

Friends of the Earth Australia



Annual Report 2008



**Friends of
the Earth
Australia**

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acknowledgements

The photos of people in this year's report are of FoE campaigners and staff and were taken at the mid year meeting 2008, held at Barrington, NSW. Images by Kim Stewart. Report compiled by Kim Stewart with contributions from Dr Jim Green, Dr Rye Senjen, Georgia Miller, Cam Walker, Marisol Salinas. Edited by Cam Walker. October 2008

Think of the environment before you print this document

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FoE Australia's objectives:

1. The conservation, restoration, and rational use of the ecosphere;
2. To stimulate a movement of social change towards an ecologically stable and self-managed society;
3. To preserve the natural environment in Australia;
4. To promote public awareness of environmental issues in Australia through public awareness activities and the production of leaflets, booklets, films and other educational materials;
5. To assist other people and organisations interested in these objectives to carry out their tasks through the maintenance of resource centers, newsletters, magazines and communication with like-minded national and international bodies.

1.0 who is FoE Australia?

Friends of the Earth (FoE) Australia is a federation of independent local groups working for a socially equitable and environmentally sustainable future.

FoE Australia was founded in 1974 at a meeting on French Island in Westernport Bay, Victoria, which was then the site for a proposed nuclear reactor. Over the last 34 years, FoE has evolved into a diverse and vibrant network of groups that are working at the local, regional, national and international level.

environmental justice

FoE sees that pursuing environmental protection is inseparable from broader social concerns, and as a result uses an environmental justice perspective in its campaigning. A strong social perspective means FoE is well placed to develop alliances at the grassroots level with other organisations and communities.

indigenous land rights

FoE supports Indigenous sovereignty and works at both the local level with specific Indigenous communities as well as participating in debates and campaigns at the national level. FoE's Land and Rights policy can be found at: www.foe.org.au/docs/pub_ilrp.htm

positive solutions

FoE believes in working for a sustainable and empowering future. To this end, many FoE groups are working now to create the type of world we want: one that will be based on healthy communities and healthy ecosystems.

sustainable business

A number of FoE groups operate businesses and other ventures that act as practical examples of sustainable business. In 1999 FoE Brisbane initiated the Reverse Garbage re-use centre, which finds community uses for industrial discards which would otherwise go to landfill. The Bicycle Revolution (which finds and fixes up old pushbikes) also operates from FoE Brisbane. FoE in Melbourne has been running a large food co-operative and a bookshop for over two decades and, more recently, an organic cafe.

community partnerships

We place great emphasis on working in partnerships with other organisations and communities to achieve positive and practical outcomes.

You can read our vision statement on our website.

contact us foe@foe.org.au
1300 852 081

www.foe.org.au



2.0 campaigns

2.1 climate justice

Climate change is still seen by many as largely an environmental issue. However, it is likely to be one of the most significant environmental justice issues ever encountered by humanity. While developed countries are historically responsible for human-induced climate change, the poor in developing countries are the most vulnerable to its effects.

In seeking climate justice FoE has consistently attempted to add a human rights perspective to the debate and to highlight climate changes impacts on health, food, water, local economies and the sovereignty of people across the world. As a major contributor of greenhouse gases, and a Kyoto skeptic, the Australian government must be pressured to take action to mitigate or reduce climate change, dramatically increase our foreign aid and to accept refugees on environmental grounds.

carterets tour

The Carteret Islanders in Papua New Guinea are amongst the world's first climate refugees. An entire cultural group is facing relocation due to the impacts of climate change. They have fought for more than twenty years against the rising ocean, building sea walls and planting mangroves. However, storm surges and high tides continue to wash away homes, destroy vegetable gardens, and contaminate fresh water supplies.

In September 2007, FoE hosted Ms Ursula Rakova from the NGO Tulele Peisa and Mr Bernard Tunim from Piul Island in the Carterets who talked about their personal experiences of climate change. The tour included media and public forums in Brisbane, Canberra, Melbourne, Newcastle and Sydney. National partners: Tulele Peisa Incorporated ("Sailing the waves") and Oxfam Australia

other climate refugee work

- Distribution of a form letter to Foreign Affairs Minister, Stephen Smith on climate refugees
- Climate refugee cyberaction to Stephen Smith on FoE International website
- Articles published on climate refugees in the Age newspaper and in the Alternative Law Journal
- Speaking in various forums about climate refugees including BRIZMUN (Brisbane model UN)
- Lobbying the government on the climate refugee bill

climate code red

"Climate Code Red: The case for a sustainability emergency" report, was prepared by Carbon Equity and the Greenleap Strategic Institute for FoEA and launched in February 2008. It canvasses the major developments in climate science that have happened since the release of the final IPCC assessment and argues for the need to declare an climate emergency. CCR had a considerable impact in terms of alerting a wide range of people and organisations about the extent of the climate crisis we face as a global community.

voices from bangladesh speaking tour

The people and ecosystems of Bangladesh face many of the most devastating consequences of climate change and sea level rise - at the same time as international financial institutions such as the Asian Development Bank continue to finance projects such as the Phulbari Coal

project. This project will directly contribute to climate change and threaten the environmental health human rights of developing communities.

This national speaking tour aimed to raise awareness of the unequal impacts of climate change and to voice the urgent need for Australia to support development projects that are socially and environmentally just, rather than destructive.



Walk against warming, Melbourne, November 2007



It featured Prof Anu Muhammad, who is a Professor in the Department of Economics at Jahangirnagar University in Dhaka. The tour was organised by Aid/Watch with the support of FoEA and a number of other partners.

We continued our involvement in the Climate Change Development Roundtable (CCDR), which brings together a range of environmental and aid and development organisations. The CCDR was formed in recognition that developing countries are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, and to highlight the need for international aid and development

development roundtable agencies to consider the implications of climate change for their programs and advocacy.

The CCDR has now evolved into the Make Poverty History campaign, which has a strong emphasis on climate change and climate refugees in 2008.

garnaut review The Garnaut Review was commissioned by Australia's Commonwealth, State and Territory governments to examine the impacts, challenges and opportunities of climate change for Australia. The outcomes of the Review will greatly influence Australia's response to climate change in coming years. FoE engaged in this review. Our submissions to the Review can be found at: <http://www.foe.org.au/climate-justice/policy-position/garnaut-review-2008>

coal campaign In 2007/8, we began to combine the work being done by local FoE groups on coal into a national project. Friends of the Earth promotes a just transition approach dealing with climate change and the need to shift rapidly from our current reliance on coal, which will allow us to adopt job rich renewable energy solutions. We work with community groups to tackle climate change, are campaigning for a moratorium on all new coal power stations, and stopping the proposed HRL coal fired power station in the Latrobe Valley.

community outreach As part of FoE's community outreach program, climate forums were held in a range of locations during the 2007/2008 period. Community groups in areas as diverse as suburban Melbourne, Adelaide and Brisbane. Some highlights include:

- In Melbourne, FoE hosted its Solutions to Climate Change Community Festival, for the second time. This is a family-friendly community event, with a focus on community, education, and solutions. It was organised by Friends of the Earth and the City of Yarra. Many thanks to Jodie Fraser for taking a major organising role for this event.
- In Melbourne, FoE convened the first climate movement convergence, which brought together more than 300 people from 80 organisations and networks. Partners included the Sustainable Living Foundation
- In Brisbane FoE organised the Climate Action Now! conference which brought climate action groups together for a day of workshops and collaboration

Emma Brindal finished working as the co-ordinator during 2008. We express our sincere thanks for all her efforts during her time as co-ordinator. Damien Lawson has taken on national co-ordination. Dot Green started working as fund-raiser for the campaign.

campaign contacts

Co-ordinator:
Damien Lawson [Sydney]
damien.lawson@foe.org.au
0419 253342

Biofuels:
Emma Brindal [Brisbane]
emma.brindal@foe.org.au
0411 084 727

Coal campaign:
Lou Morris [Melbourne]
louise.morris@foe.org.au

www.foe.org.au/climatejustice

2.2 anti-nuclear

FoE's nuclear work in Australia includes consistent anti-nuclear work by a number of FoE groups, particularly in Melbourne, Brisbane and Adelaide.

elections The focus for the second half of 2007 was to raise the profile of nuclear issues in the federal election. FoE was heavily involved in organising the Vote Nuclear Free (VNF) initiative which included the VNF website www.votenuclearfree.net and the distribution of 310,000 VNF postcards and 45,000 VNF posters. FoE was one of the groups driving the eastern states election tour of Ziggy the inflatable white elephant. In addition to local FoE campaign work and actions, we supported other groups in areas likely to be targeted for nuclear reactors by supplying resources/materials, speaking at public meetings etc. We had some success in keeping nuclear issues on the election agenda despite the Howard government's attempt to close down debate on nuclear issues.

Australian nuclear free alliance

FoE played a major role in organising the 2007 and 2008 meetings of the Australian Nuclear Free Alliance (ANFA) - the Indigenous/environmental alliance which has been operating since 1997. The 2007 meeting was held near Alice Springs and the 2008 meeting near Darwin. Michaela Stubbs was a key organiser for both of these. In 2008, FoE initiated discussions which led to a more formal ANFA structure being developed, including an Alliance Committee (with a majority Indigenous, and also a FoE representative), plus numerous Working Groups. In 2008 we will work to bring about increased campaign activity and an increased public and media profile for the Alliance. FoE worked with others on the Alliance poster project - sets of four large posters on nuclear issues, designed primarily for remote Aboriginal communities. We are also working on a stand-alone ANFA website. Please see the FoEA website for more.

radioactive exposure tour

FoE organised another successful Radioactive Exposure Tour to the South Australian desert in May 2008, visiting the Roxby and Beverley mines and meeting Traditional Owners affected

Uranium mining is set to expand in Australia



Olympic Dam, the world's largest known uranium deposit will increase three-fold and more mines are threatening to open up across the land. Uranium is radioactive and mining it unleashes a potential for serious harm to us, our children and our children's children.

The Roxstop Action Kit has been created to help people take positive action to oppose the proposed expansion of the Olympic Dam mine (Roxby Downs). With the Environmental Impact Statement on the expansion soon to be released and the change in the Labor party position to support new mines, now is a critical time to raise awareness about uranium mining and its dangerous consequences.

The kit has been funded by the JB Seed arts grant with the support of FoEB Anti-Nuclear Collective and the Frontline Film Foundation and is available for individuals and community groups. The kits are free, however there are limited copies.

www.roxstop-action.org



radioactive waste dump

FoE has been heavily involved in the campaign to stop the imposition of a radioactive waste dump in the NT - supporting the national speaking tour of affected Traditional Owners; holding protest actions, film nights etc in the electorate of Martin Ferguson; going to and speaking at a protest rally in Tennant Creek; lobbying and media to get the Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management Act repealed; etc.

uranium mining

Uranium mining has been the major area of FoE's anti-nuclear work in 2007/08. Our work has included: Submissions on several uranium mine applications - Oban ISL, Beverley expansion, Angela Pamela; Work to encourage ALP to implement its promises to improve safeguarding of uranium exports; Work to encourage ALP to stick to its promise to prohibit uranium sales to India and other non-NPT states; Proposed uranium sales to Russia - research, submissions to Joint Standing Committee on Treaties, spoke at JSCT hearing in Melbourne, media; Ongoing work re Roxby expansion including helping to co-ordinate national protests in late 2008.

FoE continues to actively oppose the push to introduce nuclear power, and we continue to promote clean energy solutions to climate change. FoE supports non-proliferation and disarmament initiatives such as the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons and the Abolition 2000 India working group. FoE is an active contributor to the EnergyScience Coalition www.energyscience.org.au

other work

We have also worked with CorporateWatch Australia on a research project concerning ethical investment and the nuclear industry. FoE organised the February 2008 national anti-nuclear planning meeting at Seymour, north of Melbourne. FoE activists have spoken at dozens of public meetings on nuclear issues in the past year, especially in the pre-election period

campaign contact

Dr Jim Green
jim.green@foe.org.au
0417 318368

[www.foe.org.au/
anti-nuclear](http://www.foe.org.au/anti-nuclear)

beyond nuclear initiative

by uranium mining and the British bomb tests.

FoE continues to support the Beyond Nuclear Initiative through participation in the steering committee for the BNI campaigner Nat Wasley, based in Alice Springs, and with ongoing support for central Australian waste dump and uranium campaigns. However, BNI funding for FoE's national nuclear campaigner came to an end in Jan 2008.



michaela

2.3 nanotechnology



Nanotechnology - the 'science of the small' - offers the potential for breakthroughs in a whole range of scientific fields. Hundreds of everyday products like sunscreens, cosmetics, clothing, food packaging, household appliances and other items now contain 'nanoparticles' (although nano ingredients remain unlabelled). But mounting scientific evidence indicates that these nanoparticles pose new and poorly understood risks for the environment and human health. Touted as the technological platform that will underpin the next industrial revolution, nanotechnology also poses a raft of questions about how such a powerful new technology should be governed, what role public preferences should play in developing research priorities and governance regimes, and what priority should be attached to funding public interest science.

public advocacy

The Friends of the Earth Nano project has continued to play a key role in catalysing civil society action on nanotechnology in Australia and overseas. We have worked to bring attention to the serious new environmental risks and challenges associated with the use of nanomaterials in consumer and industrial products. We have called for a halt to all intentional environmental release of nanomaterials for remediation of contaminated soils and waterways until this can be shown to be safe. We have also vocally opposed attempts to use large-scale release of nanomaterials to 're-engineer' our environment in the face of dangerous climate change, for example by dumping iron nanoparticles in oceans in an effort to promote the development of giant algal blooms that will supposedly suck up carbon dioxide.

nano in food & agriculture

FoE Australia's Nano Project has also played an important role in highlighting the growing use of nanotechnology in food and agriculture. We were the primary authors of a report on nanotechnology in food and agriculture released in March 2008. The report was co-produced with sister organisations in Europe and the United States and released internationally, reaching millions of people through media coverage. In a world first, our

report identified 104 foods, food packaging, agricultural and kitchen products that now contain manufactured nanoparticles. We highlighted the serious new environment and health risks associated with these products, and also investigated the broader social implications of nanotechnology's use in the critical area of food production.

In the past year members of the FoE Nano Project have spoken at forums organised by industry and government, including the commercialization of Micro and Nano Systems Conference, International Council on Nanoscience and Nanotechnology, two forums organised by the Australian Office of Nanotechnology, and a public seminar organised





by Greens MLC Lee Rhiannon. The Nano Project organised public forums in Brisbane, Adelaide, McLaren Vale and Katoomba on the environment, health and social implications of nanotechnology in food and agriculture. Speakers from Friends of the Earth represented the Nanotechnology project at the Students of Sustainability Conference, Perth, and at the Organic Expo in Melbourne.

We have had a peer-reviewed article published in the International Journal of Nanomanufacturing and a chapter published in a book edited by the

US Center for Nanotechnology in Society. We wrote a detailed submission to the NSW Government's parliamentary inquiry into nanotechnology and subsequently presented aural evidence. We also wrote a detailed submission to the National Innovation Review

campaign contact

Georgia Miller
 georgia.miller@foe.org.au
 0437 979402

www.nano.foe.org.au

**2.4 murray river
 red gums**

After a three year investigation, the Brumby government in Victoria has received recommendations to declare a 170,000ha network of national parks lining the River Murray and its tributaries. This critical biolink between the mountains and the sea is currently logged and being degraded by cattle grazing, limiting its ability to store carbon and harbour native flora and fauna. Protecting the river red gum corridor is a critical step in the challenge to bolster Australia's natural bushland against the threat of climate change.

The Brumby government are waiting to gauge the community response to these recommendations. Already there is opposition from vested interest groups who are intent on continuing to log and graze our forests at the expense of saving the Murray. It is urgent that you write to the Premier today to voice your support for new red gum national parks.

We are an activist collective which was set up at the end of 2000, in response to a request from the Yorta Yorta Indigenous Nation. We work with the Yorta Yorta Traditional Owners to campaign for better eco - cultural outcomes for the Country. In 2007/ 8 we have extended the area of our activity considerably. It now also covers the southern half of the Murray - Darling system in NSW. This work is governed by a memorandum of understanding with the Murray Lower Darling Rivers Indigenous Nations (MLDRIN).

**campaign
 contact**

Jonathan La Nauze
 jonathan.lanauze@foe.org.au
 0402 904 251



www.saveredgum.org

2.5 chemicals



We all use chemicals in our day-to-day lives. But the uncomfortable truth is that more and more research is suggesting that many chemicals are threatening our health with a new kind of pollution that contaminates the bodies of us and our families, our environment, animals, plants, the planet.

FoE groups have worked on chemicals issues for many years. A key focus in recent times has been the use of various chemicals in plantation forestry. Over the past two years we have extended this activity to also look specifically at pesticides use in Victorian domestic water catchments. Our work has exposed that a considerable number of water supplies are affected by pesticide

pesticides in water

contamination. This includes some which are especially hazardous, such as 2,4-D, which is classified by the IARC (International Agency for Research on Cancer) as a Class 2B carcinogen - possibly carcinogenic to humans. 2,4-D is also known as an endocrine disruptor.

bisphenol A

FoEA has also launched a new national project on the controversial plastic ingredient Bisphenol A (or BPA). BPA is found in a growing number of consumer goods such as baby bottles, plastic microwave food containers and canned food linings, and has proven links with a wide range of health disorders from infertility, breast and prostate cancer, to thyroid malfunction, attention deficit syndrome and recurrent miscarriage.

Australian regulators continue to down play the harmful effects of the chemical.

public advocacy & education

This project of FoEA seeks to educate consumers about the risks associated with exposure to the chemical as well as encouraging regulators to act immediately to reduce the risk to the Australian public. We expect to launch a major report on the risks associated with use of this chemical in late 2008.

campaign contact

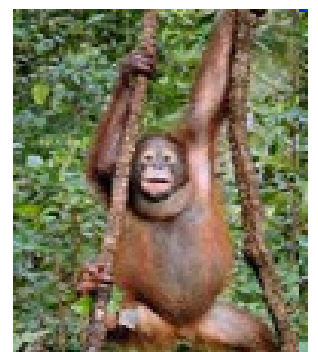
Dr Rye Senjen
rye.senjen@foe.org.au
0431 662124

www.foe.org.au/chemicals

2.6 other campaigns

palm oil

Palm oil is a form of edible vegetable oil obtained from the fruit of the African oil palm tree (*Elaeis guineensis*) which is commonly used in a wide range of consumer goods, including food, cosmetic and bath products. Increased demand for palm oil - which can be grown only in tropical environments - is fuelling destruction of the rainforest habitat of Sumatran and Bornean orangutans, pushing those endangered species even closer to extinction.





In mid 2007, FoEA joined with the Rainforest Information Centre, Australian Orangutan Project, and Borneo Orangutan Survival Foundation to form the Palm Oil Action Group. POAG is concerned about oil palm plantation development and deforestation in Indonesia, Malaysia and Papua New Guinea and its impacts on habitat, communities, workers and the contribution of forest clearance on greenhouse gas emissions.

We are working to encourage importers, food manufacturers and other companies who are currently using palm oil to implement a range of positive initiatives, including the implementation of policies to ensure the labeling of products containing palm oil. We are urging the Australian government to:

- * implement policies to ensure the labeling of products containing palm oil
- * work for a certification system for sustainable palm oil, and to regulate to prevent the import of non-certified palm oil
- * support the Indonesian, Malaysian and Papua New Guinean governments in their efforts to halt forest destruction. through strategic support and aid

forest stewardship council

FoE is one of the founding members of the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) in Australia. FSC is an international not-for-profit membership-based organisation that brings people together to find solutions to the problems created by bad forestry practices and to reward good forest management.

FSC is a stakeholder owned system for promoting responsible management of the world's forests. Through consultative processes, it sets international standards for responsible forest management. It accredits independent third party organisations who can certify forest managers and forest product producers to FSC standards.

www.fscaustralia.org

on the ground conservation work

A number of FoE local groups continue to be involved in both new revegetation/ restoration programs and the protection of pockets of remnant indigenous vegetation.

For some groups, such as FoE Stawell, based in the Victorian Box - Ironbark belt, such work is a major focus. In 2007/8, FoE Melbourne continued to develop its relationship with groups working to restore the lower Merri Creek catchment in Melbourne's northern suburbs and extended this work to a project on the Little Yarra River east of Melbourne.

FoE Adelaide has maintained a volunteer work program in conjunction with the Adnyamathanha community in Nepabunna, near the Flinders Ranges. Tasks include working in the community's bush tucker garden, saving seed of local species and helping with local eco tourism ventures.

3.0 FoEA projects

3.1 chain reaction: our national magazine

Chain Reaction is the magazine of FoE Australia, produced three times each year. Chain Reaction has been produced since 1975 and we celebrated the 100th issue in 2007.

100th issue milestone

The three issues published in the 2007/08 year were:

- * the 100th issue, August 2007
- * counter-terrorism feature, December 2007
- * food feature, April 2008.

The September 2008 issue will be a mining and sustainability feature.

Current editorial team is Jim Green, Cam Walker, Natalie Lowrey, and Vanessa Bowden. The advisory board during 2007/8 was Karen Alexander, biodiversity campaigner [Melbourne], Greg Buckman, author/ researcher [Hobart], Damian Grenfell, Globalism Centre, RMIT [Melbourne], Jo Immig, National Toxics Network [Bangalow, NSW], Damien Lawson, adviser to Greens senator, Kerry Nettle [Sydney], Binnie O'Dwyer, FoE representative [Lismore, NSW], Alison Tate, ACTU International officer [Melbourne], Chris Richards, New Internationalist magazine [Melbourne], and James Whelan, The Change Agency [Brisbane]

Chain Reaction has run up a debt which we plan to address by increasing the amount of advertising in coming editions. As at September 2008, the debt is \$6,000. Our aim is to make sure that Chain Reaction is no longer accruing debts by issue 104 (Dec 08) or 105 (April 09) then to reduce the accumulated debt.

The print run has been increased from 2300 to 2500, mainly because of the significant increase in the number of FoE Melbourne members.

chain reaction contacts

Jim Green co-editor
chainreaction@foe.org.au
0417 318368

[www.foe.org.au/
resources/chainreaction](http://www.foe.org.au/resources/chainreaction)



3.2 wild spaces film festival

From its first incarnation in 1996, WildSpaces has grown to be a compelling program of international films about social justice and environmental issues screening in 30 locations around Australia. Friends of the Earth have been national coordinators of the festival since 2002, realising the need for a vehicle that would carry all the environmental and social justice films that weren't making it into the mainstream media.

Sadly, we have not had the resources to run the festival since 2005. We are currently working to access sufficient funds to show the festival again in early 2009.

4.0 FoEA organisation

FoE Australia is composed of independent member groups. Each group needs to meet certain membership criteria and is self-managing in terms of its campaigns, decision making structures and fundraising. Groups co-operate on specific campaigns at a level they feel is appropriate. Communication between local groups is facilitated by the National Liaison Officers. FoE Melbourne currently hosts the national liaison office.

The National Campaigns Reference Group (NCRG) is composed of representatives of local groups and national representatives and aims to provide advice on national campaigns, the work of the national liaison officers, and general issues of organisational development and political positioning.

A Committee of Management is appointed at the AGM held in January each year. The International Liaison Officers are responsible for communication between FoE Australia and FoE International (FoEI). National spokespeople are nominated by local groups and are approved to speak on behalf of FoE Australia on specific issues. The regional contacts represent the FoE network in areas where there are currently no local groups.

Decisions are made at two national meetings which are held in January and June. Various communication structures keep groups informed during the year. FoEA places great value on participatory decision making systems and internal information sharing.

FoEA committee of management 2007/2008

Derec Davies [Brisbane], Natalie Lowrey [Katoomba], Mara Bonacci (public officer) [Melbourne], Michaela Stubbs [Melbourne], Jonathan la Nauze [Melbourne], Loretta O'Brien [Melbourne].

national liaison officers

Cam Walker [Melbourne] cam.walker@foe.org.au
PO Box 222, Fitzroy, VIC, 3065
Ph (03) 9419 8700, 0419 338 047 Fax (03) 9416 2081

Natalie Lowrey [Melbourne] natalie.lowrey@foe.org.au
Ph 0421 226 200

international liaison officers

Stephanie Long [Brisbane]
stephanie.long@foe.org.au

Derec Davies [Brisbane]
derec.davies@foe.org.au

For Latin America: Marisol Salinas [Melbourne]
marisol.salinas@foe.org.au

[www.foe.org.au/
resources](http://www.foe.org.au/resources)



4.1 local FoE groups

Friends of the Earth Australia is a member of Friends of the Earth International (FoEI). FoEI is the world's largest grassroots environmental network, uniting 70 national member groups and some 5,000 local activist groups on every continent.

2 million members

With over 2 million members and supporters around the world, we campaign on today's most urgent environmental and social issues. We challenge the current model of economic and corporate globalisation, and promote solutions that will help to create environmentally sustainable and socially just societies. More details at: <http://www.foei.org>

FoE is a membership-based organisation. Individuals join FoE by joining a local group.

FoE Local Groups

- * Adelaide
- * Blue Mountains
- * Bridgetown
- * Brisbane
- * Central Victoria
- * Maryborough (Q)
- * Kuranda (QLD)
- * Melbourne
- * Stawell
- * Southwest WA
- * Sydney
- * Regional Contact
 - o Northern R
 - o Perth
 - o Tasmania



you can start a FoE group!

For details on starting a FoE group, please see: www.foe.org.au/about-us/starting-a-friends-of-the-earth-group



Friends of the Earth are the only environmental non-government organisation in Australia who focus on the social justice aspects of environmental issues.

We recognise that all environmental problems have their solutions in people and that when solutions omit social justice, they are doomed to failure. In our campaigning we work tirelessly with local communities, indigenous peoples and other NGOs to ensure social and environmental justice prevails

4.2 affiliates

cycle against the nuclear cycle

ANC aimed to raise awareness about, and build opposition to, the nuclear industry in Australia. It did this through organising a 4,500 kilometre bike ride from Rockhampton to Adelaide. The ride finished in November 2007, when the team was greeted by thousands of people who had assembled for the walk against warming.

Its aims included: - Raising awareness about what the nuclear cycle means - Rallying opposition to the production of nuclear power in Australia - Promoting truly renewable power generation - Advocating for local power generation - Meeting with local aboriginal communities and environmental groups and listen to their experiences with the nuclear cycle.

During the ride, CANC held dozens of public meetings and school visits.

reverse garbage

Reverse Garbage is a not-for-profit workers' co-operative that collects high quality industrial discards, diverting them from landfill to sell them at low cost to the general public. Reverse Garbage was initiated to support Friends of the Earth - Brisbane, although both remain separate, independent organisations. We donate any surplus funds to Friends of the Earth for their environmental education work.

www.reversegarbage.com.au

sustainable energy now

SEN is a grass roots organisation with a vision to demonstrate scenarios for Western Australia to reduce CO₂ emissions and pollution in fixed electricity generation, by maximising our use of sustainable energy.

The SEN team consists of volunteers from all walks of life including members with backgrounds in Renewable Energy, Physics, Geophysics, Computer Programming/IT, Graphic Design, Computer simulation and Engineering. We all share a passion for sustainability of our planet Earth, and believe prosperity of our nation depends on the preservation our environmental and social support systems.

Our group concentrates on the positive actions that could be embraced to help the energy solutions of this country. SEN affiliated with FoEA in 2007.

www.sen.asn.au/index.html

west mallee protection

West Mallee Protection is a newly formalised group, which supports the Kokatha Mula Nation peoples and projects. WMP emerged from an alliance between environmentalists and Kokatha Mula people who share concerns and see the need for positive action to protect the outback Ceduna region. WMP seeks to further this collaborative relationship, which has been occurring for over four years. WMP is focused on the true conservation of the Yellabinna Regional Reserve and the Pureba Conservation Park near Ceduna on the Far West coast of South Australia.

WMP joined FoEA in early 2008.

food irradiation watch

Food Irradiation Watch are a consumer watchdog that campaigns to raise community awareness of the nuclear irradiation of foods in Australia. FI Watch produces the "Irradiation Free Food Guide" to help consumers know which food producers have policies against irradiation.

www.foodirradiationwatch.org

5. Financial Report 2008

These figures represent the financial statement for the accounts of the national liaison office (NLO) of Friends of the Earth Australia.

The NLO is hosted by, and receives substantial logistical and in-kind support from FoE Melbourne, including the part time allocation of one staff member to national functions. The finance manager at FoE Melbourne manages the national accounts. This keeps overhead costs extremely low. In particular, almost all costs associated by processing donations for overseas work is absorbed by the office budget of FoE Melbourne, ensuring an absolute minimum of funds donated for overseas projects are used for administration.

The following is a summary of the financial report for Friends of the Earth Australia for 2007-08. Copies of the full audited financial report are available upon request.

Income Statement for year ending 30 June 2008

REVENUE		EXPENDITURE	
Merchandise Sales	\$403.50	Grant Expenditure	\$0.00
Publishing Income	\$16,789.15	Publishing Cost	\$27,240.27
Subscription	\$1,622.01	Wages and Assoc. Cost	\$190,031.31
Donations	\$126,010.68	Administration Expenses	\$55,574.03
Campaign Income	\$172,098.20	Subscriptions	\$5,527.01
Grant Income	\$84,394.80	Telephone and Fax	\$4,006.35
Bank Interest	\$5,823.80	Campaigning Cost	\$33,729.02
Miscellaneous Income	\$6,897.18	Bank Charges & Fees	\$4,375.80
Administration Income	\$7,521.32	Consultants	\$43,111.44
Legacies and Bequest	\$0.00	Insurance	\$3,678.40
Fundraising	\$0.00	National Meeting Expenditure	\$3,190.98
Royalties	\$0.00	Audit Fees - Audit or Reviewing the Financial Report	\$726.00
TOTAL REVENUE	\$421,560.64	Donations Expenditure	\$38,218.88
		Travel Cost	\$35,173.90
		Miscellaneous Expenses	\$17,279.99
		Depreciation	\$512.39
		Printing, Postage and Delivery	\$0.00
		TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$462,375.77
OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	(\$40,815.13)		

Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2008

ASSETS	
CURRENT ASSETS	
Cash on Hand and at Bank	\$131,192.02
Investments - Term Deposit	\$44,412.11
Receivables	\$678.50
Inventories	\$0.00
Sundry Debtors	\$304,949.26
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	\$481,231.89
NON-CURRENT ASSETS	
Plant and Equipment	\$4,281.66
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	\$4,281.66
TOTAL ASSETS	\$485,513.55
LIABILITIES	
CURRENT LIABILITIES	
Payables	\$0.00
General Creditors	\$55,738.10
Grants/Income received in advance	\$215,136.08
Employee Provisions	\$0.00
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	\$270,874.18
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	
Borrowing's	\$0.00
Friends of the Earth (Melbourne) Inc.	\$2,354.84
Other Creditors	\$0.00
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	\$2,354.84
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$273,229.02
NET ASSETS	\$212,284.53
RETAINED SURPLUS	
Opening Retained Surplus	\$253,099.66
Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year	(\$40,815.13)
TOTAL SURPLUS	\$212,284.53

Statement of Changes in Equity

	Retained Surplus	Other	Total
Balance as at 1 July 2006	\$76,015.01	\$0.00	\$76,015.01
Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year	\$177,084.65	\$0.00	\$177,084.65
Transfer to/(from) during the year	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Balance as at 1 July 2007	\$253,099.66	\$0.00	\$253,099.66
Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year	(\$40,815.13)	\$0.00	(\$40,815.13)
Transfer to/(from) during the year	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Balance as at 30 June 2008	\$212,284.53	\$0.00	\$212,284.53

Statement of Cash Flows for the Year ended 30 June 2008

Cash Flows from Operating Activities	
Merchandise and Publishing Income	\$64,025.32
Payments to Suppliers	(\$35,957.05)
Subscription receipts	\$1,622.01
Administration income	\$6,962.37
Administration expenditure	(\$11,042.58)
Donations receipts	\$126,010.68
Bank interest	\$5,823.80
Bank charges	(\$4,375.80)
Miscellaneous receipts	\$6,897.18
Subscriptions expenditure	(\$5,527.01)
Wages and associated payments	(\$190,031.31)
Other miscellaneous payments	(\$107,167.06)
Grant receipts	(\$48,310.63)
Grant expenditure	\$0.00
Project/Campaign Costs	(\$33,729.02)
Donations Expenses	(\$38,218.88)
Transfer from FoE Entities	\$172,098.20
Legacies and Bequest	\$0.00
Fundraising receipts	\$0.00
Royalties receipts	\$0.00
Net cash provided / (used) by Operating Activities	(\$90,919.78)
Cash Flows from Investing Activities	
Plant & Equipment Purchases	(\$3,455.30)
Proceeds on Sale of Plant & Equipment	\$0.00
Net cash provided / (used) in Investing Activities	(\$3,455.30)
Cash Flows from Financing Activities	
Proceeds from borrowing's	\$0.00
Repayment of borrowing's	\$0.00
Net cash provided / (used) in Financing Activities	\$0.00
Net Increase/(Decrease) in cash held	(\$94,375.08)
Cash at the Beginning of the Financial Year	\$269,979.21
Cash at the end of the Financial Year	\$175,604.13



At the ALP national conference, Sydney, April 2007

FoE Australia International aid and development activities 2007-08

Code of Conduct Compliance

FoE Australia is a signatory of the ACFID Code of Conduct. This is a Code that sets out standards on how organisations are managed, how they communicate with the public, and how they spend the funds they raise.

Further details on the code are available at: <http://www.acfid.asn.au/code/code.htm>

International aid and development activities 2006-07

Revenue		
Donated funds		\$0
Grants		\$0
Other Income		\$0
	Total Revenue	\$0
Expenses		
Overseas Projects		\$0
Community Education		\$0
Fundraising Costs		\$0
Administration		\$0
	Total Expenses	\$0
Excess (Deficit) of Revenue over Expenses		\$0

Table of Cash Movements July 2007-June 2008 (International Aid & Development)

	Cash available at beginning of year	Cash raised during year	Cash disbursed during year	Cash available at end of year	Comments
TOTAL	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0.00	In the 2007-08 financial year, Friends of the Earth Australia did not undertake any international aid and development activities

WATER AND URANIUM MINING

we are
already
short of
water

URANIUM
MINING
USES LOTS
OF WATER.

In dry country
or dry seasons,
local springs or
groundwater
might dry up.

Then the water
might not be
safe to drink
for humans and
animals.

Mining
poisons water
with uranium,
radiation
and other
pollution.

In wet country or wet
seasons, uranium or
other poisons could
be washed out of the
mine into creeks, water
holes or groundwater.

groundwater

URANIUM leave it in the ground



5.1 statement by committee

These figures represent the financial statement for the accounts of the national liaison office (NLO) of Friends of the Earth Australia.

The NLO is hosted by, and receives substantial logistical and in-kind support from FoE Melbourne, including the part time allocation of one staff member to national functions. The finance manager at FoE Melbourne manages the national accounts. This keeps overhead costs extremely low. In particular, almost all costs associated by processing donations for overseas work is absorbed by the office budget of FoE Melbourne, ensuring an absolute minimum of funds donated for overseas projects are used for administration.

The following is a summary of the financial report for Friends of the Earth Australia for 2007-08. Copies of the full audited financial report are available upon request.

audit opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with the accounting policies described in the notes to the financial statements and the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 1981, of the financial position of Friends of the Earth (Australia) Inc as at 30th June 2008 and the results from the operations for the year then ended.

Janet L Collyer

J-L Collyer & Partner

code of conduct compliance

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This Code sets standards on how organisations are managed, how they communicate with the public, and how they spend the funds they raise.

Further details on the code are available at www.acfid.asn.au/code/code.htm

Produced by the National Liaison Office for Friends of the Earth Australia

PO Box 222, Fitzroy, VIC, 3065

ABN 18110769501

[Http://www.foe.org.au](http://www.foe.org.au)

Ph (03) 9419 8700 Fax (03) 9416 2081

Email: foe@foe.org.au

This report covers the 2007-08 financial year



Friends of the Earth Australia Committee of Management

Mara Bonacci (Public Officer) is an environmental scientist with experience in remediation and natural resource management. She is currently the finance manager for Friends of the Earth Melbourne and Australia.

Derec Davies (Brisbane). Derec is currently employed by the Queensland State Government, Department of Natural Resources and Water. Derec sits as Director with Friends of the Earth Brisbane Co-op Ltd (5 years) and the West End Housing Co-operative Ltd (3 years) as Policy Director. Derec also actively contributes to the Brisbane Housing Amalgamation Project, providing policy support, which is a multi-million dollar cooperative housing development project within Brisbane suburbs.

Jonathan La Nauze (Melbourne) is an activist and community worker with 6 years experience as campaign coordinator at FoEM. He has coordinated major projects in community arts, ecological restoration and Indigenous advocacy. He has a degree in Australian history from the University of Melbourne.

Natalie Lowrey (Katoomba) is a graphic designer and social and environmental activist with many years experience. She was employed as the bookshop coordinator at Friends of the Earth Melbourne for several years. She is currently employed by the Mineral Policy Institute

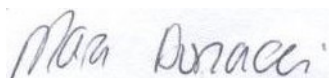
Michaela Stubbs (Melbourne) has been a member of the FoE anti uranium campaign for six years and employed in the role of campaign coordinator for the last two years. A long time activist and community organiser, she has experience in fundraising, event organisation and managing community projects.

Statement by Members of the Committee

In the opinion of the members of the committee the financial report:

1. represents a true and fair view of the financial position of Friends of the Earth (Australia) Inc as at 30 June 2008 and its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards, mandatory professional reporting requirements and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Friends of the Earth (Australia) Inc will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:



Mara Bonacci, Collingwood, Victoria



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the members of **FRIENDS OF THE EARTH (AUSTRALIA) INC**

Report on the Financial Report

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a general purpose financial report, of **FRIENDS OF THE EARTH (AUSTRALIA) INC** which comprises the balance sheet as at 30th June 2008, and the income statement, statement of changes in equity and cash flow statement for the year then ended, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The management of **FRIENDS OF THE EARTH (AUSTRALIA) INC** are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, which form part of the financial report, are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The management's responsibility also includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, as described in Note 1, are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report on order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the Management's financial reporting requirement. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

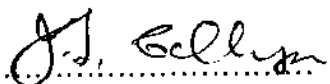
Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the relevant independence requirements.

Auditor's Opinion

In our opinion the financial report of **FRIENDS OF THE EARTH (AUSTRALIA) INC**

- (a) gives a true and fair view of **FRIENDS OF THE EARTH (AUSTRALIA) INC's** financial position as at 30th June 2008 and of its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1; and
- (b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1.



.....
Janet Collyer

J L COLLYER & PARTNERS

30th October 2008

www.foe.org.au

