PLANET WRECKERS

FACTSHEET

Only 20 countries are responsible for nearly 90% of planned extraction from new oil and gas fields and fracking wells through to 2050.

Among those, five global north countries with the greatest economic means to rapidly phase out fossil fuel production are responsible for a majority (51%) of carbon-dioxide (CO2) pollution threatened by new oil and gas fields through 2050. None of these countries come anywhere close to fulfilling the UN Secretary-General's demands for a 1.5°C-aligned oil and gas phase-out.



Australia is poised to be the world's eighth largest expander of oil and gas extraction from 2023 to 2050. If allowed to proceed, new oil and gas fields in Australia could cause 4 Gt of additional carbon pollution over that time period, equivalent to the lifetime emissions of 25 new coal plants.

The Barossa Gas project off the northern coast of Australia is a "carbon bomb" and test of Australia's climate policies. After receiving Australian government approval, the project was blocked in court due to a legal challenge by Indigenous Tiwi Islanders seeking to protect their cultural heritage. Yet Santos, the company behind the project, continues to push forward. The project would be so pollution intensive, it could produce more tonnes of carbon dioxide than LNG. If it moves forward, Barossa would be one of the largest gas projects in Australia in a decade.

The Australian Government continues to use taxpayers' money to fund new fossil fuel projects and infrastructure, through agencies like Export Finance Australia and the Northern Australia Investment Fund. Over the past decade they have given over a billion dollars to some of the most polluting fossil fuel projects in the world that will lock in fossil fuel dependency for decades to come and undermine Australia's climate commitments under the Paris Agreement. The Australian Government has refused to sign the COP26 Clean Energy Transition Partnership, which commits signatories to ending public support for international fossil fuel projects.

The West Australian Environmental Protection Agency recently approved an extension of nearly 50 years for Woodside Energy's North West Shelf gas processing facility – this would allow it to operate until 2070, as well as enabling new gas fields in the surrounding areas like Scarborough and Browse. By the company's own estimate, the project will cause around 4 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide-equivalent emissions, or almost a decade of of Australia's annual climate pollution

Australia expressed willingness to host COP31, alongside Pacific Island states. However, Australia's continued support for fossil fuel expansion stands in stark contrast with the leadership that Pacific Nations display on climate change and, on promoting a global call to phase out fossil fuel production and use. Pacific leaders insist that their support to Australia's bid will be conditional on increased action to end fossil fuel expansion.

