

33 Hedge St;
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Justice Kate Holmes
Appeals Court
The Supreme Court

18 1 11

Your Honour,

Thank you for accepting the State Government's request to chair an Inquiry into the Queensland floods.

How many more severe climate extremes will it take before our government has the courage to, as a matter of extreme urgency, start to educate the community, including the business community, about the extreme likelihood that we will continue to experience similar more frequent and severe climate extremes while we continue to ignore climate change with its consequent rises in sea temperatures? There is still a widespread need for education about both the causes of climate change as well as how best to slow and reverse the growing pace of climate change.

Information on both of these topics is vital for the whole community as well as how best to adapt to the climate change that is already occurring so obviously for all to see.

Now facing the damage costs from the floods, it is extremely hard to accept that our State government is planning for a projected increase in fossil fuel exports of 80%. The International Energy Agency has stated that such increases will make it impossible to meet the internationally agreed target of limiting Global Warming to 2 degrees. This at a time in the history of our grandchildren's world when 2010 was the first year that international investment in renewables ^{new} outstripped fossil fuel investment.

You would realise that as individuals we do what we can to pass on a sustainable world to our children. But we do trust our governments to act in the best longterm interests of the community rather than in the narrow, shortterm interests of powerful, vested interests.

I do wonder how many of our politicians have children or grandchildren and whether or not they value their children as much as they value themselves.

On behalf of my grandchildren I will look forward to the results of your Inquiry with great interest.

All the best in the future you choose for your family.

Yours sincerely,

Harry Johnson

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