Friends of the Earth Australia (FoEA) is a federation of local environmental groups and a growing number of affiliate projects who are working for a sustainable and equitable future.

We are the Australian member of FoE International, which is the largest grassroots environmental network on the planet.

**OUR VISION**

Our vision is of a world where everyone’s needs are met in a way which safeguards the future of the natural environment. We work for a world where environmental protection, social justice and economic welfare for all people go hand in hand. Through our local, national and international networks, we work with the community to raise awareness, put forward alternatives, and take action for a fair and ecologically sustainable future.

FoE operates from an environmental justice perspective. This means working towards a situation where all people live in a healthy environment and where the benefits and costs of economic activity are shared equally, including between nations and generations. FoEA 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 and international level.

FoE understands that in an era of globalisation and international environmental problems, a global and co-operative response is required. FoEA seeks to develop strong relations with environmental and social justice movements in all parts of the world.

**OUR WORK IN 2013/14**

FoE Australia is a federation of local groups, national projects and campaigns, and affiliate members. It has offices in Adelaide, Melbourne, and Brisbane. Please also see the reports of local groups, which can be found on the FoEA website, for additional information about local activity.

Some highlights from our work in 2013/14:
Climate Campaign

Queensland – protecting the Great Barrier Reef

FoE sees that unabated climate change is the single greatest threat to the natural environment, at all levels from the local to the global.

For many years our climate justice campaign forged the national agenda on the human rights dimensions of climate change, most notably through advocating for recognition of climate refugees (people and communities displaced by climate change). Over the past half decade, we have greatly increased the work we do on mitigation – working to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions here in Australia. The key to this is to help stop the planned massive expansion of coal and gas projects in Australia while supporting a rapid transition to renewable energy sources.

We have active state-based campaigns focused on coal and gas in Queensland and Victoria as well as activity at the national level.

Coal is the most polluting source of power the world uses.

As the largest coal exporting state in one of the largest coal exporting countries in the world, Queensland is literally at the ‘coal face’ of climate change.

Over the last decade Australia has sought to further expand its coal exports to almost three times the current level, which could double the world’s current traded coal. There are plans for 34 new coal mines and 40,000 coal seam gas drilling rigs, as well as massive associated infrastructure including pipelines, railways and port facilities. All of this will have massive direct and indirect negative impacts on the natural environment. These plans are being strongly opposed by many in the community.

FoE works with communities and groups across the state to reduce Queensland’s dependence on the coal industry, and to ensure a just and measured transition to a safe climate future. Having helped establish the Lock the Gate Alliance in 2010, FoE has been collaborating with a wide range of partners and organisations to slow the development of the coal and gas industry, while supporting existing economic activity threatened by new mines and drilling.

Friends of the Earth Australia is pleased to be able to report that 11 proposed coal mines within the northern Surat Basin in Queensland will not progress.

This is roughly equal to a staggering 94 Million tonnes a year mine coal, equating to roughly 171 Mt CO2 per year that would have polluted the global atmosphere. This figure is roughly 0.4% of the world total global emissions.

Following protracted campaigning against one of the world’s largest coal mining companies, in 2013 the CEO of Glencore-Xstrata publicly announced that the company would not develop new ‘greenfield’ mine sites like Wandoan, and formally terminated the development application for the Balaclava Island Coal Terminal. This is a great win for the natural environment, the Great Barrier Reef, and for future generations impacted by climate change.

If approved, and financed, the Wandoan Coal Project mine would have been the first of Queensland’s proposed 34 new mega sized mines. The Wandoan Project aimed to create a mine 50 kilometre long, covering an area of 320 km² of agricultural land. It would also have seen the development of a new railway, the diversion and damming of two rivers, and the development of new export coal terminals on the Queensland coast. Both the railway and export ports on Balaclava Island and in the port of Gladstone would have provided service to many smaller proposed mines for the region. This yet to be developed coal reserve is known as the North Surat Basin. Ten smaller proposed mines in the northern Surat Basin required the financial weight of Glencore-Xstrata and the Wandoan Coal Project for the new rail and ports to go ahead.

Friends of the Earth launched Australia’s first climate change legal challenge in 2011 to prevent the proposed coal export expansion impacting the Great Barrier Reef. The coal mined at Wandoan would release, a massive 41.6 mega tonnes of carbon dioxide per year for 30 years, which is more GHG over its lifespan than 150 low emitting countries.
Stopping the development of the mine included targeting of the proposed port on Balaclava Island, which sits within the internationally recognised World Heritage listed Great Barrier Reef. The aim of this work was to limit the biodiversity impacts associated with the proposed port, in 2011 which would happen as a result of increased shipping and sea bed dredging in the Fitzroy River Delta, a known habitat range of the Indo-Pacific Humpback and home to the Snub-fin Dolphin. The Snub-fin Dolphin is an IUCN red listed species and the Indo-pacific Humpback Dolphin is listed as near threatened under the Australian Government and Queensland Government’s Nature Conservation Act.

In 2012 a Queensland State Court handed the farmers of Wandoan a bleak future, consisting of little more than narrow buffers between the 24/7 mega mine and their productive agricultural enterprises, and allocation to some of their existing water resources. The decision left some farmers with stranded properties, literally physical islands in a sea of coal mine.

With a less than favourable court decision, Friends of the Earth continued to work with affected communities, including Wandoan farmers, and communities along the hundreds of kilometres of railway line, and communities actively challenging the Balaclava Island Coal Terminal development in the Fitzroy River Delta and coal port development in Gladstone. This work highlighted the impacts to the sensitive ecosystems and key flora and fauna species through development of a wider coalition of partners, development of educational materials specifically for farmer organisations, communication materials, mapping, information workshops, and media training to build and maintain rural profile that links impacted farmers with city consumers.

Stopping Wandoan has helped protect the Snub-fin Dolphin from extinction, protected the Boggomoss Snail from extinction through flooding from the proposed Nathan Dam, and limited expansion of the climate destructive carbon emissions from further fossil fuel development. Ongoing work to protect our natural environment and limit Australia’s coal expansion trend will give time for renewable technologies to gain greater market exposure, enable investment to shift to emerging technologies, and drive innovation in Chinese and Indian energy markets, leading to a transition away from carbon intense energy sources like coal. Stopping the new coal developments will be a win for Australia’s natural environment and a win for growing countries.
In Victoria, FoE’s climate campaign Quit Coal has been working with community groups across the state to tackle climate change. We have helped forge a strong and dynamic movement opposed to new on-shore coal and gas operations.

Much of the southern third of the state is under licence or allocation for various forms of unconventional gas (coal seam gas or CSG, shale gas and tight gas) or coal. This covers much of the state’s most productive agricultural land and significant areas of biodiversity and water production.

Using the ‘coal and gasfield free’ organising model, FoE and Quit Coal have been working to support local communities to declare themselves coal or gasfield free. More than 20 have already done so. While lacking in legal power, the declarations have strong moral significance as they demonstrate that new fossil fuel projects will not be able to gain social license to operate and that they will be actively opposed by local communities.

Apart from supporting local organising, we have built public awareness of the threats posed to the natural environment, climate, agricultural production and public health by new projects. We have supported the two regional groupings that unite the local groups – the Gippsland Alliance and Protect the West.

We have also started to bring the campaign to metropolitan communities. This was aided by a tour featuring John Fenton, a farmer from Pavillion, Wyoming, who has been living with pollution of ground water and air, and a range of other impacts from the gas industry. John was featured in the Gasland film and spoke eloquently to metro and rural communities about the reality of the unconventional gas industry.

We have gained some significant outcomes over the past year. These include a commitment by the state government to ban the use of dangerous BTEX chemicals in the drilling process, a moratorium on the process of hydraulic fracturing (‘fracking’), which was subsequently extended until at least mid 2015, and a moratorium on the approval of new exploration licenses or drilling.

By working with more than 50 local communities we have been able to build a strong movement that wants to stop new fossil fuel projects and protect the environment and farming. We are also helping build community cohesion and resilience in these towns and regions.

melbourne.foe.org.au
www.quitcoal.org.au
Market Forces

Market Forces (MF) is an affiliate project of FoE Australia. MF believes that the banks, superannuation funds and governments that have custody of our money should use it to protect - not damage - our environment.

Our vision is a future where institutions invest with a high degree of respect for the natural environment, utilising money to deliver solutions to major environmental issues, and where the community holds to account the custodians of their money to ensure it is used to benefit the environment.

Highlights include:

• Encouraging fossil fuel divestment

• Market Forces has released information detailing loans worth $90 billion to the fossil fuel industry in Australia since the start of 2008. It has encouraged Australians to put their banks “on notice” warning that if lending to fossil fuel projects continue the customers will move their money elsewhere. Australians with more than $270 million in savings alone have taken this action.

• Information on where alternative banks stand on fossil fuel lending and how to switch banks has helped thousands of people move their money out of fossil fuels, while “Divestment Day” events have seen thousands of people turn out publicly to close their accounts over the issue of fossil fuel investment.

• Climate Proofing Your Investments: making your money fossil free

Market Forces and 350.org commissioned The Australia Institute to produce a report outlining the steps individuals can take to switch to ‘fossil fuel free’ finance options.

• Encouragingly, the report found that it can involve little cost or risk to your financial wealth, while protecting your finances from the long term risks of the carbon bubble.

• Keeping finance out of dirty coal

Market Forces was also central to a campaign that saw a number of European banks commit to not finance the expansion of the Abbot Point coal export port.

http://marketforces.org.au/

Climate Proofing Your Investments: making your money fossil free

Market Forces and 350.org commissioned The Australia Institute to produce a report outlining the steps individuals can take to switch to ‘fossil fuel free’ finance options. Encouragingly, the report found that it can involve little cost or risk to your financial wealth, while protecting your finances from the long term risks of the carbon bubble.

We encouraged a number of European based to re consider their involvement in funding projects in Queensland which would have had destructive impacts on the natural environment, directly and indirectly through contributing to accelerated climate change.

http://marketforces.org.au/
Advocating with and for Pacific and Torres Strait Island peoples seeking climate justice

This campaign is driven by the Climate Frontlines Collective (CFC) at FoE Brisbane.

Between March 2013 and March 2014, the Climate Frontlines collective of FoE Brisbane developed and engaged in a project to support communities in the Torres Strait facing severe impacts from climate change. In particular, this involves the two western mud islands of Saibai and Boigu near the PNG border, and four coral cay islands in the central Torres Strait. The one-year project, involving two visits by two of the team members to the Torres Strait to establish relationships with key community leaders, was made possible through a small grant from the UNESCO Australia Committee, which has since been disbanded. The Climate Frontlines collective is committed to continuing the project but will need to access alternative sources of funding, especially if more travel to the Torres Strait is involved.

Three key Brisbane-based Torres Strait Islander community leaders have been involved in the project from the start, and leaders in the islands have acknowledged the important role that their mainland relatives can play in the advocacy process. A key element of the project to date has been public awareness raising through hosting a series of community events, two in Brisbane, one in Cairns and one on Thursday Island. More of these events are planned for the near future. Key to raising public awareness will be stories from communities in the affected islands, and this will involve more travel to the region and the engagement of media expertise.

The collective has continued to monitor and raise public awareness about the impacts of climate change in the Pacific Islands region, as well as local and regional efforts to address the related challenges. A key activity in the past year was a one-day symposium on 23 May 2014 co-hosted with members of the Law Faculty of Queensland University of Technology on the topic “When people have to move: Climate change related displacement and pre-emptive migration pathways in the Australia-Pacific region”. A number of the presentations will be published in a special edition of QUT Law Review later in 2014. Another outcome of the symposium was stronger links with and support for an initiative to develop regional Pacific principles and processes for community relocation.

Under the name of “Friends of Tulele Peisa” (FOTP), the group maintains its support for the program involved in relocating PNG’s Carteret Islanders to Bougainville. Two members of the collective were able to visit the first relocation site in the past year and to gain in-depth information about the achievements and challenges of the program as well as identifying technical and financial needs that FOTP could assist in meeting.

Above: Meeting with Brisbane-based Torres Strait Islanders keen to be involved in the project. Seated at centre is Uncle Thomas Sebasio, originally from Darnley Island, one of the key team members in the first year of the project.

Below: Torres Strait Islander Brisbane elder Uncle Thomas Sebasio at National Day of Climate Action, Brisbane rally, 17th November 2013.
The Climate Connections Tour

In November 2013, FoE hosted two members of Friends of the Earth Indonesia (WALHI) who travelled to Australia to raise awareness about the push to expand export coal mining in Central Kalimantan, Indonesia. Australian coal miners are major investors in the rapidly expanding coal industry in Kalimantan. In the Upper Barito Basin, BHP Billiton and Cokal are fast tracking plans to clear rich tropical rainforests for open cut coal mines. These plans threaten some of the most important rainforests in the world. They will have enormous environmental and climate impacts.
Supporting renewable energy

In addition to opposing the establishment of new fossil fuel projects, FoE campaigns widely in support of the rapid uptake of renewable energy through the Yes 2 Renewables (Y2R) campaign.

Renewable energy technologies are proven and commercially viable. They represent a quick and efficient way to reduce Australia’s greenhouse emissions and hence reduce the impacts of climate change on the natural environment. Additionally, polling continues to show that renewables are widely supported in the community. A key focus of Y2R has been to translate this latent support into active and vocal support for a transition away from Australia’s current reliance on fossil fuels to meet the majority of our energy needs.

Our campaign has grown significantly in influence and geographical scope over the past year. Some highlights include:

Increased work on the ground in communities where renewable energy projects have been proposed. This included in the Mitchell Shire in central north Victoria (building support for the Cherry Tree Range proposal, which was subsequently approved) and the Macedon region (where local sustainability groups are proposing a community-owned wind facility). We were actively involved in the community consultation process around the major wind farm proposal for King Island in Bass Strait;

We continued to produce research, analysis and policy development highlighting the impacts of existing laws on renewable energy uptake and policy measures which would drive the uptake of new wind and solar projects;

When the Abbott government announced a review of the Renewable Energy Target (RET), FoE initiated a ‘RET road trip’ to visit communities that had benefitted from the RET. The RET is driving a national transition to renewable energy. All available public polling shows Australians endorse this vision, with a recent Climate Institute poll finding 72% support the government retaining or increasing the current target.

A weakened Target threatens peoples’ jobs, health, and aspirations; billions of dollars worth of investment in a vital emerging industry; and importantly, an effective climate change mitigation tool.

Over the course of two months, Friends of the Earth travelled over two thousand kilometres to speak with eight communities who have benefitted from renewable energy or have been affected by fossil fuel pollution. We did this to get a real understanding of the impacts of energy policy.

The RET Road Trip uncovered strong public support for the existing 41-terawatt-hour Renewable Energy Target.

We organised various other events in support of renewable energy, including co-hosting a ‘Picnic for renewables’ at Parliament House in Canberra to demonstrate the community support for the RET.

Yes2renewables.com
Friends of the Earth’s Anti-nuclear and Clean Energy (ACE) campaign has been working on the environmental impacts of different energy sources for over three decades. Historically the focus was on uranium and nuclear energy; over the past decade the scope of the campaign’s activities have been expanded to cover all energy sources.

Nuclear energy brings environmental damage and the potential for negative long term health impacts at all stages of its production cycle.

Over the past year some highlights include the following:

• Radioactive Exposure Tour 2014: a two-week anti-nuclear road trip into South Australia and the Northern Territory to expose participants to the realities of the nuclear industry in Australia. Forty people came on this year’s extended Rad Tour. The activities along the way included meeting with significant Australians who have been affected by the nuclear industry, such as Yami Lester, Mrs Eileen Wingfield and test veteran Avon Hudson. The group toured the Olympic Dam uranium mine, held a forum in Alice Springs, and travelled to Tennant Creek to express solidarity with the Muckaty Traditional Owners fighting the radioactive waste dump on their land.

• Attending and helping coordinate meetings of the national movement, including the Australian Nuclear Free Alliance in Adelaide and national nuclear free meetings in Melbourne.

• Supporting the successful campaign against the proposed radioactive waste dump at Muckaty Station in the Northern Territory by organising public meetings and attending court dates when Muckaty Traditional Owners were in Melbourne, and by coordinating a successful crowd funding campaign for the Beyond Nuclear Initiative.

• Holding public events such as a four-part series of film nights with speakers on various aspects of the nuclear chain, a commemoration on the anniversary of Fukushima.

foe.org.au/anti-nuclear
The Barmah-Millewa Collective (BMC) works to protect the unique, river dependent ecosystems of the Murray Darling Basin, and to support Traditional Owners to restore rights to care for their country.

More than a decade of campaigning on the Murray-Darling Basin Plan is being rewarded as environmental water quenches key sites such as the Barmah-Millewa forest. But the implementation of the plan requires careful scrutiny and the BMC has been working alongside an alliance of environmental groups to advocate for the environment on a range of issues such as constraints management, the ‘critically endangered’ listing of the lower Murray, and effective delivery of environmental water.

Recognising the rights of the more than 40 Indigenous Nations whose members make up a growing percentage of the Basin population is essential to ensuring a sustainable and equitable future in the region. The BMC is building on our collaboration with Traditional Owners across the Basin to form a strong alliance to campaign for Indigenous water rights.

Highlights of 2013/14 include:

- The Matakupay project, a collaborative, community research project that mapped the health of Platypus (or Matakupay) populations in the Swan Hill/Nyah area in close collaboration with the Wadi Wadi Traditional Owners. The project helped to secure culturally sensitive environmental watering in the Nyah-Vinifera red gum forests.

- We’ve facilitated engagement between peak Indigenous and environmental organisations, prepared detailed submissions and lobbied decision makers including the Water Law Review, the Commonwealth Water Act 2007 review, the North Central Regional Waterway Strategy, and Commonwealth environmental water delivery. The Indigenous water rights movement is building a strong base for a concerted campaign.

- Finally, the BMC has successfully mobilised community pressure to stall damaging scientific logging trials in river red gum national parks. We’ve gathered thousands of signatures, coordinated with local community groups and pressured State and Commonwealth Governments to ensure that, two years after its proposed start date, the trial hasn’t even received final approval. With the Victorian state election looming in November, we hope to have this perverse plan scrapped once and for all.

www.melbourne.foe.org.au/barmah-millewa
Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)

Forest certification is a voluntary, market-based tool that seeks to support responsible forest management. Certified wood is verified from the forest of origin through the supply chain to its use by consumers. The certifying body ensures that trees destined to be certified come from responsibly harvested and verified sources.

Any meaningful system of certification of logging operations must also respect the social, economic, ecological, cultural and spiritual needs of present and future generations who depend on the forests.

FoE has continued to play a role in the development of FSC in Australia.

There are a number of significant challenges to the management of FSC operations in Australia. FoE has continued to monitor forest management in certified forests, especially the Strezlecki Ranges in southeast Victoria, and has identified significant ongoing problems in terms of biodiversity and water impacts.

Nature: Not Negotiable

Environmental protection laws under attack

The federal government has continued with its plan to wind back cornerstone Commonwealth environmental protection laws. Under these changes, State Governments would be given sweeping powers to assess and approve major development projects. If implemented, these changes would be a disaster for our nation’s environment and wildlife. Over the past year, we have sustained our lobbying and community awareness raising around the proposed devolution of powers and highlighted the likely implications on Australia’s natural environment.


Chemicals and water

FoE produced two reports looking at dangerous levels of Chlorine Disinfection Byproducts (DBPs) in drinking water. The first report concentrated on the Grampians Wimmera Region and the second report looked at DBP levels around the Phillip Island region of Victoria. High levels of DBP’s have been linked with cancer of the bladder.

FoE is encouraging the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) to set lower guideline levels for DBPs. The NHMRC has not changed the guideline levels since 1996. Millions of Australian’s are likely to be drinking and bathing in water with levels of DBP’s which would not be allowed in many other countries. For example the Australian guidelines are set at levels three times higher than equivalent guidelines in the United States.

Fire and the Story of Burning Country

Fire and the Story of Burning Country celebrates the timeless wisdom of Australia’s Traditional Custodians, it tells the story of how fire is used by Indigenous people across Australia to prevent wildfires through cool burning, a technique that has been applied to the Australian landscape for tens of thousands of years to cleanse and rejuvenate the land.

FoE was proud to collaborate with writer and photographer Peter McConchie in producing this significant contribution to understanding land management in northern Australia.
Change is coming to the world of nanotechnology. Public awareness of nanotechnology continues to grow. A growing body of peer reviewed evidence indicating risks with certain nanomaterials is putting increasing pressure on regulators and industry. More and more scientific organisations are calling for a more precautionary approach and a closing of the gap between commercialisation and environmental, health and safety research.

Nano-silver
Our calls for a ban on the use of nano-silver outside of clinical settings received unexpected support from the US. A US federal court decision last year criticised the ‘ubiquitous’ exposure of toddlers to nanomaterials in the context of rapid commercialisation, no labeling, and minimal environmental and health testing.

At the same time, we have revealed that nano-silver has rapidly become one of the most used – and totally unnecessary - nanomaterials in commercial products and is likely to reduce the efficacy of nano-silver in the treatment of wounds and ulcers unless a ban is introduced.

Nanotech becomes Emerging Tech
By the time this report is published the nanotechnology project will be the Emerging Tech Project. We have a new website (www.emergingtech.foe.org.au) and a broader brief that will allow us to take on a number of the common drivers and problems of many new and emerging technologies, including geoengineering and synthetic biology. Many emerging technologies can be expected to have an impact on the natural environment. FoE believes it is essential that these are adequately controlled to ensure there are no adverse impacts.

Sunscreen and cosmetics work
As a result of extensive testing we discovered that no sunscreens in Australia are nano free. We are in ongoing discussions with industry to find or develop a sunscreen that we can recommend.

That work has become more urgent with increasing concerns regarding the use of nano titanium dioxide. The European Commission’s Scientific Committee on Consumer Safety has supported our call for a ban on the use of anatase titanium dioxide in sunscreens.

In November we exposed the health concerns associated with the use of nanoparticles in tattoo ink.

Nanomaterials in the food chain
Pressure regarding nanomaterials in food is building in the food industry as well.

In May 2014, FoE launched a new report on nanotechnology in food, *Way too little*, that revealed the extensive use of nanomaterials in the food chain – in foods, supplements, packaging, coatings, appliances, cutting boards, cutlery, baby bottles, agricultural chemicals and much more. We revealed as well the lack of labeling laws, safety testing and regulatory oversight – despite promises from our regulators.

Outreach and movement building
In December, following pressure from FoE and other stakeholders, the Federal Government was forced to reveal documents relating to the independent review of its National Enabling Technology Strategy – Public Awareness and Engagement Program (NETS--PACE). The review vindicated the concerns raised by FoE and found that Government materials were largely geared towards promotional rather than education and outreach objectives, made only brief reference to potential health and environmental risks, and inaccurately reflected the current lack of regulation.

We are in regular and increasing contact with a range of organisations in order to build the national and global response to nanotechnology. Our food report was the result of a collaboration with Bund in Germany (Friends of the Earth Germany) and FoE US. We have been in discussions with European groups regarding how to design a mandatory nano register in Australia. We continue to work with unions, medical professionals, environmental organisations and others, and we continue to grow our network of followers and supporters through social media, conferences and workshops.

www.emergingtech.foe.org.au
This project grew from a vision which intended see the development of a series of ‘eco markets’ across Australia. The Commons evolved into a ‘bricks and mortar’ project in an old primary school, and was a joint initiative of Friends of the Earth and the Father Bob Maguire Foundation and located in South Melbourne.

South Melbourne Commons was formally opened in December 2011.

It featured community gardens and open space, and a Hall, as well as many sustainable living demonstration initiatives.

A range of small businesses operated from the Commons, including Back2bikes (repairing bikes for the specialist school in Port Melbourne, and providing bikes to asylum seekers and refugees), Apples and Jam (who organise sustainable children’s activities, including a gardening club for pre-schoolers), and the café ‘Let Me Be Frank’.

The Commons was the setting for many community events, a regular craft market, weddings, birthday parties, charity fundraisers, film nights, training sessions and sustainability workshops for the community.

Unfortunately, the Commons had to be closed because FoE was unable to secure an extension of the lease on the property.

http://commons.org.au/

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CounterAct

CounterAct is a FoE affiliate. CounterAct has done training, and support for a range of groups, including Quit Coal, Lock the Gate Gippsland, the Australian Youth Climate Coalition and The Wilderness Society.

In the coming months we will be working with Quit Coal on further training to support farmers concerned about coal seam gas, we will be developing legal resources for Victorian activists and will be releasing a report and research into community activism and training needs, amongst a range of other activities.

We look forward to continuing to support and resource grassroots activist communities working for environmental and social justice over the next year.

www.counteract.org.au
SUSTAINABLE FOOD

Safe Food Foundation

In 2012, FoE supported the establishment of the Safe Food Foundation, a not-for-profit organisation to promote awareness of the health, social, economic and environmental impacts of food production.

With a broad remit and a proactive, solution oriented approach to food quality and safety, its mission is to highlight issues around the production and consumption of Genetically Modified (GM) foods, chemicals, nanotechnology, irradiation, corporate control, monoculture, fair trade and food sovereignty.

Over the past year, the SFF has focused on supporting a West Australian organic farmer, Steve Marsh, who lost his certification due to GMO contamination from an adjacent property. He ran a case in the WA Supreme Court in early 2014. This was a landmark case undertaken to protect his right to keep growing genetically modified free food. Unfortunately, Steve lost the case. He intends to appeal the outcome.

http://safefoodfoundation.org/

Australian Food Sovereignty Alliance

In 2010, FoE Adelaide, in collaboration with the Food Connection Foundation and food activists around the country formed the Australian Food Sovereignty Alliance, which is now a strong national network of small farmers, community, environment and health organisations, social and business enterprises, in order to assert the need for food policy to be truly democratic and to encompass the full social and environmental implications of our food and agriculture system.

http://foodsovereigntyalliance.org

Fair Trade Australia and New Zealand

FoE was a founding member of Fairtrade ANZ. It seeks to

1. Promote the concept and many social and environmental benefits of Fair Trade.

2. Increase the range, availability and sales of Fairtrade Certified products.

3. Provide effective licensing, labelling and certification services to all aspects of the production cycle.

In recent years, a key focus of the work has been to broaden the range of certified products into new areas.

It has been a busy year for Friends of the Earth in Queensland, as we worked to protect the environment through campaigns and community education in the areas of climate change, including impacted peoples, energy, including nuclear and fossil fuels, and sustainability through work on irradiated foods. Along with our busy campaigns, we have also supported a number of partner organisations through providing business accommodation through use of the office for Beyond Zero Emissions, Lock the Gate, and others.

Our work to protect the Great Barrier Reef (GBR) includes our campaign to protect the lower reef, and islands to the north of Gladstone in the Fitzroy Delta. This successful campaign resulting in the termination of the proposed Balaclava Island Coal Terminal, winding up of the proposed coal railway line arrangements, and no development of the controversial Wandoan coal mega mine. In doing so, the endangered Snub-fin Dolphin is safe from the ongoing creep of industrial development.

Friends of the Earth led media activities and released a significant report outlining the environmental issues related to the military use of the Great Barrier Reef. This work included provision of information to Premier and Cabinet highlighting the issues around release of bombs into the Great Barrier Reef during military exercises. Along with this work, we also led peace related activities and environmental analysis of the military war games and their flow impacts such as invasive weeds and impacts to the sensitive and pristine Shoal Water Bay in the GBR.

To support aboriginal inclusion in measures to protect country and sustainably manage landscapes, we coordinated the presence of nine Queensland aboriginal representatives to the national nuclear free alliance meeting in Adelaide.

Our sustainability and food-related work is primarily expressed in our campaigns to limit the industrialisation of our agriculture land through expansion of extractive activities like mining. It is also reflected in our campaign Food Irradiation Watch, which continues to spear head the campaign and responds to the push from industry to increase food irradiation. This work primarily focuses on the impending and proposed removal of mandatory labelling of irradiated foods.

Finally, we would like to acknowledge and thank the Rally for Peace and Nuclear Disarmament, who have finalised their 30 year coordination role of Hiroshima day commemorations. This task will now be organised by Friends of the Earth through our Brisbane office.
Chain Reaction

Chain Reaction is the national magazine of FoE Australia. Three editions are produced each year. Chain Reaction is produced by an editorial team comprised of active FoE campaigners, with support from an Advisory Board.

In the 2013-14 financial year the following issues were produced:

#119 – focus on nuclear power
#120 – climate change and the Pacific
#121 – emerging technologies


FoE has always placed considerable emphasis on collaborating with other organisations and networks to achieve good outcomes for the environment. A number of our collaborations (for instance with Gene Ethics) are more than two decades old. Others are more recent.

In the past year we have worked more closely with other organisations around grassroots community campaigning to drive action on climate change. This has involved a number of partnerships in Queensland. On the national scale, we have worked with international campaign group 350.org to promote a transition in investment away from fossil fuels and into renewable energy. We collaborated with activist group GetUp on a major rally in support of renewable energy in Canberra and a number of initiatives in Victoria as well as several nation wide events. We work closely with the Australian Wind Alliance in support of renewable energy. We are actively involved in the Lock the Gate Alliance.

We were a partner organisation to the inaugural Beyond Coal and Gas gathering, held in the Hunter Valley in mid 2013.

Partners and alliances

FoEA places considerable emphasis on working in alliances with other progressive sectors of Australian society and is currently a member of, or working closely with, the following networks and organisations:

- The Antarctic and Southern Ocean Coalition
  http://www.asoc.org/
- Australian Fair Trade and Investment Network (AFTINET);
- Fairtrade Australia New Zealand
- The Boomerang Alliance. The Alliance is made up of Australia’s leading environment groups, is committed to work for zero waste in Australia.
  http://www.boomerangalliance.org/
- The Refugee Council of Australia;
- Australians for Just Refugee Programs;
- Inland Rivers Network (IRN is a grouping of environmental organisations, including the Australian Conservation Foundation, Nature Conservation Council of NSW, National Parks Association and FoE);
- The Lock the Gate Alliance
- The Australian Nuclear Free Alliance
- We are a founding member of the Victorian Wind Alliance, established in 2012
- FoE is a member of 1% For the Planet

For a full list of our campaign partnerships, please check here: http://www.foe.org.au/partners
OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS Friends of the Earth International has increased its focus on member groups building collaboration at the regional level. We are active in the Friends of the Earth Asia Pacific network, which has member groups in a wide arc from Sri Lanka to Nepal to New Zealand/Aotearoa.

We also collaborated directly with FoE Indonesia (WALHI) over the ‘climate connections’ tour.
The Organisation in 2013/2014

Organisational milestones
Wendy Flannery, co-ordinator of the Climate Frontlines project in Brisbane, celebrated 11 years of volunteer work with FoE;
Beth Cameron, co-ordinator of the FoE Melbourne food co-operative, and Cam Walker, FoE Melbourne campaigns co-ordinator, celebrated 25 years of working for the organisation;
We thank Miko Thomas, our finance worker, who has left to work in Africa.

Network development
FoEA grew over the past year, with one new affiliate member joining the network.

No Fracking Way
No Fracking WAy is a Perth based community campaign group which campaigns against fracking and unconventional gas extraction because of the risks it poses to health and the natural environment. It is calling for a ban on all unconventional gas extraction.

FoE’s environmental performance
Since its creation in 1974, FoE Australia has always pioneered thinking and practices that link personal and collective behaviour with good environmental outcomes. FoE has always sought to incorporate sustainable behaviour into our work – to ‘walk the talk’, often long before such action has become mainstream. In the 1970s this was as simple as promoting renewable technology, placing solar hot water systems on our buildings, using ‘ecolabels’ so envelopes could be recycled, and promoting ‘no junk mail’ stickers.

We also developed a number of community businesses which pioneered a low impact approach from their creation. Our bulk food store, which was set up in Melbourne in the mid 1970s, composites all vegetable waste for reuse in food production, and has such high recycling rates that it continues to produce waste in only one 60 L rubbish bin a week. Our not for profit grocery store, The Pantry, based at the South Melbourne Commons, was a local example of a small business operating on best practice guidelines in order to reduce environmental impact and waste. Reverse Garbage in Brisbane diverts waste from going to landfill through finding alternative uses for many materials.

In recent years we have sought to formalise some of our actions through the creation of policy aimed at reducing the carbon and resource footprint of our campaigns and business operations. Apart from supporting green power, using non CCA treated timber, 100% post consumer waste paper, and maintaining stringent recycling systems in our offices we encourage the use of public transport wherever possible for intra and inter city travel. Our magazines and all other public materials are published on post consumer waste and bagasse sourced paper.
Friends of the Earth Australia is the national member of Friends of the Earth International (FoEI), which is the world’s largest federation of national environmental organisations. Friends of the Earth International now has 74 member countries and 15 affiliate groups representing more than 2 million people. This means that Friends of the Earth’s impact and solutions can be felt globally.

**FoE International mission**

- To collectively ensure environmental and social justice, human dignity, and respect for human rights and peoples’ rights so as to secure sustainable societies.
- To halt and reverse environmental degradation and depletion of natural resources, nurture the earth’s ecological and cultural diversity, and secure sustainable livelihoods.
- To secure the empowerment of indigenous peoples, local communities, women, groups and individuals, and to ensure public participation in decision making.
- To bring about transformation towards sustainability and equity between and within societies with creative approaches and solutions.
- To engage in vibrant campaigns, raise awareness, mobilise people and build alliances with diverse movements, linking grassroots, national and global struggles.
- To inspire one another and to harness, strengthen and complement each other’s capacities, living the change we wish to see and working together in solidarity.

FoEI has a democratic structure with autonomous national groups which comply with the guidelines established by the federation. FoEI member groups are united by a common conviction that these aims require both strong grassroots activism and effective national and international campaigning and coordination. They see Friends of the Earth International as a unique and diverse forum to pursue international initiatives, taking advantage of the varied backgrounds and perspectives of its members.

More information about the work of FoE groups around the world and copies of the FoEI annual report can be found at: [http://www.foei.org](http://www.foei.org)

Details on the FoE I Executive Committee (ExCom) is available at: [http://www.foei.org/about/excom.html](http://www.foei.org/about/excom.html)

**What makes us unique**

- Our federation structure means that local groups work in ways that are most appropriate to their local circumstances
- Our grassroots focus and strong volunteer basis means we are able to work effectively with a vast range of groups and community groups
- FoE is acknowledged as being the leanest of the large environmental groups in terms of minimising administration costs and overheads
- We have strong regional and global connections through the FoE International network
- FoE acts as a training ground for many emerging campaigners
- We bring a strong human rights perspective to all our campaigns
- FoE continues to respond to emerging issues and popularise them well before the rest of the environment movement. The most recent example of this is our strong campaign on nanotechnology.
How we work

We are a national federation of groups that works through community engagement, education and mobilisation. We have a strong focus on working in alliances with others in the environmental and social justice movements and with organisations in the broader community. In recent years we have developed stronger links with communities and organisations in regional Australia. We engage in advocacy, and support community mobilisations and peaceful direct action in appropriate circumstances.

We manage a range of not for profit social enterprises, including an organic cafe, food co-operative, and ‘Reverse Garbage’ enterprise, which finds commercial uses for materials which would otherwise go to landfill.

We are politically non-aligned and seek to develop working relations with a range of Parties, businesses and others in civil society.

FoE Australia structure and governance

FoE Australia is composed of independent member groups. Each group is self-managing in terms of its campaigns, decision making structures and fund-raising and needs to meet certain membership criteria. These are assessed on an annual basis. In addition to their local work, groups co-operate on specific campaigns at an appropriate and sustainable level.

Communication between local groups is facilitated by the National Liaison Officers. FoE Melbourne currently hosts the national liaison office. Shani Tager and Cam Walker have acted as the NLOs over the past year.

A Committee of Management is appointed at the AGM and has strategic oversight for finances, governance, and legal issues.

A separate committee appointed at the AGM manages the FoE Australia Fund.

The International Liaison Officers are responsible for communication between FoE Australia and FoE International (FoEI). Over the past year, the ILOs have been Nick McLean, Derec Davies, Tully McIntyre and Sam Cossar-Gilbert.

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 generally held in January and August. The AGM is held as part of the September meeting. Various communication structures keep groups informed during the year. FoEA places great value on participatory decision making systems and internal information sharing.

Friends of the Earth Australia
Committee of Management

Jim Green (FoE Melbourne) Chair,
Sam Castro (FoE Melbourne) co chair,
Jon Gleu (Kuranda)
Franklin Bruinstroop (FoE Brisbane),
Louise Sales (FoE Melbourne),
Chloe Aldenhoven (Melbourne).
These figures represent the financial statements of Friends of the Earth Australia.

Friends of the Earth Australia’s administrative functions are hosted by, and receive 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 2013/14. Copies of the full audited financial report are available upon request.

Statement by Members of the Committee

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

• Represents a true and fair view of the financial position of Friends of the Earth (Australia) Inc as at 30 June 2014 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.

• 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:

Samantha Castro , Collingwood, Victoria
Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2014

**ASSETS**

**CURRENT ASSETS**
- Short-Term Bank Deposits: $60,897.78 (2014) vs. $58,468.09 (2013)
- Accounts receivable & other debtors: $123,703.94 (2014) vs. $93,335.86 (2013)
- Inventories on hand: $0.00 (2014) vs. $0.00 (2013)

**TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS** $544,770.08 (2014) vs. $687,212.16 (2013)

**NON-CURRENT ASSETS**

**TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS** $9,267.62 (2014) vs. $11,012.20 (2013)

**TOTAL ASSETS** $554,037.70 (2014) vs. $698,224.36 (2013)

**LIABILITIES**

**CURRENT LIABILITIES**
- Accounts payables & other payables: $181,657.88 (2014) vs. $206,780.94 (2013)
- Grants/Income received in advance: $104,444.08 (2014) vs. $344,000.00 (2013)
- Employee Provisions: $0.00 (2014) vs. $0.00 (2013)

**TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES** $286,101.96 (2014) vs. $550,780.94 (2013)

**NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES**
- Borrowing’s: $0.00 (2014) vs. $0.00 (2013)
- Friends of the Earth (Melbourne) Inc.: $0.00 (2014) vs. $0.00 (2013)
- Other Creditors: $0.00 (2014) vs. $0.00 (2013)

**TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES** $0.00 (2014) vs. $0.00 (2013)

**TOTAL LIABILITIES** $286,101.96 (2014) vs. $550,780.94 (2013)

**NET ASSETS** $267,935.74 (2014) vs. $147,443.42 (2013)

**RETAINED SURPLUS**
- Opening Retained Surplus: $147,443.42 (2014) vs. $70,379.34 (2013)
- Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year: $120,492.32 (2014) vs. $77,064.08 (2013)

**TOTAL SURPLUS** $267,935.74 (2014) vs. $147,443.42 (2013)

---

Statement of Cash Flows for the Year ended 30 June 2014

**Cash Flows from Operating Activities**

**Merchandise and Publishing Income** $2,617.69 (2014) vs. $13,928.30 (2013)

**Payments to Suppliers** $18,837.02 (2014) vs. $8,725.16 (2013)

**Subscription receipts** $4,104.15 (2014) vs. $927.50 (2013)

**Administration income** $67,898.81 (2014) vs. $57,378.08 (2013)

**Administration expenditure** $170,063.84 (2014) vs. $195,545.89 (2013)

**Donations receipts** $801,347.07 (2014) vs. $393,493.75 (2013)

**Bank interest** $4,551.70 (2014) vs. $2,124.20 (2013)


**Subscriptions receipts** $23,470.81 (2014) vs. $68,887.44 (2013)

**Subscription expenditure** $23,638.40 (2014) vs. $7,562.40 (2013)

**Wages and associated payments** $174,791.10 (2014) vs. $235,161.23 (2013)

**Other miscellaneous payments** $238,381.41 (2014) vs. $135,937.84 (2013)

**Grant receipts** $30,061.46 (2014) vs. $293,049.81 (2013)

**Grant expenditure** $0.00 (2014) vs. $0.00 (2013)

**Project/Campaign Costs** $113,929.80 (2014) vs. $62,684.47 (2013)

**Donations Expenses** $680,704.62 (2014) vs. $43,818.63 (2013)

**Campaign Income** $302,525.72 (2014) vs. $62,067.64 (2013)

**Legacies and Bequest** $14,250.00 (2014) vs. $16,000.00 (2013)

**Fundraising receipts** $388.00 (2014) vs. $2,147.22 (2013)

**Fundraising payments** $0.00 (2014) vs. $69,162.31 (2013)

**Royalties receipts** $0.00 (2014) vs. $76,085.41 (2013)

**Net cash provided / (used) by Operating Activities** $172,810.17 (2014) vs. $223,845.83 (2013)

**Cash Flows from Investing Activities**

**Plant & Equipment Purchases** $0.00 (2014) vs. $0.00 (2013)

**Proceeds on Sale of Plant & Equipment** $0.00 (2014) vs. $0.00 (2013)

**Net cash provided / (used) in Investing Activities** $0.00 (2014) vs. $0.00 (2013)

**Cash Flows from Financing Activities**

**Proceeds from borrowing’s** $0.00 (2014) vs. $0.00 (2013)

**Repayment of borrowing’s** $0.00 (2014) vs. $0.00 (2013)

**Net cash provided / (used) in Financing Activities** $0.00 (2014) vs. $0.00 (2013)

**Net Increase/(Decrease) in cash held** $172,810.17 (2014) vs. $223,845.83 (2013)

**Cash & cash equivalents at the Beginning of the Financial Year** $593,876.30 (2014) vs. $370,030.47 (2013)

**Cash & cash equivalents at the end of the Financial Year** $421,066.13 (2014) vs. $593,876.30 (2013)
### Statement of Changes in Retained Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year ended 30 June 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Retained Surplus</th>
<th>Other Reserve</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance as at 1 July 2012</td>
<td>$70,379.34</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$70,379.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comprehensive Income</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year attributable to members</td>
<td>$77,064.08</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$77,064.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Comprehensive Income</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Comprehensive Income attributable to the members for the year</td>
<td>$77,064.08</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$77,064.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance as at 30 June 2012 / 1 July 2012</td>
<td>$147,443.42</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$147,443.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comprehensive Income</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year attributable to members</td>
<td>$120,492.32</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$120,492.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Comprehensive Income</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Comprehensive Income attributable to the members for the year</td>
<td>$120,492.32</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$120,492.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance as at 30 June 2013</td>
<td>$267,935.74</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$267,935.74</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### International aid and development activities 2013-14

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Tulele Peisa</th>
<th>In our Nature</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>REVENUE</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donated funds</td>
<td>$1,800.00</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Income (fundraising)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Revenue</td>
<td>$1,800.00</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overseas Projects</td>
<td>$4,933.42</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Expenses</td>
<td>$4,933.42</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus / (Deficit)</td>
<td>$-3,133.42</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Supporters

FoE Australia gratefully acknowledges the many members and supporters who support our local groups and national campaigns through our regular giving program.

We want to thank the following for their support:
- The Angel Fund
- Australian Community Foundation
- Brisbane Sisters of Mercy (May 2014 climate symposium in Brisbane, enabled the participation of contributors from Fiji and interstate)
- Diversicon Environmental Foundation
- Earth Welfare Foundation
- Friends of the Earth International
- The Garry White Foundation
- Greensprings Foundation P/L
- Growald Family Fund
- Harmanis Holdings Pty Ltd
- McKinnon Foundation
- The Pace Foundation
- Philoria Ptd Ross Knowles Foundation
- QUT
- The Sunrise Project Australia Ltd
- The Tides Foundation
- The UNESCO Australia Committee (support for the Torres Strait climate advocacy project)
- Water Dragon Foundation

We received grants from the following:
- City of Port Phillip
- Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities. Grants to Voluntary Environment, Sustainability and Heritage Organisations (GVESHO)
- and a number of Anonymous individual donors
- The nanotechnology project wishes to acknowledge the numerous generous individuals who made private donations.

In kind support:
We would like to acknowledge all the individuals and organisations who have supported FoE through in-kind support such as donation of time, skills and food for our campaigns and projects over the 2013/14 financial year.
- Environment Defenders Office (now Environmental Justice Australia)

Our bequest program
Thank you to our many members who have let us know that they are including FoE in their wills. Every gift, whether large or small, makes a real difference.

If you would like further information on remembering FoE in your will, see http://www.foe.org.au/about-us/bequest or call Sam Cossar-Gilbert in the Melbourne office: 03 9419 8700 (ext 23) or toll free 1300 852 081.

FoE Australia Campaigns Team & Contacts
FoE has groups in Adelaide, Bridgetown (WA), Brisbane, Kuranda (Qld), Melbourne, South West WA, and Sydney. FoE has offices in Adelaide, Brisbane, and Melbourne.
Affiliate members:

• CounterAct

• Food Irradiation Watch (Brisbane). Food Irradiation Watch (Fi Watch) is a network of organisations devoted to helping consumers make informed choices about what they eat. We are dedicated to raising consumer awareness of the practice of irradiating food in Australia. Fi Watch is concerned about the food safety, social, economic and environmental impacts of irradiation. [http://www.foodirradiationinfo.org](http://www.foodirradiationinfo.org)

• In Our Nature

• Katoomba and Leura Climate Action Now changed its name to Climate Action Blue Mountains over the past year. CABM is a group of community members working on climate change issues in the local area of the World Heritage listed Blue Mountains.

• Market Forces

• Mukwano – Supporting Health Care in Organic Farming Communities, Uganda

• No Fracking Way (WA)

• ‘Protect Arnhem Land’ (PAL), NT.

• Reverse Garbage (Brisbane) is a not-for-profit workers’ co-operative in Brisbane that collects high quality industrial discards, diverting them from landfill to sell them at low cost to the general public. [http://www.reversegarbage.com.au/](http://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. SEN affiliated with FoEA in 2007.

• Tulele Pisa — “sailing the waves on our own”. PNG.

• West Mallee Protection. 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 in South Australia.

FoEA has national campaigns, projects & spokespeople in the following areas:

• anti nuclear and clean energy

• climate change

• nanotechnology

• chemicals and pesticides

• The Murray Darling Basin

• Forests and biodiversity

• Food and agriculture

CONTACT US

Friends of the Earth Australia.

ABN: 18 110 769 501

Friends of the Earth Australia

Registered Office: 312 Smith St, Collingwood VIC 3066

Postal Address: PO Box 222 Fitzroy VIC 3065

Phone: 03 9419 8700

Toll free: 1300 852 081

Fax: 03 9416 2081

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

Email: foe@foe.org.au
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the members of FRIENDS OF THE EARTH (MELBOURNE) INC


We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a general purpose financial report, of FRIENDS OF THE EARTH (MELBOURNE) INC which comprises the Statement of Financial Position as at 30th June 2014, and the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income, Statement of Changes in Retained Surplus/(Deficit) and Statement of Cash Flows for the year then ended, a summary of significant accounting policies notes, and Statement by Members of the Committee.


The management of FRIENDS OF THE EARTH (MELBOURNE) INC is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and has 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 in 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 2014 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.

Lionel R. Arnold
J.L. COLLYER & PARTNERS

14th October 2014