



The Sustainable Engineering Society

...engineering in harmony with ecology

SENG-WA Newsletter – December 2022

With the year coming to an end, we present one last event in 2022 – the DPIRD Climate Resilience Taskforce’s “Meaty Matters” event. We also look forward to the WA Clean Energy Forum and the Green Building Council’s TRANSFORM conference in early 2023.

We invite members to contribute to the SENG Accessible Sustainability Collection by submitting any relevant sustainability and climate change material useful for research, project work, policy development and education by emailing suggested links to seng.library@gmail.com.

WA businesses are also invited to let us know how they are being Sustainability Champions in their industry. Please [get in touch](#) if sustainability is at the heart of your business, or a business you know.

We wish you and your families a restful and safe festive season, and a prosperous 2023!

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

A ‘Climate Change Challenges’ series of webinars and forums was run in 2021 by the WA Division of Engineers Australia, in conjunction with the University of WA and Murdoch University.

During the series, over 100 questions or comments were submitted from around 1000 attendees. A ‘Q&A’ of the most pertinent, together with suggested answers, was put together by a group of senior EA members. The answers are NOT official EA answers; they are possible answers provided by the group as thought provokers.

In our Newsletter we will be publishing one Question and one possible Answer in each edition. We invite comments from our readers, a summary of which will be published in the following edition. Simple comments, such as agree/disagree are welcome, as are more detailed comments. These may be emailed to the [Q&A reply email](#).

This month, our question and possible answer is:

Q

Is there a source of information that sets design parameters as climate change occurs?

A

We need parameters well before the climate changes, given the life of major infrastructure is likely to be 50 to 100 years, perhaps more. We are aware that there is not a lot of information readily available. Accredited sources, like CSIRO, have information but not necessarily for engineering needs. We suggest this is a key need for professions such as engineering, architecture and land use planning as well as appropriate regulators. It should be a focus of EA investigation and action.

SENG WA would love to hear from you about these questions and answers.

Contact us here: [Q&A reply email](#)

EVENTS

MEATY MATTERS: COWS AND CLIMATE FORUM

Hybrid Event by the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development - Climate Resilience Taskforce (Online and In-Person)

Date: 13 December 2022
Time: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm AWST
Location: Convention Centre, Crown Perth Astral Ballroom,
Great Eastern Highway Burswood, WA 6100

Hear from Australian and international experts in livestock, farming systems and methane/greenhouse gas calculations on how livestock are a key part of the climate change solution.

Speakers include the Minister for Regional Development; Agriculture and Food; Hydrogen Industry, professors from Universities in WA and abroad, and representatives from CSIRO and DPRID.

More information: <https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/events/meaty-matters-cows-and-climate-forum>

WA CLEAN ENERGY FORUM

Event by the Clean Energy Council

Date: 7 February 2023
Location: Pan Pacific Hotel, Perth

The WA Clean Energy Forum will be a day of presentations and debates on the pressing issues for WA's clean energy transition, including mining decarbonisation, hydrogen and ammonia, the offshore grid and more.

More information: <https://www.wacleanenergyforum.com.au/>

GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL AUSTRALIA'S TRANSFORM CONFERENCE

Event by The Green Building Council of Australia

Date: 22 - 23 March 2023
Location: Hybrid – in person (Sydney) with livestreaming

The Green Building Council of Australia's 5th annual TRANSFORM conference is the industry-leading event at the forefront of the sustainable built environment. TRANSFORM 2023 will explore: decarbonisation, nature and biodiversity, electrification, low carbon materials, circularity and more.

More information: <https://hopin.com/events/transform-2023/registration>

COURSES

UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA – DIPLOMA IN SUSTAINABLE LIVING

Location: Online
Cost: No tuition fees*

*Domestic students commencing the Diploma in Semester 1 2023 may be eligible to receive a 100% HECS fee waiver.

The Diploma consists of eight units. There are two core units, Communicating Sustainability and Local Lives for a Sustainable Planet, along with six elective units, including Global Food Security, Introduction to the Science of Climate Change, and Responding to Climate Change.

More information: <https://www.utas.edu.au/study/sustainable-living>

NEWS

COP 27 ENDS WITH ANNOUNCEMENT OF HISTORIC LOSS AND DAMAGE FUND

Countries reached a historic decision to establish and operationalize a loss and damage fund.

While many details remain to be negotiated, the fund is expected to see developing countries particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of the climate crisis supported for losses arising from droughts, floods, rising seas and other disasters that are attributed to climate change.

Full article: <https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/story/cop27-ends-announcement-historic-loss-and-damage-fund>

NEW EXPERT GROUP TO GUIDE AUSTRALIA'S TRANSITION TO A CIRCULAR ECONOMY

The Ministerial Advisory Group on the Circular Economy has been established to guide Australia as it transitions to a circular economy by 2030.

The group will look at how products are designed, manufactured and used across all sectors of the economy. It will identify meaningful and direct changes the government and industry can make to drive the transition to a circular economy.

The decision to establish the new Ministerial Advisory Group on the Circular Economy follows the Environment Ministers Meeting in October, where all Australian environment ministers agreed to work with the private sector to design out waste and pollution, keep materials in use and foster markets to achieve a circular economy by 2030.

More information: <https://minister.dcceew.gov.au/plibersek/media-releases/new-expert-group-guide-australias-transition-circular-economy>



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