

## WashPost on G7

### BIDEN HIT THE AUSTRALIAN SPEED BUMP AND IS LATE FOR 2030

G7 wound up in Cornwall with fanfares across many headline issues but with exasperated cries from climate advocates that this is the fourth successive deferment of positive action leading to 2030 – John Kerry’s rallying point. COVID advocates are also rejecting what the [WashPost](#) called the “*unforgivable moral lapse*” of vaccine distribution.

As [Guardian Australia](#) like many others put it on 3 June, “Kerry, the former US secretary of state ... has echoed other global leaders in describing the 2020s as a “*make or break*” decade in which all countries needed to cut emissions more quickly”.

He specifically mentioned Australia which “*was one of the problems at COP25 in Madrid as you recall, together with Brazil.*”

The Cornwall G7 summit ended much the same way as had Biden’s Leaders’ Summit on 22 April, Australian PM [Morrison](#) again refusing to address climate change mitigation, relying on an ambiguous technology roadmap.

This is forked tongue, he is inhibiting that prospect through competition restrictions including artificially extending the life of coal-based power generation past [2050](#) and delaying [electric vehicles](#). His Energy Minister [Angus Taylor](#) is widely accused of suppressing [renewable investment](#).

President Biden bought Morrison’s spiel as did the UK’s [Boris Johnson](#), who nonetheless [said](#) “*he will keep asking Australia to lift its ambition on climate change before a crunch summit in Glasgow later this year*”. Biden had detailed [briefing notes](#) to the contrary including [policy](#) improvements in lieu of Australia’s smashed governance systems and [human rights](#) implications.

It was Boris Johnson’s ex-Treasury official, now Ambassador to OECD, who managed the process whereby [Mathis Cormann](#), wrecker of Australian climate mitigation, won the top job in OECD, against the

protests of climate activists around the world. Biden endorsed Cormann but then put his trusted lieutenant at the desk next to him as a sign of his distrust.

Domestically Biden is facing the [opposition](#) of Trump appointees in blocking his carbon reduction moves, how surprised would he be if he realised the Australian leader of the Opposition, the Democrat equivalent historically, not now, [believes](#) that carbon must be promoted and “climate activists are as extreme as climate deniers” – thus giving Morrison “permission” to mislead citizenry and snub G7, Biden and Johnson.

These were the Cornwall’s communique’s erroneous [words](#): “We commit to net zero no later than 2050, halving our collective emissions over the two decades to 2030”.

The [reduction](#) as calculated by the International Energy Agency is actually 60% drop in coal use in electricity generation to 2020, in 20 years to 2040 c 34 GT CO<sub>2</sub>, and to c 7 GT CO<sub>2</sub> which is c 80%, not halving, and 2050 to 0 or 2090 without co-operation .

Australia has featured in all four deferments of firm interim targets, but while Morrison is ignoring climate change, he is missing deadlines on fire risk reduction and on vaccine supplies, and is distracted by unnecessary fights with state and territory Premiers.

He is becoming famous for his mishaps over bushfire victims with no strategies in place after 18 months, cover-ups of rapes within his inner offices and pre-Parliament, [high costs](#) for low case numbers in Corona responses after a dreadful [start](#), and his “Hard Carbon Club” decisions over coal and gas operations which [damage](#) the Great Barrier Reef and Aboriginal sacred sites.

Morrison’s top political priorities are the shame of locking up and neglecting two small [children](#) for two years, not being “immigrants”, and revelations of his connections with [QAnon](#).

There is no room for dithering, in reality, with IEA demanding that all new and expansion plans cease now, June 2021, but Morrison's supposed alternative Technology Roadmap is little more than a [brochure](#) as were his earlier "congestion bustin'", fast train, infrastructure pipeline and Inland Rail promises.

From "first on list" to get vaccine supplies he took Australia to the top 35 countries' "lowest" for [fully-vaccinated](#).

As IEA put it, "*For many rich countries, achieving net-zero emissions will be more difficult and costly without international co-operation*". Co-operation requires trust and unity, Australia emits distrust and conspiracy, its politicians, not its people.

The Paris 2030 targets are looking shaky. Australia's commercial [interests](#) lie in continued coal operations and its PM is blind-siding the Western world.

Has Biden given Morrison too much encouragement through [appeasement](#)? The Glasgow Conference in November looks no more certain than the four previous failures.