Local Government Association of Tasmania
Climate Change Update January 2009

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Local Government Planning for Communities in a Changing Climate Conference

Date: Wednesday 25th March & Thursday 26th March 2009,  
Location: Baha’i Centre of Learning, Corner of Brooker Avenue and Tasman Hwy, Hobart.

Aim

The aim of the Conference is to bring together Local Government Officers, Elected Members and others with a professional interest in land use planning, building and development; to hear the latest thinking on land use planning systems and approaches to ecological sustainability in a changing climate.

Workshops will be held to allow attendees to share ideas and identify barriers to and opportunities for working across local and state government.

For Whom

The Conference will be of interest to:

- Mayors and Councillors;
- General Managers and senior managers;
- Environment and planning professionals;
- State and Federal agency representatives; and
- Regional NRM bodies and catchment management authorities.

Speakers

- Associate Professor Tim Smith, Research Coordinator, Faculty of Science, Health and Education and Director, Regional Sustainability Research Group, University of the Sunshine Coast;
- Barbara Norman, Research Partnerships Manager of the Global Cities Research Institute, Research and Innovation Portfolio, RMIT University;
- Dr Nicole Gurran, Senior Lecturer, Co-ordinator, Urban and Regional Planning Program, The University of Sydney; and
- Allen Kearns, Deputy Chief, CSIRO Sustainable Ecosystems, Theme Leader, Sustainable Cities and Coasts, Climate Adaptation Flagship, Officer in Charge, Gungahlin Homestead.

The full program will be available from January 27th, 2009.

For further information on the event or sponsor and trade exhibitions please contact Christine Materia, Climate Change Officer, Local Government Association of Tasmania, 03 6233 5962  
christine.materia@lgat.tas.gov.au.

Estimating Sea-Level Extremes in an Uncertain Future Seminar and Workshop

We are living in a world in which sea level is rising and will continue to rise for the foreseeable future. However, traditional design guidelines for coastal infrastructure assume that sea level is not changing. So how do we incorporate our knowledge of future sea-level rise into coastal risk assessments, planning procedures and the development of coastal policy?

A national program of information seminars and training workshops will explain how, using the latest
methods from leading sea-level rise scientists.

This program is specifically designed for coastal infrastructure owners, planners, engineers and policymakers to learn how to:

- set appropriate design codes for new infrastructure,
- assess the risk to existing infrastructure and
- set prudent guidelines for coastal developments and infrastructure maintenance.

It is co-funded by the Department of Climate Change and the Antarctic Climate & Ecosystems Cooperative Research Centre.

**Information Seminar - Hobart**

An overview for policymakers and owners of major coastal infrastructure. This session will highlight the need to incorporate the potential impacts of rising sea level in management, planning and decision-making.

Date: 24 February 2009  
Location: Hobart Function and Conference Centre, Elizabeth Street Pier Sandy Bay  
Time: 4.00 pm – 6.30 pm

**Workshop - Hobart**

Designed specifically for planners, engineers and other stakeholders. Training will be provided in the use of an interactive web-based tool which determines appropriate design specifications based on location, asset life, greenhouse emission scenario and acceptable level of risk.

Date: 24-25 March 2009  
Location: Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania, Marieville Esplanade Sandy Bay  
Time: 8.30am – approx 4:00 pm

Details and registration at [www.sealevelrise.info](http://www.sealevelrise.info), phone (03) 6226 7652 or email info@sealevelrise.info

**Tasmanian Local Government First on Climate Change**

On the 16th December, 2008 Mayor Mike Gaffney, President, Local Government Association of Tasmania and Premier David Bartlett signed the Statewide Partnership Agreement on Climate Change at the Premier’s Local Government Council (PLGC) meeting in Hobart.

Tasmania will be the first state in Australia to undertake baseline monitoring, assessment and reporting of carbon emissions across all councils.

Mayor Gaffney said local government was committed to a coordinated statewide response to climate change in Tasmania.

A copy of the agreement is available from Christine.materia@lgat.tas.gov.au or downloaded at [http://www.dpac.tas.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0005/68387/Statewide_partnership_agreement_on_Climate_Change.pdf](http://www.dpac.tas.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0005/68387/Statewide_partnership_agreement_on_Climate_Change.pdf)
January 2009 High Tide Event

Clive Attwater will be coordinating state-wide documentation of the January High Tide Event. If you would like to be involved in documenting this high tide event please email me at Christine.materia@lgat.tas.gov.au and I will provide the relevant documents which can be used for recording information. This will allow all observations to be compiled into a common data set with valid, comparable data. To determine the dates and time of the mid morning January high tides in your area see http://www.bom.gov.au/oceanography/tides/MAPS/tas.shtml

Please submit observation's to LGAT by Monday 19th January 2009 so I can collate them and send them through to Clive.

All contributors will receive a copy of the statewide analysis, as well as some analysis of your sites observed (eg estimated actual water height (AHD) on the day for the site) as long as all the necessary information has been provided prepared by SGC Consulting.

“Our Climate . . . On the Edge” Presentation Papers now available

As a part of Coastcare Week 2008 celebrations NRM South, Cradle Coast NRM, NRM North and the Tasmanian Department of Environment, Parks, Heritage and the Arts (DEPHA) organised a series of Climate Change presentations throughout Tasmania.

Presentations are available on the LGAT web site at http://www.lgat.tas.gov.au/site/page.cfm?u=540

Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme (CPRS) - White Paper released


Critics have argued that the Australian government commitments ranging from 5 to 15 per cent across the developed world only provide a chance of stabilising greenhouse gas emissions at 550 parts per million carbon dioxide equivalent (ppm CO2-e) and nowhere near the 25-50 per cent emissions reductions required by 2020, or 80 per cent needed by mid century, for the world to aim to avert 'dangerous climate change' associated with a global average warming of 20 C or 450ppm CO2-e.

In working toward the 5 per cent commitment, the White Paper indicates a modest increase in overall living costs from when the CPRS is introduced. Electricity bills are expected to increase $4 per week and gas / other fuels by $2 per week. A $6 billion assistance package per year on going, as generated from the sale of emissions permits, is proposed to offset the full costs for low income earners and partially for middle income earners.

The paper identified emissions from landfills to be included in the CPRS from 2010; however, legacy emissions will be excluded until 2018. Emissions from landfill sites closed prior to 30 June 2008 will not be covered.

The Municipal Association of Victoria has produced a brief on the White paper which is available on request from Christine.materia@lgat.tas.gov.au. To obtain a copy of the White Paper Summary Report, Full Report and a series of Fact Sheets visit: www.climatechange.gov.au.
Upcoming Events, Conferences

**Green Cities 09 1 - 4 March 2009, Brisbane**

Date: 1 – 4 March 2009  
Location: Brisbane

Green Cities is Australia's premier conference for sustainability in the built environment. For further information, visit [www.greencities.org.au](http://www.greencities.org.au).

**Managing Waste in a Changing Climate Conference & Expo**

Date: 4 – 6 March 2009  
Location: Launceston Country Club

The Conference provides a valuable opportunity for industry, state and local government and the community to examine our waste management practices and the importance this has in addressing the impacts associated with climate change. The Conference will focus on behavioural change, addressing barriers to adopting modern practices and promoting key initiatives, such as resource recovery and innovation in waste management.

**Carbon Risk Conference**

Date: 18 – 19 March 2009  
Location: Crowne Plaza Darling Harbour, Sydney

A timetable has now been set for legislation, regulation and frameworks for a Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme. Businesses will be affected directly and indirectly by climate change risk and consequences on production, markets and consumer demand may significantly affect your bottom-line. Now inundated by global economic and environmental challenges, businesses cannot afford to ignore climate change risk.


**Don't dump it, recycle it!** This is the Planet Ark and Sensis 'Recycling Near You' website. You can search for local recycling information either by Council [AREA](http://arena.org.au) or [PRODUCT](http://product.org.au).
LGAT Climate Change Word Search Quiz

Win a home energy assessment from Sustainable living Tasmania, an enviro-friendly water saving shower head or a gist voucher from EcoHaven Organic, fair-trade and eco-friendly products.

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1. Any alteration in the structure or function of an organism
2. The gaseous mass or envelope surrounding a celestial body
3. A key component of national and international emissions trading schemes
4. Emitting no carbon dioxide into the atmosphere
5. Formerly used as a refrigerant and as a propellant in aerosol cans
6. To purchase (goods or services) for direct use or ownership
7. To work or act together for a common purpose or benefit
8. An atmospheric system characterized by the rapid inward circulation of air masses about a low-pressure centre
9. An occurrence causing widespread destruction and distress
10. An extended period of month or years when a region notes a deficiency in its water supply
11. The land surface of the world
12. The process by which disappearance is accomplished
13. Of a character or kind farthest removed from the ordinary or average
14. The conduct or transaction of money matters generally
15. To put in order or in good condition
16. A natural disaster responsible for the spread of vector borne disease
17. A synonym of worldwide
18. The distance food travel to get to where is consumed
19. Hydrocarbons found within the top layer of the earth’s crust
20. A product of a non renewable resource
21. The increase in the average temperature of the earth’s near surface air and oceans in recent decades and its projected continuation
22. A form of precipitation which consists of balls or irregular lumps of ice
23. The feeling that what is wanted can be had
24. They are shrinking due to climate change
25. The surrounding of a space with material designed to prevent the entrance or escape of radiant energy
26. Acronym for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
27. An international agreement linked to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
28. A chemical compound with the molecular formula CH4
29. The process or business of extracting ore or mineral from the ground
30. An impact of climate change felt in water
31. A gas found in the atmosphere
32. A Federal Minister
33. A solar power technology that uses solar cells
34. To treat or process so as to make suitable for reuse
35. The collective wealth of a country or its means of producing wealth
36. A major body of saline water
37. To use again
38. Term used to indicate that a compound or metabolite is locked away so as to not be readily available
39. An increase in sea level
40. A disturbed state of astronomical body’s atmosphere
41. A Start that is the basis of the solar system and that sustains life on earth
42. A particular period considered as distinct from other periods
43. involving the extrusion of rock
44. Susceptible to attack
45. A possible impact of climate change
46. A machine that converts the kinetic energy in wind into mechanical energy
To qualify please provide your name and contact details below. Find and mark the words in the grid that solve the quiz clue and enter your answer in the table below. Words can go horizontally, vertically and diagonally in any direction.

Name  ____________________________________________________
Organisation  ____________________________________________
Address  _________________________________________________
Email  __________________________________________________
Phone  __________________________________________________
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45.  46.

Open to All Readers

Address entries to:
Competition
LGAT News
C/- Christine Materia
Box 1521 Hobart 7001

Entries close Friday 13th February 2009. The first three correct entries will be declared the winners. Winners will be notified by phone, email or fax by 20th February 2008 and published in March 2009 issues of LGAT news. Any company directly involved with the design and production of the LGAT News are ineligible to enter this competition.