



Media Release
Wednesday 30 September 2009

COUNTDOWN TO CLIMATE ACTION “350 DAY”

October 24th is **350 day**, a day of global action on climate change. Gecko - Gold Coast and Hinterland Environment Council (Gecko) is organising a Gold Coast event to join with over 100 countries in raising awareness of the urgent need for us all to reduce global CO₂ emissions.

All Gold Coasters concerned about climate change are urged to join in the action, which will take place from 11am to 12.30pm at the Currumbin Estuary beach near the Alley carpark.

This global action day has been initiated by 350.org to bring to the attention of world leaders the need to reduce CO₂ levels on the planet from the current 385 parts per million (ppm) to below 350 ppm for a life sustaining planet.

Accompanied by music and beach games, the action will feature the photographing of hundreds of people making up the figures 350 on the beach and a 350 with surfers in the water. These photographs will be posted on both the Gecko and 350.org websites to join with others from Nepal, Easter Island, Sweden, Africa and many more. In addition, there will be letters to sign to send to the Prime Minister Kevin Rudd and Minister for Climate Change Penny Wong, asking for Australia to take effective action in tackling climate change.

Rose Adams, President of Gecko, said, "If Australia truly wishes to lead the world on climate action, we certainly should not be supporting the present 450ppm global target, which will bring a 6 degree plus global temperature rise. Further if we expect other countries to reduce their CO₂ emissions, we must demonstrate our own commitment, and not just wait for everyone else."

This climate change action on 24th October is part of the countdown to the United Nations Climate Change Summit in Copenhagen in December, when the world must come up with a plan to tackle the most serious problem ever faced by humanity.

Lois Levy, Secretary of Gecko said, "The time for talking is over. Every country must commit to a genuine effort to reduce greenhouse gases in as short a time as possible. The human species itself is at risk here and this is far more important than any perceived economic losses. We must focus on the benefits of living sustainably and not be waylaid by possible short term negative economic financial impacts."

For more information about the 350 Action Day Gold Coasters are directed to www.gecko.org.au website and also www.350.org

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For further information about this important issue, please ring the following directly:

Lois Levy, Gecko Secretary

0412 724 222