

# MISSION 3

## CLIMATE ECONOMICS

**CLIMATE HEROES**  
BETTER WORKPLACES, BETTER FUTURE

SUPPORTED BY



Congratulations and thank-you to all the Climate Heroes who completed 'Hero Training' last month.

Many participants spoke afterwards about how the passion and commitment shown by everyone present gave them a great sense of hope.

It is easy to stand back and let the opportunity to make a difference pass by, but instead you are taking responsibility and working alongside other Climate Heroes for positive change. Well done!

For those who couldn't make training, you will find enclosed a DVD version of the workplace presentation for 'Step 1'.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), an international body of respected climate scientists, has demonstrated that in order to stabilise emissions at a level likely to prevent a dangerous, irreversible temperature rise of over 2 degrees, we need to stop the increase in the world's carbon emissions by 2015 at the latest, and begin to decrease emissions by 2 or 3 percent globally every year after that.

So while the effort to achieve a safe climate will take many decades, the next seven years, and particularly 2008, are crucial times for our campaign. We need the very best practices and policies in place to address climate change, and we need them now.

With so many people joining the effort, we are well on our way to the sustainable future that we all want to see. It won't happen overnight, or even in a single year – but every small action that we take is one step on the journey.

### Step 1: Presentations

Effective change starts with effective education. That's why the first part of your mission is to organise a presentation on climate science for your workplace. We need to inform everyone of the importance of the issue, and how easy it is to take action.

Try to organise a time to present the climate hero slideshow (which you can download from Climate Heroes website, [www.qpsu.org.au/climate](http://www.qpsu.org.au/climate)) or DVD (enclosed) at a staff meeting or during lunchtime, and invite as many people as you can!

### Materials:

- Text of email invitation (see next column);
- DVD or downloaded PowerPoint presentation (you can edit and tailor the PowerPoint presentation for your specific workplace). Also note the DVD has a copy of this Powerpoint included in its data section;
- Some paper to record ideas generated from the group discussion;
- 'Pledge cards' to distribute after the presentation – ask people to stick them on their fridge and commit to taking whatever actions they can.
- Poster promoting World Environment Day - June 5, 2008.

### Step 2: Climate Economics

You can read the enclosed information sheet to learn about some key concepts in climate economics, and especially the important 'Garnaut Review' this year.

It's very important to share the information with your colleagues and family, so that everyone can learn the facts about climate change.

### Step 3: Climate-friendly Super

The Climate Economics factsheet has information about the importance of government investment in renewable industries to secure our economic and financial future.

One of the biggest forms of government-managed investment is in the form of superannuation funds, like QSuper.

QSuper, like many other super funds, has a "socially responsible" investment option, but even with this option, a lot of your money goes towards funding high-carbon activities like the power generation and transportation industries, rather than funding the sustainable alternative.

To make sure that your money is supporting a responsible, green future, Climate Heroes will be running a campaign to get QSuper to provide more sustainable investment choices.

Stay tuned for more information about the campaign to make your super climate friendly.

### Contact

Visit [www.qpsu.org.au/climate](http://www.qpsu.org.au/climate) for updated climate news and information from the ACF. If you have suggestions for a news item, email it in to us at [climate@qpsu.org.au](mailto:climate@qpsu.org.au), or call 1800 177 244.

### Copy of email text:

Dear Colleagues,

*Climate Change can be a confusing topic. As part of QPSU's Climate Heroes program, I'd like to help you understand more about the issue, and what we can do in our office, by presenting 'Climate Change: Everything you need to know in 30 minutes'*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_

*You are welcome to bring your lunch to this 30 minute talk, which includes a discussion about how we can be more climate-friendly in this office – we want everyone's ideas!*

*You are welcome to ask questions and discuss the issues with us.*

*Please let me know if you will come along, or I'll just see you on the day.*

Sincerely,

Your local Climate Hero

### Copy of reminder email:

Dear Colleagues,

*Just a quick reminder: 'Climate Change: Everything you need to know in 30 minutes' is on today*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_

*Bring your lunch and your climate-friendly ideas!*

Sincerely,

Your local Climate Hero

