

# Fact sheet: The Kennedy Effect undermines climate mitigation

Four books and three websites contain great detail of the evidence and analyses presented here. This Fact Sheet is an accessible guide.

Climate mitigation requires appropriate levels and timing of funds for community re-skilling and re-equipping. “Renewables “ are the most common target but Newcastle’s remarkable recovery from 1997 was based on 8 industry clusters, including renewables, aerospace and medical ... ) as well as real estate smarts.

Strong performance across cities and regions is a truism among theorists especially those who have no experience outside the corridors of influence: President Biden decentralised his massive Jobs Plan to the States and Commonwealths with less central discipline on “shovel ready”. That is where roads, bridges, airports, ports and innovation districts have to better perform as under UK Localism.

Pragmatists in Australia know that “local government” cynicism has increased through waves of forced amalgamations and developer interventions. Mitigation as a structural shift requires LG culture and methods to increase data and feedback speeds and locally-driven vitality, and reduce waste and corruption.

Morrison had “no plan” and we have yet to see an Albanese one; whereas Newcastle’s NSIP was before City Councillors 3 days after BHP’s announcement, approved by the State Government as a “model” for all NSW in 3 weeks. FOCUS is lacking as well as URGENCY. Talking about science to justify more coal and gas extraction misses the point that we have to be 100% dedicated to doing everything we can. That is how we will be judged by our grandchildren and their children.

Stephen Kennedy was a Deputy Secretary of PM&S when Turnbull came to office in 2015. Head of Infrastructure Mike Mrdak said that if you want a good idea killed, send it to Kennedy in PMC, which is when Turnbull – who had “worked” with Kennedy and Baird on the disastrous Western Sydney City Deal – replaced Mrdak with Kennedy and rejected “Budget repair” (an essential part of “due diligence” and OECD/World Bank protocols”. The “30-Minute Club conspiracy” was in full flow in Canberra to protect Lucy Turnbull and Baird in Sydney. The legacy is a patchwork of projects and policies in iA which favour “shiny toys” rather than commonsense and hard work.

There was no professional element, Kennedy has no skills or experience, leaving malice and cruelty which are characteristic of hubris. His credits include wrecking Western Sydney, the largest regional economy in Australia; and completely mismanaging the coronavirus medical and economic crisis (his Ph D is, wunderbar, being in health economics!) For 7 years he has been suppressing an essential element in future planning of iA, Budgets and community engagement: my “re-planning template” based on international best practice, to integrate them with

- Climate change mitigation
- Natural events frequency & geography
- Demographic & migration changes
- Waste & insolvency of infrastructure which is pumping up debt and harming future generations

Poorly framed proposals within corrupted planning protocols based on secret corporate motives have produced inequities, waste, inefficiency, reduced and protection of gifts to corporates are straight out of the Frydenberg Playbook as written by Kennedy and seemingly sold to Treasurer Chalmers who joined in the suppression.

The re-planning would be a co-operative federalism move involving all States and Territories, contributions to be calculated fairly by PMC, and an upfront payment for Intellectual Property would expiate Coalition and Labor mischief including Australia’s grossest ever plagiarism.

From OECD:

**Reviewing all government expenditure will be necessary** to ensure adequate spending on high-priority areas and people, and enhance growth without threatening debt sustainability. Starting a review of public expenditures early is important because reallocation of spending towards priority areas is usually gradual.

**“Reviewing”** is anathema to Frydenberg (opposed to “Budget repair”) and Berejiklian (**addiction** to HK loss-making shiny toys and the Debt Lake as are Albanese and Chalmers).

Infrastructure Partnerships Australia is a corrupting force that resides in iA backrooms, that the breakdowns started on Albanese’s federal watch, and the magnitude requires Labor to wake from their reverie.

The PM and Treasurer announced on June 10 that in September they would convene a 300-person national summit on “jobs and skills shortages” regarding “strong, sustainable wages growth”, Treasurer Chalmers saying he would be “picking the brains of experts on how to solve rising inflation and job vacancies’. This is obviously merited by itself but the timetable is at odds with the Budget the next month. These topics should have been solved in Opposition. There are crisis elements documented on the websites which require a hard-hitting approach akin to the Newcastle recovery strategy on the announcement of the closure of steelmaking, applied to economic, climate and COVID planning. Intergenerational success depends on a determined approach.

“Better ideas” exist outside bureaucratic silos which rarely if ever produce successful innovation. Mitigation is not confined to renewables and is also about removing impediments, waste and corruption, especially so as to re-align resources to better effect. An obvious example is the high-risk, high-cost and highly congestion inducing Northern Beaches tollway as favour by Abbott and Steggles with which Bairdijikian replaced the quiet and effective Bus Rapid Transit scheme Baird commissioned from me in 2008. Others include:

- **“Swifta” train/train from the North West** down the existing Main North into Strathfield and then across the Canterbury area on road surfaces to Hurstville and the Illawarra Line, crossing the Main West and Bankstown/East Hills Lines, which would have obviated some \$30 billion in tunnels and trackage and more in later closing and fixing the new metros due to fundamental engineering and economic blunders which are characteristic of Malenomic breakdowns in “due diligence”.
- Christie, Greiner and Gibbons pointed to ways of **strengthening the capacity and spread of the legacy Bradfield heavy rail network**, once the envy of the world, instead of the “30-Minute Club’s shiny Hong Kong metros which have lower capacities, higher risk, lower returns (with the necessity of debt funding even of operations) and changes in suburban life which are contrary to Australian culture, all without Parliamentary or electorally legitimate engagement. The Gibbons extension was a loop to the new Airport, giving it world-class transit connections whereas the metro as adopted is a stub off the Main Western Line which few will use but to save face is costing \$20 billion to extend towards Campbelltown (sterilising the freight system’s potential).
- **The Moorebank Intermodal Terminal** interrupted the development of a logical move of container handling to Western Sydney so as to reduce structural imbalances in population/employment and air pollution problems. It came from a whisper in the then Minister’s ear, Albanese’s, that Defence could be forced off its site which would be incorporated in a corporate development on the other side of Moorebank Avenue. It is sub-economic and doubles local truck movements, but the iA corruption was so severe that it produced a report stating that short-distance double-handling can be a benefit. Add
  - *faster trains, regional population and employment balances, better model than impractical High Speed Train model that would have taken 40 years of preparation and construction and be more risky and less cost effective than an ignored option, which was characteristic of subsequent national and state governments under his iA protocols.*
  - *specific transport situations such as to the east, north, northwest, west, southwest and southeast of Sydney – political statements about carbon and congestion costs in cities are cant as they promote projects that worsen congestion & carbon and suppress better options (these are supposed to lie within the PM’s skills set)*
  - *broad nation-building initiatives across all three levels of government.*

Greiner’s iNSW suggested this prudence protocol together with a “zero-gate” discipline about not assuming the most obvious, expensive and risky is the best way to go. Note that he did not include engagement or Parliament, and that not one project in NSW and even nationally met the legitimisation criteria when commenced and completed:

