How conservative media covered IPCC

• “Over the next several generations, the overall effect of climate change will be positive for humankind and the planet.” Matt Ridley, Wall Street Journal.

• The IPCC is “a joke in the scientific community,” .... people who believe in global warming to the Unabomber. – Forbes magazine

• Sydney’s Daily Telegraph did not even cover it
Junking energy target is right
WE have paid a very high price for a misguided policy.

JUDITH SLOAN > 62

The maths is all wrong
THE Clean Energy Finance Corporation is working against the government’s mandate.

HENRY ERGAS > 33

Proposal an example of Left’s hot air
“RATHER than saving ratepayers money, a wind farm scheme would raise their electricity bills.”

ANGELA SHANAHAN >
'Stupid': MP's plan to build new Sydney CBD

Tosser? Prima donna? Bigot?
Bob Carr laughs off attacks over book, saying he's having fun seeing critics turn him into a bestseller.

Jobless numbers in surprise fall

Hole in the head: 'black salve' danger

Freed after 25 years in jail

The Block serves up a shock

'Trampoline death' murder charge
• Institute of Public Affairs energy regulation specialist Alan Moran said renewable energy subsidies increased electricity costs by 50 percent and were highly inefficient but may be difficult to cut immediately.
Junking the energy target is right
- Judith Sloan

• Apologists for the RET will make the claim that the extent to which the RET has contributed to higher electricity prices is small - 3-5 per cent.

• This claim is contentious. It should be noted that the estimate only covers the cost of complying with the RET and does not include the change to wholesale electricity prices.

• According to my calculation, and depending on the assumptions made about the cost differential of renewable energy over conventional energy, by 2020 electricity prices will be 25-40 per cent higher than would be the case had the RET not been in place.
Chief economist backs cut to renewable energy targets
A Macdonald-Smith @angelamacd

@angelamacd Energy journalist, oil, gas, LNG, renewables, carbon.
Rockclimbing, skydiving, cycling, art inbetween times.
Sydney

A Macdonald-Smith @angelamacd · Jan 19
@RogerDty @beneltham Contrast in estimates certainly interesting! Much solar use doesn’t show in the stats. All adds to the debate.#energy
Dick Warburton, renewable Czar

- Except for nuclear power, there are no straightforward strategies for reducing dependence on fossil fuels without large economic costs.

- Wind and solar generators often cannot function when needed. Even when the wind is blowing, “back-up capacity, usually gas-fired ... had to be kept running, using fuel, generating steam, emitting CO2, ready to ramp up its turbines the moment sufficient supply from the wind machines stopped coming”.

- A US comparison estimated the following electricity generation costs per kilowatt hour: hydroelectric $0.03; nuclear and coal $0.04; wind power $0.08; natural gas $0.10 (other estimates for gas suggest about $0.04); solar power (construction costs only, ignoring production costs for which reliable data were unavailable) $0.22.”
Solar’s dramatic cost fall may herald energy price deflation

Investment bank Bernstein produces stunning graph to show how solar is now cheaper than oil and LNG in Asia. Solar, it says, is “cheap, clean, convenient and reliable”. The solar market share may be small now, but the prospect it could trigger “energy price deflation” has huge implications for energy investments.

CleanTech Bites

- Australian CSPV developer RayGen signs $60m deal in China
  
  Giles Parkinson
  
  RayGen signs $60m deal for assembly of its CSPV technology in China. It predicts CSPV sales could top $1bn by 2020.

- Global wind market rebounds amid calls for policy certainty
  
  Sophie Vorrath
  
  Global Wind Energy Council predicts dramatic increase in 2014, but warns of long-term damage of policy uncertainty.

Other Good Stuff

- McKinsey: Solar PV is disruptive and world-changing
  
  Zachary Shahan
  
  The future for solar power is looking bright, disruptively bright.

- IPCC: Emissions cuts are about ethics as well as economies
  
  Frank Jobz and David Stern
  
  For the first time, the IPCC has addressed the ethical, as well as technical, issues of reducing greenhouse emissions.

- Homegrown technology aims to put rooftop solar on the map
  
  Sophie Vorrath
  
  ASX-listed Nearmap has repurposed its market-leading aerial imaging platform for the rooftop solar industry.

- IPCC calls for major shift to renewables to cut emissions
  
  Andrea Thompson
  
  IPCC says major and rapid uptake of renewables should be primary focus of reducing greenhouse gas emissions. And it needn’t cost much.