

Liveable Futures

Towards Climate Justice
& Social Equity



18th November 2021

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Dear Delegate

Welcome to the 2021 SACOSS Conference *Liveable Futures: Towards Climate Justice & Social Equity*. The SACOSS team has brought together some great speakers to address the issues thrown up by our accelerating move to renewables. The keynote speech from Professor Ross Garnaut is sure to be a thought-provoking introduction to the theme. But above all this event is about sharing ideas and getting fresh perspectives about topics that have far-reaching implications right across our society. Although changes to the way we use energy must be embraced, real consideration has to be given to social equity.

A face-to-face conference such as this reminds us that there is more to communication than the digital spaces we've been spending so much time in over recent months. So, please seize this opportunity today to join a face-to-face conversation. And let's have a good chat about the best ways to go about improving the state of our energy systems, our housing stock, and access to all essential services, in ways that not only don't add to existing disadvantage, but advance opportunities.

We are delighted you have joined us. The chance to hear from and engage with diverse voices and to be challenged by people who might approach our subject matter from different angles has been one of the great values of this conference. All of it adds up to an experience that we hope sheds light on how we can arrive at a just way of reducing carbon.

Ngaityalya - Kurna for Thank You

Yours sincerely

Ross Womersley
CEO, SACOSS



AM

9:00 **Conference Opening - Ross Womersley (CEO)**

9.15 **Welcome to Country**

9.20 **Opening Keynote: The Equity Challenges of South Australia’s Transition to Net-Zero**
 Keynote speaker: **Professor Ross Garnaut** (via Video link)
 Facilitator:
Ross Womersley, SACOSS
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10:10 **MORNING TEA**

10.30 **Water justice in a changing climate: Implications for water security**
Speakers:

- Adam Lovell (Water Services Association Australia)
- Rick Hartman (Ngarrindjeri Aboriginal Corporation)
- Dr Jane Doolan (Productivity Commission)

Facilitator:
Rebecca Law, SACOSS

11.30 **Fuel of Choice: New Developments and the Future of Gas**
Speakers:

- Hon Robert Simms MLC (SA Greens)
- Craig de Laine (Australian Gas Infrastructure Group)
- Adjunct Professor Monica Oliphant AO (CORENA)

Facilitated by:
Ross Womersley, SACOSS
Sponsored by: AGIG

12:30 **LUNCH**

PM

1.30	Energy and Climate Justice	Green Infrastructure and Social Equity
	Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amber Brock-Fabel (School Strike 4 Climate and 2021 recipient of SA Environment Award) • Dr Brad Riley (Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research, ANU) • Dr Geoff James (Pilbara Solar) Facilitator: Dr Maureen Boyle, SACOSS	Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mellissa Bradley (Water Sensitive SA) • Keelian Gliessert (Australian Youth Climate Coalition) • Jenni McGlennon (City of Onkaparinga) Facilitator: Greg Ingleton, Green Adelaide

2:30	AFTERNOON TEA	
2:45	<p style="text-align: center;">Redesigning an accessible, affordable and inclusive transport system</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Leading from the Frontline: Why community organisations are getting climate active</p>
	<p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Jen Cleary (Centacare Catholic Country SA) • Alice Woodruff (Active City) • Noah Schultz-Byard (The Australia Institute) <p style="text-align: center;">Facilitator: Dr Maureen Boyle, SACOSS</p>	<p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gavin Dufty (Vinnies) • Lee Sauerwald (Uniting Communities) <p style="text-align: center;">Facilitator: Kellie Caught, ACOSS</p>
3:45	<p>Hypothetical 2030: All-Electric Dreams?</p>	
	<p>The year is 2030 and SA has achieved net zero emissions 20 years before the national target of 2050. Car manufacturing is back in SA, with a thriving electric vehicle industry key in slashing our transport emissions. All new residential builds must have a mandatory 10-star energy efficiency rating under the Nat-exWA-HERS scheme (Nationwide - except WA - House Energy Rating Scheme), following what can only be described as “tense” negotiations between the state and territory energy ministers. But has this brave new world worked out for everybody?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Craig Wilkins as head of the Zero by 2030 Committee which spearheaded a campaign for energy transition • Amber Brock-Fabel, Minister for Climate Change and Resilience, youngest ever woman elected to the Australian Parliament • Kym Mercer as head of the Public Housing Tenants Association • Mark Vincent as CE of Distributed Power Corp <p style="text-align: center;">Facilitated by: Ross Womersley, SACOSS</p>	
4.30	<p>Wrap Up - Ross Womersley, SACOSS CEO</p>	
4:45	<p>Conference close</p>	

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



**PROFESSOR
ROSS GARNAUT**

Professor Garnaut is Professor Emeritus within the University of Melbourne in Business and Economics. He is the author of numerous publications in scholarly journals on international economics, public finance and economic development, particularly in relation to East Asia and the Southwest Pacific. Recent books include *The Great Crash of 2008* (with David Llewellyn-Smith, 2009); *Dog Days: Australia After the Boom* (2013); *Forty Years of Reform and Development in China* (2018) and *Superpower: Australia's low carbon opportunity, Black Inc.*, 2019. and *RESET: Restoring Australia after the Pandemic Recession*, 2021.

He is Distinguished Fellow of the Australian Economic Society, Distinguished Fellow of the Australian Agricultural and Resources Economic Society, Fellow of the Australia Academy of Social Sciences and Honorary Professor of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.

Professor Garnaut has had longstanding senior roles as policy advisor, diplomat and businessman. He was the senior economic policy official in Papua New Guinea's Department of Finance in the years straddling Independence in 1975, principal economic adviser to Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke 1983-1985, and Australian Ambassador to China 1985-1988.

SPEAKERS & FACILITATORS



DR MAUREEN BOYLE

Maureen is Senior Policy Officer with the South Australian Council of Social Service, focusing on energy policy. Maureen's academic background is in sustainable development, energy studies and international relations. Her doctoral research focused on prioritising equity in Cambodia's rapid energy development pathway. Maureen has also worked extensively in the energy sector, including with the Australian Energy Renewable Agency. Within SACOSS, her role is focused on ensuring that energy services, including household energy efficiency, is accessible and affordable and that the current energy transition does not further entrench disadvantage for people.



MELLISSA BRADLEY

Mellissa has more than 25 years' experience working within the fields of civil design, development assessment, policy development, environmental management and construction management for stormwater and wastewater re-use schemes.

Mellissa is the Program Manager for South Australia's water sensitive urban design capacity building program, Water Sensitive SA. This role has a key focus on communicating the evidence base for water sensitive city transitions to decision makers, policy writers and practitioners, and providing the tools, guidelines and training needed by industry to apply this knowledge.



**AMBER
BROCK-FABEL**

I am a sixteen-year-old activist from Adelaide currently studying Year 11 at University Senior College. After the 20th of September 2019 International School Strike 4 Climate protest with 20,000 people attending in Adelaide, I felt overwhelmingly empowered by young people and joined the Adelaide School Strike 4 Climate team. I feel a deep responsibility as a young person to stand up for action against the Climate Crisis and ultimately to save the future of our planet.



KELLIE CAUGHT

Kellie strives for a more sustainable and just future where planet and people thrive together. For the past 15 years, Kellie has specialised in international climate negotiations, domestic climate mitigation and adaption policy, community advocacy and campaigning, with a focus on social and environmental outcomes. Kellie has strong skills in policy development, advocacy, and cross sector collaboration, gained from working as a senior political adviser, climate change program manager at WWF and now as Senior Adviser with ACOSS.



DR JEN CLEARY

Dr Jen Cleary is the CEO of Centacare Catholic Country SA.

Dr Cleary is a human geographer with a PhD from the University of SA and post-graduate qualifications in human services management. Dr Cleary has a special interest in RRR communities, where she is recognised for her expertise and experience in social services, social policy, and community and economic development. She continues to write and contribute to policy directions in regional, rural and remote Australia through her connection with the Centre for Global Food and Resources at the University of Adelaide. Dr Cleary is also a member of the SACOSS Board, the SEGRA National Steering Committee and a member of the TAFESA Board.



DR JANE DOOLAN

Dr Jane Doolan is currently the Environment Commissioner at the Productivity Commission, an adjunct Professor at the University of Canberra and a Director of Southern Rural Water. She has more than 27 years experience in the sustainable management of catchments and water resources and has been responsible for providing policy advice to government on sustainable water resource management and driving key policy initiatives in river health, environmental water allocations and catchment management.



GAVIN DUFTY

Gavin Dufty is Manager Policy and Research at St Vincent de Paul Society, Victoria. Gavin has worked in the community / welfare sector for over 30 years, undertaking research, advocacy and policy evaluation on changes in cost of living and the impact on Australian households, with a particular focus on energy.

Gavin is a representative of a number of industry and government committees and a Board member of Energy Consumers Australia and the Energy and Water Ombudsman scheme of Victoria.



KEELIAN GLIESSERT

Keelian (they/them) is a 21-year-old, white, young person from Yerta Bulti, on Kurna country. They are a volunteer leader and organiser with the Adelaide branch of the Australian Youth Climate Coalition, AYCC, where they advocate for Climate Justice and Indigenous Land Rights. They currently study Economics and Environmental Policy at the University of Adelaide. They have a special passion for community-minded economic policy reform and permaculture. When they are not studying they are likely watching cartoons.



RICK HARTMAN

I am a Ngarrindjeri / Boandik man with my traditional lands stretching from the Murray River, Lower Lakes and Coorong on my mother's side to the SE of South Australia on my father's.

Currently I am employed to deliver The Living Murray Indigenous Partnership Project. My role is to ensure that Ngarrindjeri knowledge, values and perspectives are considered in the Lower Lakes, Coorong and Murray Mouth icon site environmental management plans.



GREG INGLETON

Greg Ingleton holds a number of positions within and around the water industry, including working for Sydney Water, being a member of the Green Adelaide Board, and also running his own small business on the side. Greg has spent almost 20 years in the water industry with a focus on recycled water, water quality management and the role that water plays in supporting liveability and community resilience in our urban environment. With a background in farming and environmental science, Greg focuses on a systems approach to find solutions. This includes on ground trials to demonstrate benefits to the community, as well as more strategic input and direction from his role as a member of the Green Adelaide Board.



DR GEOFF JAMES

Dr Geoff James is respected as a thought leader following 30 years of multidisciplinary research with government and private sector clients. He is active in integrating renewable energy in power systems, distribution network evolution, energy market development, and energy storage technology and applications. He co-founded Pilbara Solar in 2017 to develop solar projects in north-west Australia using new business models that provide commercial equity to Traditional Owners. Geoff is also a Project Consultant with Planet Ark Power.



REBECCA LAW

Rebecca is Senior Policy Officer at the South Australian Council of Social Service (SACOSS) with key responsibility over the water portfolio. She has a background in psychology and is experienced working across the education and community sector. At SACOSS, Rebecca engages in policy development, research and consumer advocacy to ensure that all South Australians, particularly the most vulnerable, have access to affordable and reliable essential services such as energy and water. Rebecca has led SACOSS work on waged poverty, concessions, and co-developed the Utilities Stress Indicators concept.



CRAIG DE LAINE

Craig is responsible for the growth, service and strategy for over two million residential and business customers connected to our gas networks. Craig ensures our workforce is appropriately skilled and engaged. Craig also sets and implements the long-term vision for our gas infrastructure, with a focus on delivering our low-carbon strategy, policy and stakeholder engagement programs. He brings over 20 years of industry experience, and chairs the Future Fuels Technology Research Program. He holds a Master of Economics.



ADAM LOVELL

Adam is the Executive Director at the Water Services Association of Australia (WSAA). Adam provides national leadership in policy positions for the Australian urban water sector and facilitates collaboration within the water utility sector.

Previous to joining WSAA in 2008, Adam was at Sydney Water for 11 years in leadership roles in the Science, Technology and Research area. Adam is currently the Chair of the Global Water Research Coalition.



JENNI MCGLENNON

Jenni is the Team Leader of Sustainability at the City of Onkaparinga and has worked in local government for nearly 30 years in both community development and environmental policy roles. She has a Masters in Sustainable Urban Planning which occasionally helps to navigate the planning system but not always. She lives in the Aldinga Arts Eco Village where she has driven revegetation efforts since its inception and thinks landscaping can save the world.



KYM MERCER

Advocate, support coordinator, counsellor.

As a mother and carer for her youngest with multiple disabilities and a woman with disability herself, she is always standing up for the rights of others, giving her voice to those who are voiceless or quieter than herself as well as fighting for social justice and making sure every voice is not only heard but listened to.



A/PROF MONICA OLIPHANT

Monica Oliphant worked 18 years for electricity utility ETSA as a Research Scientist, prior to privatisation. She was President of the International Solar Energy Society 2008/09 and currently is on the IRENA Coalition for Action Steering Committee. She is Patron of crowd funding initiative CORENA.

Monica received an AO in 2015 and was 2016 Senior South Australian of the Year. In 2018 she received an Honorary Doctorate from the University of South Australia.



DR BRAD RILEY

Brad Riley is a Research Fellow at the Australian National University's Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research and lives and works on the unceded lands of the Ngunnawal and Ngambri peoples. Brad's research focusses on pathways to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's benefit in the renewable energy transition. He has previously worked on projects at the intersection of technological change and community development including the Centre for Appropriate Technology's Bushlight renewable energy project, in the Kimberley region of north-west Western Australia.



LEE SAUERWALD

As a Fellow CPA MBA, Lee specialises in social, environmental and financial sustainability. His Executive responsibility for Uniting Communities includes the Corporate Services portfolio as well as the Net Zero Carbon Emission Program.

Lee has led Uniting Communities carbon reduction journey over the past 10 years including becoming Certified Carbon Neutral in 2015 - the first Australian Registered Charity and first South Australian organisation to do so.



NOAH SCHULTZ-BYARD

Noah Schultz-Byard is the SA Director at independent think tank The Australia Institute. Noah is a communications professional and former ABC reporter who now leads The Australia Institute's presence in South Australia, focussing on issues of economic inequality, environmental sustainability, and climate change.



ROBERT SIMMS

Robert is a member of the South Australian Legislative Council and an Australian politician, representing the Greens South Australia. He was a Senator for South Australia from 2015 to 2016, an Area Councillor for the City of Adelaide from 2014 to 2015 and from 2018 to 2021.

As part of the federal Greens team Robert won senate support for an enquiry into BP's since-abandoned plan to drill in the Great Australian Bight, bringing important scrutiny to the corporation's environmental record. He also stood with traditional owners and local communities in defending the Murray Darling Basin, and opposing plans to transform our state into a nuclear waste dump.



MARK VINCENT

Mark has more than 35 years' experience in the energy industry and has been engaged in many areas within the electrical sector, including Regulation, Operations Management, Asset Management and Business Transformation. Mark is currently charged with developing SA Power Networks' strategy to deal with the opportunities arising from customers' continued take-up of distributed energy resources, and the increasing challenges and risks posed by SA's ageing network infrastructure. The strategy is seeking to support the State's transition to a decentralised, decarbonised energy system, while continuing to deliver a safe, reliable and affordable distribution service.



CRAIG WILKINS

Craig has worked in the areas of public health, social services, environmental change and politics for the last 30 years in for-purpose organisations, in the public service and in Parliament House. For the last 7 years he has been the Chief Executive of the state's peak environment body, the Conservation Council of SA. He straddles the insider/outsider divide as an appointed member of the Premier's Climate Change Council, the Adelaide Parklands Authority and a range of working groups and committees. Craig is a passionate believer in collective altruism - the act of people generously working together on behalf of others and the planet we call home.



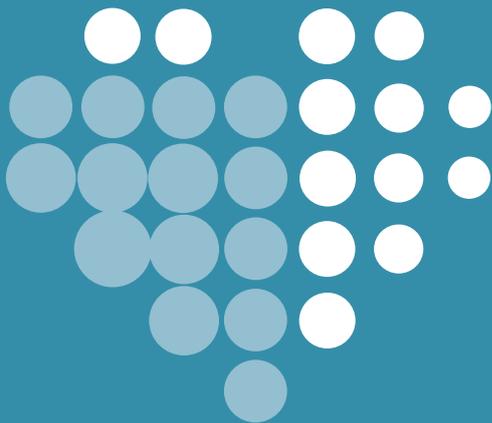
ROSS WOMERSLEY

Ross has had an extensive involvement in community services over many years and is driven by the idea that we live in a community in which everyone is included and has access to the good things in life. He is the CEO of SACOSS - the peak body for the non-government community and health sector leading the fight against poverty. Across time he has filled many roles including as a manager, advocate, teacher, leader, evaluator, mentor and consultant. Ross continues to deepen and extend his understanding of many of the issues he has always been passionate about, including the social determinants of health, as he works to assist SACOSS fulfill its aspirational vision - that there is justice, opportunity and wealth for all South Australians.



ALICE WOODRUFF

Alice Woodruff is director of Active City, a practice which delivers strategies and interventions that encourage people to use sustainable travel options to get to destinations like workplaces, precincts or at a city-scale. Alice's practice integrates behavioural insights with transport planning, place making and organisational change. Alice has been a transport consultant for over a decade. Prior to consulting, Alice worked in policy and program roles with the Victorian Department of Transport, Australian Government and United Nations.



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IF THERE IS A CLIMATE CHANGE PROBLEM, IT IS IN LARGE PART A JUSTICE PROBLEM

MARY ROBINSON

Mary Robinson is a former president of Ireland and was United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in 1997. The quote above comes from the inaugural Barbara Ward Lecture, which she delivered on climate change and justice (Chatham House, London, 2006).



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SACOSS acknowledges traditional owners of country throughout South Australia, and recognises the continuing connection to lands, waters and communities. We pay our respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, and to elders both past and present.