

Climate and prosperity

OraTaiao, the NZ Climate and Health Council, is relieved that 9 million tonnes of carbon dioxide will no longer threaten our climate, and thus our lives, with the welcome news that Solid Energy will mothball its pilot lignite briquette plant in Maitai.

After nearly a decade of difficulties for the local community, this is a sensible end to Solid's irresponsible multi-billion dollar plan to convert the world's dirtiest coal into diesel, urea and briquettes.

The council, OraTaiao, recognises that both stable climate and stable employment are important for health and prosperity.

But prosperity is illusory if we don't recognise the existential threat of our changing climate.

Our communities deserve economic development that creates sustainable employment and protects health and wellbeing.

DR RACHEL EYRE,
DR RUSSELL TREGONNING,
LIZ SPRINGFORD
OraTaiao