equipped to solve the climate challenge, but we must move into warp speed climate action now. We don’t have a moment to lose”. United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres’

On the 23rd of July 2025, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) gave its ruling on “Obligations of States in Respect of Climate Change⁴”.

The ICJ says that countries have “binding obligations to ensure protection of the climate system” under the UN climate treaties.

“Moreover, the court finds that countries’ obligations extend not only to greenhouse gas emissions, but also to fossil-fuel production and subsidies, says Viñuales, who [acted for Vanuatu](#) in the case”.

“The ICJ’s ruling has provided a legal pathway for developing states to seek climate reparations from developed States...States can bring claims for compensation or restitution for all climate-related damage. This includes claims for [loss and damage](#), but importantly extends to any harm suffered as a result of climate change.”

A newspaper clipping reports:

⁴ <https://www.icj-cij.org/sites/default/files/case-related/187/187-20250723-adv-01-00-en.pdf>



The point of this discussion in this second ground for rejecting the Maules Creek Continuation Project is that by continuing to extend coal mine production, in the face of United Nations and ICJ strong warnings about the dangers to humanity of failing to address the root causes of climate change; to fail to halt all fossil fuel production; leaves Australia and its coal, oil and gas producers wide open for litigation that could cost both Australia and its coal, oil and gas producers, billions of dollars, that no amount of argument could disprove its guilt in the face of its continual record of coal and gas approvals.

What kind of future are you leaving your own grandchildren ?

If you love your grandchildren, and if you have a spiritual heart and mind, please do not give the Maules Creek Continuation Project the go-ahead.