

To Whom it May Concern:

I'm currently a student in the States and have recently (about 1 year ago) learned about peak oil. As far as world government's responses, I think that few are willing to outwardly tackle the issue in a way that benefits their own people. I am highly suspicious of the United States approach to energy issues-namely invasion.

The only country thus far to deal with an energy crisis in such a way as to preserve the human character of the nation afterwards is Cuba. In a recent documentary by The Community Solution (communitysolution.org), I learned about Cuba's programs in organic agriculture and how they made the transition.

Naturally, such a shift would not likely be as dramatic in Australia or elsewhere unless some political events intervened. However, I think it makes much sense to begin the transition process.

I would highly recommend a survey of the literature by the likes of Richard Heinberg and Colin Campbell as well as books on the topic of energy but not directly related to the emerging shortage (*Overshoot*, by Catton and *The Collapse of Complex Societies* by Tainter).

In fact, Australia itself has a great legacy in the sustainable/energy conscious movement. David Holmgren and Bill Mollison are both Australian and there is a strong movement built around Permaculture that began in the 1970s and has since spread around the world. Consulting with those that have such a holistic knowledge base would help Australia chart a "way off the mountain peak" that would be safe, humane and more equitable than not.

Best of luck with the proceedings,

David Huck