



## The Bullroarer - Friday 5th June 2009

Posted by [aeldric](#) on June 5, 2009 - 8:56am in [The Oil Drum: Australia/New Zealand](#)

Topic: [Miscellaneous](#)

*A quick one today, so that you have time to read the two "Trouble With Energy" posts below :- )*

NY Times - [Australia Feels Chill as China's Shadow Grows](#)

If outlanders tend to associate Australia with kangaroos, broad-brim leather hats and an opera house, many Australians are different. They think of iron ore and bauxite, copper and coal, nickel, gold and uranium, a trove of mineral riches that is their nation's birthright and the bedrock of its prosperity.

Which explains much of the breast-beating that has ensued since the Chinese announced plans this year to buy a big chunk of it.

Voxy.com.nz - [Climate Change Freezes In New Zealand](#)

Across New Zealand hundreds of people "froze" today. They came together at 1pm in public places and became human statues - stopping and standing for united action on climate change. Some politicians even froze with them. Today is World Environment Day, and this year's theme is 'uniting to combat climate change'. A nation-wide Freeze was organised by a team of volunteers to spread that message. The Freeze was led by a mysterious character called "Mr Freeze", who is only known to the public through his page on Facebook. Mr Freeze expressed his enthusiasm for the day by stating "I'm melting with joy." He added that "It takes courage to freeze in a public place. Freezing on your own is freaky. Freezing with five people is sneaky. Freezing with lots of people is easy. It's the same with action on climate change. It's much easier for us to play our part, and it's a lot more effective, when we come together."

Brisbane Times - [Rio's change of heart raises concerns](#)

A new joint venture agreed by BHP Billiton Ltd and Rio Tinto Ltd could frustrate major Chinese customers, an analyst says.

TV NZ - [Export boost comes to an abrupt halt for Aust](#)

The support from exports that helped the economy avoid a recession in the first three months of the year looks like being short-lived after slumping 11% in April.

The steep fall in exports saw the nation's monthly trade position tumble to a small deficit in April, ending eight months of sizeable surpluses.

Scoop.co.nz - [Diesel up after nine weeks without change](#)

Petrol and diesel prices both increased during May, reversing the trend of the last few months. Petrol twice rose five cents per litre, up from \$1.54 per litre for 91 octane in the main centres to \$1.64 per litre. Diesel rose 3 cents per litre to \$1.02, the first increase in diesel prices in more than nine weeks.

AA senior policy analyst Mark Stockdale says the rise in pump prices reflects increased costs on the international market, partly due to seasonal demand but also the declining value of the United States dollar.

Scoop.co.nz - [Cannabis Party Has Answer To The Recession](#)

*Hey - at least they HAVE a plan.*

Now as the oil industry faces decline, cannabis hemp once again emerges as the economic saviour of mankind. All of New Zealand's fuel requirements for transportation and electricity production could be met with locally grown Hemp. Hemp fuel could be produced at low cost, with practically no environmental impact. The proof of this is the \$100,000 challenge. For over twenty years US\$ 100,000 has been offered to anyone who can prove the following claim wrong:

ABC - [Local councils, governments urged to embrace renewable energy](#)

The report covers an area from Young to Eden, including the ACT, and examines future sustainability challenges and opportunities.

Commissioner Maxine Cooper says the region has enormous potential to embrace renewable energy.

"We have sources in terms of wind, solar, there's a whole suite of renewable energy sources in this region that we can tap, and the advantages of having renewable energy in this region in terms of distribution is that it's right near some key population areas," she said.

ABC - [World oil supply has peaked: expert](#)

An energy expert says the world has already reached peak oil supply.

Professor Kjell Aleklett heads an energy research group at Uppsala University in Sweden.

His team has found oil production will fall 25 per cent below a level widely accepted by policy makers and economists by 2030.

Herald Sun - [Public transport patronage grows 13.2 per cent in a year](#)

MORE Melburnians than ever are using public transport, with patronage across trains, trams and buses up 13.2 per cent on last year.



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