

## **MINUTES OF ECCO COMMITTEE MEETING AUGUST 12, 2009**

**PRESENT:** Neil Jones, David Williams, Brian Phillips, Colin Foster, Nick King, Phil Stevenson, Peter West

**APOLOGIES:** Tony Smith, Jenny Smith, Steven Nugent, Yvette Black

### **Business arising from previous committee meeting.**

**National Tree Day:** Many thanks to Steven Nugent, Fiona Hawke and Peter West for their selection of appropriate plants and the distribution to the schools who applied for the \$100 ECCO donation of trees to celebrate National Tree Day. Schools involved were Orange Public School, Manildra Public School, Borenore Public School, Molong Public School and Glenroi Public School.

**Natural Burials:** Nick, Neil, Brian and Cilla to meet with a representative of Orange Funeral Services to discuss the concept of natural burials. The Council contact person for this issue has yet to contact ECCO.

**ECCO website:** Nick, Neil and Steven to meet on Wednesday, August 19 to further discuss the content of the new ECCO website.

**Cadia Mine Extension submission:** ECCO's submission has been completed and sent to the relevant authority. Congratulations on an excellent submission and many thanks to those who contributed ideas and to those who collated the information. The completed submission will be available for all members to read on the ECCO website when it is up and running.

**Orange Showground:** Council to develop a management plan for the future development of Orange Showground, with the assistance of all user groups and Insite consultants. ECCO will be included in the process. The good news is that it appears that council is no longer interested in selling the site for future development.

**Enviro Expo:** To be held the 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> of September. ECCO's role is to provide a stall during the Expo and to organise sites in the community to be visited on the Sunday as examples of smart choices for living. E.g. houses with energy saving features, water wise gardens, etc. Sites to include places on a bus itinerary as well as self guided tours. ECCO members to be emailed to invite their input and suggestions as to appropriate sites.

### **OCCAN news:**

**Climate change websites:** Below are websites which are included for members' interest and possible future discussion.

1. <http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2009/jul/13/manchester-report-nuclear-thorium> This is a site which provides information about energy powered by thorium instead of uranium. Thorium is regarded as being efficient without the radioactive waste issues which cause concerns about nuclear power.
2. <http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2009/jul/13/manchester-report-carbon-conversations> This site examines the difficulties of engaging members

of the public in dialogue about climate change and motivation to change to a less carbon intensive lifestyle. It also provides useful information on how to engage people on this issue.

3. <http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/manchester-report> This site lists 20 ideas for solving the crisis which is climate change.

Members are invited to visit these websites and provide feedback through our ECCO Gmail on any topics contained which they think are worth pursuing further.

Website [greenloans.com.au](http://greenloans.com.au) . Visit this website and find out how you can obtain a free home energy audit and if required a loan to retrofit your home to require energy standards.

**Walk against Warming 2009:** Walk against Warming 2009 will be conducted on Saturday December 12 2009. This date coincides with International day of Action on Climate Change. ECCO to organise a walk for this day. Nick to research the possibility of using Summer Street for a walk involving the whole community for this day.

**ECCO Annual General meeting: To be held at the Park View Hotel upstairs room on August 26<sup>th</sup> commencing 7.30pm. To be followed by a guest speaker, supper and drinks.**

Nick King Secretary