

October 4, 2018

Dear Members of the Climate Council

I write on behalf of the Justice Committee of Catholic Religious Australia (CRA). CRA represents approximately 5,500 Catholic religious, women and men, throughout the nation, as well as many thousands of people working in organisations run by religious institutes. Our members and their lay colleagues work in education, health care and social services. We work with First Australians, refugees and asylum seekers, people surviving on the margins and many others in need of assistance. Many of us have worked to raise awareness about the crisis of climate change as well as taking steps to avoid contributing to the many threats to the health of our environment.

I take this opportunity to congratulate the Climate Council on your 5th birthday for the extraordinary work you have done and continue to do for the planet. The avalanche of community support for your crowdfunding campaign proved that many of us were dismayed when the Climate Commission was closed by the Abbott Government and more importantly, were determined to keep you going because of your expertise and commitment.

Your ground breaking research and reports on issues such as extreme weather, biodiversity impacts, climate solutions and many more have provided us with an authoritative source of information to use in our various roles of education and advocacy.

Thank you for taking the bold step you did in 2013. We congratulate you and wish you many more years of success in the crucial work you do for us and for our beautiful Earth.

Yours sincerely

MM Hinchey

Margaret Hinchey RSM Social Justice Committee Catholic Religious Australia