

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 29, 2017

GARNAUT PUTS FOCUS ON SA'S ENERGY FUTURE

One of Australia's most pre-eminent economists will this weekend urge South Australia to embrace renewable energy as part of its future electricity planning.

Professor Ross Garnaut, author of the respected Garnaut Climate Change Review 2008/11, will be keynote speaker at the inaugural World Environment Fair in Adelaide.

He will speak on "The Future of South Australian Electricity Prices", and is expected to highlight a future role for grid-scale and small scale battery storage, in addition to expanded solar and wind sources.

The chairman of ZEN Energy, and Professorial Research Fellow in Economics at the University of Melbourne, Professor Garnaut is one of 30 speakers at this weekend's Fair, to be held at the Adelaide Showground on Saturday and Sunday.

"South Australian electricity prices have always been higher than those in the National Electricity Market - mainly because the State lacks the low-cost coal resources of Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland," he said.

"Although the excess with the other states is now proportionately less than a decade ago, wholesale power prices are higher than ever before as gas has become scarce and expensive.

"Renewable energy (solar and wind) is now much cheaper than new build coal and gas generation. The continued expansion of renewable energy will allow South Australia to reduce and then reverse its past electricity cost disadvantages."

Professor Garnaut will be the opening speaker at the Fair on Saturday morning and will speak again on Sunday morning.

Other speakers will cover topics such as tiny houses, recycling household waste, upcycling, alternative energy sources, straw-bale houses, electric vehicles, a bike hub, organic food and wine, native animal displays and Australia's largest indoor nature play area. For a full list of speakers and times, [check here](#).

Supported by the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources, the Fair celebrates the natural environment, raise awareness about conservation and encourage people and communities to think about how they can contribute to changing their habits for a positive impact.



june 3-4 adelaide showground
worldenvironmentfair.org.au

EVENT DETAILS - Saturday, June 3 and Sunday June 4, 2017 (9am until 5pm), Goyder and Jubilee Pavilions, Adelaide Showground. U18's are FREE

<http://worldenvironmentfair.org.au/>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/worldenvironmentfair/>

Twitter <https://twitter.com/EnviroFair>

Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/worldenvironmentfair/>

SUMMARY

- Around 15,000 people are expected to attend over the two days
- More than 85 exhibitors
- A Green Theatre featuring keynote speakers including Professor Ross Garnaut AO
- Two speaker stages with over 30 speakers providing informative talks across both days
- Designed to provide fun, interactive and positive engagement with our environment
- Free admission for those aged under 18
- Features live music, food and wine, nature based activities, conservation and biodiversity displays and children's interactive play zones.

TICKETS:

<http://worldenvironmentfair.org.au/tickets/>

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Government of South Australia
Department of Environment,
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