



**#STOP  
ADANI  
ALLIANCE**

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MEDIA RELEASE**

## ***Bob Brown Launches Stop Adani Mine Campaign: bigger than the Franklin***

- 13 key environment groups, representing 1.5 million Australians, launch 'Stop Adani Alliance'
- New polling shows three quarters of Australians want Adani to fund their own infrastructure, rather than rely on a \$1 billion loan of public money
- Launch to be followed by open strategy session and meetings with influential MPs
- 13 Alliance members: Bob Brown Foundation; Australian Conservation Foundation, 350.org Australia, GetUp, Australian Youth Climate Coalition, Seed Indigenous Youth Climate Network, Australian Marine Conservation Society, Mackay Conservation Group, North Queensland Conservation Council, Environment Council of Central Queensland, Whitsunday Residents Against Dumping, Market Forces, The Sunrise Project

**Canberra, Australia:** Veteran environmentalist Bob Brown joins community leaders to launch the 'Stop Adani Alliance' to build the biggest movement in Australia's history to stop Adani's dangerous coal mine and end coal for good. Alliance Declaration below.

**Former Senator Bob Brown said,** "People are coming together to draw a line in the sand with Adani, just as previous generations did with the Franklin River dam. In fact, the Stop Adani campaign reminds me of the Franklin in many ways, the level of passion and commitment will turn this into a nationwide showdown.

"Adani's coal mine will be the most dangerous in our history, ramping up global carbon pollution precisely when emissions need to be drastically cut.

"Adani and the Federal Government have no idea of the scale of opposition and voter backlash they're facing - it is time for them to withdraw approvals for the mine and stop coal mine for good."

**New polling** shows three quarters (74.8%) of Australians want Adani to fund their own infrastructure rather than rely on a \$1 billion taxpayer subsidy ([see here](#)). This comes off the back of recent polls which reveal: the majority of people (63%) think the best thing for Australia would be to invest in large scale solar, not a new coal mine ([see here](#)), and that Adani's Carmichael coal mine is a threat to the Reef and should not go ahead (67%) ([see here](#)).

**Alliance spokesperson, ACF President and businessman Geoff Cousins AM, who flew in yesterday from a Stop Adani tour of India, said,** "Australians don't want this dangerous coal mine. It's clear from new polling that the community are with us - they know coal is a dirty, dying industry."

"The Government and the Labor Party must categorically rule out any public funding for the mine. This is no time for the Federal Government to be handing over taxpayer money for the most polluting project in Australia that will fuel global warming."

**The new polling also shows that:** the majority of people polled (60%) understand that the mining and burning of coal fuels global warming impacts such as heatwaves, bushfires, floods, droughts and more severe and frequent storms and nearly two thirds (64.1%) believe governments should wait for the consent of Aboriginal traditional owners rather than pushing ahead with the mine.

**Ms Millie Telford, National Co-Director of the Seed Indigenous Youth Climate Network said** "Adani's mine will destroy country and the climate forever, and devastate the ancestral lands, waters and culture of Aboriginal peoples in the region, as well as Indigenous communities who are already on the frontlines of climate change.

"State and federal governments are doing Adani's dirty work for them, working to ram through changes to both native title and water laws so their dangerous mine goes ahead, in the face of opposition to the mine from the Wangan and Jagalingou peoples.

"New polling shows that nearly two thirds of Australians believe that state and federal governments should wait until the consent of the Wangan and Jagalingou people is secured.

"As Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people, we have a responsibility to protect country and we are rising up against this destructive coal mine. We are proud to Stop Adani Alliance and to stand with more than two million people around the world who have already taken action to stop the mine"

## **FURTHER BACKGROUND**

[Stop Adani Alliance Declaration](#)

[Stop Adani Alliance Background Briefing](#)

[Carmichael Mine Fact Sheet](#) - fully referenced

New [ReachTEL polling](#)

[Environmental Justice Australia - The Adani Brief - What governments and financiers need to know about the Adani Group's record overseas](#)

**For more information and interviews:** Peter Stahel (Essential Media) 0408 584 439

**Photos:** Headshots of Alliance members and relevant stills ([link here](#)).

## **SHORT BIOGRAPHIES**

### **Bob Brown**

In a career of outstanding public service, Bob Brown served 16 years as a Federal Senator (1996 - 2012). He was leader of the Australian Parliamentary Greens between 2005 and 2012. Prior to this, he served ten years in the Tasmanian state parliament (1983 - 1993), including during the period of the Labor-Greens Accord of 1989 - 1990. His contribution to public life has extended far beyond his contribution in parliament - Bob has also played a role in the formation of the Wilderness Society and the Bush Heritage Foundation, and was a leader in the Franklin-Below-Gordon dam campaign.

### **Geoffrey Cousins AM (President of the Australian Conservation Foundation)**

Geoffrey Cousins is an Australian community leader, businessman, environmental activist and writer. Geoff's many achievements include leading the George Patterson Company at a time it was Australia's largest advertising agency, and overseeing the building of the Optus network. He has served on many public boards, founded the Starlight Children's Foundation in Australia, was founding chairman of Sydney's Museum of Contemporary Art, and is a former director of the Sydney Theatre Company. In 2014, he was awarded an Order of Australia for his service to the community. As an environmental activist, he is best known for his contributions to successful campaigns to stop the Gunns pulp mill in Tasmania, and Woodside's proposed gas hub in the Kimberley.

### **Amelia Telford, Seed National Co-Director**

Amelia Telford, a young Aboriginal and South Sea Islander woman from Bundjalung country, is the National Co-Director of the Seed Indigenous Youth Climate Network. Amelia is passionate about supporting a national grassroots network of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people to protect country from the impacts of fossil fuel extraction and climate change, and to be part of creating positive change for young indigenous people. She has been awarded the 2014 National NAIDOC Youth of the Year, Bob Brown Young Environmentalist of the Year (2015), and the Australian Geographic Young Conservationist of the Year (2015), all for her commitment to building a just and sustainable future for all young people.