

Sustainable Development: A Business Imperative

Business Leaders Forum on Sustainable Development
in association with The Business Council of Australia
May 29 – 30 2003 Intercontinental Sydney, New South Wales

As the Chair of the **National Business Leaders Forum on Sustainable Development**, I am delighted to invite you to join us in May this year for the 2003 Forum, which will feature as its keynote speaker the former **U.S. Vice President Al Gore**. The Forum is convened by EcoFutures and is Co Sponsored by the **Business Council of Australia**.

The aim of the **National Business Leaders Forum on Sustainable Development** is to bring together business leaders from across Australia to recognise outstanding leadership, debate and accelerate uptake of sustainability. The Forum is helping to build a network of business excellence and innovation, and create competitive advantage for Australian companies. Importantly, it provides a means of championing the business "heroes of our time" who are moving down the path of sustainability. This is a keen area of interest for Al Gore, whose international leadership and commitment to sustainable development is well known.

The annual Forums provide corporate executives in Australia with the opportunity to hear first-hand from business leaders how their, often global, companies are benefiting from sustainable development practices. The Forums enable executives to hear and meet Australian business leaders, who are pursuing similar paths and enables executives to be better aware of important emerging opportunities for business in the environment in the 21st Century.

Over time, with the help of activities like the Forum, the core of business leaders in Australia currently committed to ecologically sustainable development will expand and influence the way business is conducted in the wider business community and will influence how government can facilitate this. Forum 2003 with Al Gore is a perfect opportunity to expand that influence in the wider business community.

We look forward to working with you on this important Forum.

With best wishes



John Hewson
Forum Chair 2003

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John Hewson



Molly Hariss Olson



Al Gore



Richard Pratt



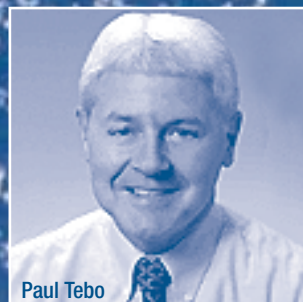
Bob Carr



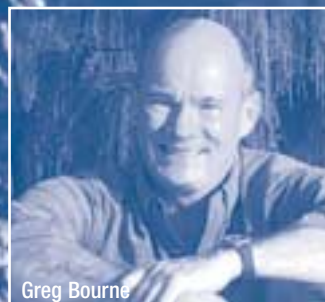
Katie Lahey



Steve Morton



Paul Tebo



Greg Bourne

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THURSDAY MAY 29TH

17:00 Pre-Dinner Drinks with Civic Leaders
The Museum of Sydney

Welcome

The Hon Dr. Linda Burney, MP
Member for Canterbury

18:30 for 19:00pm

Official Dinner

The Westin Martin Place, Sydney NSW

Welcome

The Hon Bob Carr, MP, Premier of NSW

Keynote Address

Al Gore, Former Vice President USA

Introduced by **Professor John Hewson,**
Forum Chair

22:00 Conclusion of Day One

FRIDAY MAY 30TH

8:00 Registration

The Intercontinental Sydney,
117 Macquarie Street, Sydney NSW 2000

8:30 Welcome

Professor John Hewson, Forum Chair

Setting the Scene

Ms. Molly Harriss Olson, Forum Convenor

Keynote Address

Sustainability: A Business Imperative for Dupont

Dr. Paul Tebo, VP Safety, Health & Environment
and United Nations Environment Award Winner,
Dupont

Questions and Discussion

9:30 SESSION ONE

Drivers for Sustainable Business

*How the global economy is changing and how
reputation and community expectations impact on
business and government.*

Chair Dr. John Schubert, President,
Business Council of Australia

Mr. Richard Pratt AC, Chairman, Visy Industries

10:00 Morning Tea

10:30 **The Hon John Thwaites, MP** Minister for
Environment Water and Victorian Communities

Questions and Discussion

11:15 SESSION TWO

Town meeting style Interview with Vice President Al Gore

Questions and Discussion

12:00 Lunch, The Intercontinental

13:30 SESSION THREE

Hypothetical

European Ultimatum: What do Australian Companies Do?

Chair Mr. Simon Longstaff,
St James Ethic Centre

Vice President Al Gore, Mr. Barney Foran,
Senior Analyst, CSIRO Resource Futures;

Dr. John White, Managing Director, Global
Renewables; **The Hon Dr. Linda Burney, MP;**

Mr. Phillip Toyne, Director, EcoFutures; **Ms.**

Katie Lahey, Executive Director, BCA;

Dr. David Morgan, CEO, WestPac;

Mr. Don Henry, Executive Director, ACF

Questions and Discussion

15:00 SESSION FOUR

Building Blocks for Sustainable Practice

• *What is needed to support sustainable development
business opportunities?*

• *What are the commercial opportunities to develop
sustainable infrastructure in Water, Transport, Energy
etc. What are the Barriers?*

• *How do we create conditions for a commercial
response to the challenge of sustainability?*

• *A Role for Government: using investment and
procurement funds to create the basic market for
sustainable goods and services?*

Chair Dr. Steve Morton, CEO,
Sustainable Ecosystems CSIRO

Professor James Salzman, Fulbright Senior
Scholar, and Visiting Professor, Yale University

Ms Judy Henderson, Chair,
Global Reporting Initiative

Mr. Dennis O'Neill, CEO,
Infrastructure Council of Australia

Mr. Michael Costello AO,
Columnist and Counsellor

Questions and Discussion

16:00 CLOSING SESSION

Developing Future Markets

• *Who are the leaders? And is Australia one of them?*

• *Where are the leaders heading?*

• *What will give countries and companies the next
competitive edge?*

• *Corporate leadership and good governance: responding
to or leading consumer demand for sustainability?*

Chair Mr. Rob Coombs, CEO, Interface Asia Pacific

Mr. John Buttle, Partner, Ernst & Young

Mr. Raphael Geminder, Chair,
Visy Industrial Packaging

Mr. Peter Carre, Director, Xcelerator Pty Ltd

Mr. Charlie Hargroves,
Young Professionals Representative

Vote of Thanks

Ms. Molly Harriss Olson, Forum Convenor

17:00 Forum Concludes

We thank our sponsors for their generosity and support of the Forum, its aims and objectives. Attendance at the **Business Leaders Forum on Sustainable Development** is by invitation based on a company's leadership. The generosity of sponsors – organisations that are committed to sustainable development and prepared to support the Forum 2003 include: Visy Industries, Collex, Dupont, Interface, Neville Smith Timber Industries, Waste Service NSW, and Random Computing (Mobile Executive).



INTERFACE

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