



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

21 June 2021

### **Joyce urged to listen to the National's natural constituency and embrace climate targets**

A national women's initiative, the Women's Climate Congress, has urged the new National Party leader, Barnaby Joyce, to work collaboratively with his Coalition colleagues to support a roadmap out of Australia climate policy gridlock.

Congress founder Janet Salisbury said, "Our members and many others are tired of the adversarial discourse around climate action. They want political parties to work together to develop a national plan that takes account of the science, provides a fair transition for the current workforce and a safe climate for future generations."

Dr Salisbury urged the returned Deputy Prime Minister to back the National Farmers Federation in its call for an economy-wide target of net zero carbon emissions by 2050. Further, in committing to this target the government needs to ensure a steady decline in emissions year by year in order stay within overall carbon emissions limits (carbon budget) inherent in the Paris Accord.

"We can see from the policies of our trading partners, and the directions taken at the recent G7 summit", she continued, "that coal and gas industries are phasing out internationally. Communities reliant on these industries, as well as the economy overall, will need to adjust."

"A carbon neutral future being in everyone's' interest, debates about climate policy can't wait till the pandemic is over. COVID recovery provides an opportunity to work together to embrace new industries that will support jobs while taking robust action to reduce carbon emissions," Dr Salisbury said.

Our agricultural sector and regional communities need leadership to foreshadow how they will transition to the significant carbon reduction goals needed. Framing the conversation between rural and urban communities in adversarial terms slows down our ability to collaborate towards a national plan we can all agree to," she added.

**Formed early in 2020, the Women's Climate Congress has become a diverse, nonpartisan national women's network aimed at empowering women's leadership to bring diverse voices together to find a settlement on climate action. We are working to build relationships across the political spectrum, and to promote processes that counter Australia's adversarial political discourse.**

For more information or an interview contact:

Dr Janet Salisbury

Founder, **Women's Climate Congress Ltd**

Contact: Dr Janet Salisbury, M 0416 167 280

[womensclimatecongress@gmail.com](mailto:womensclimatecongress@gmail.com)

<https://womenscongress.weebly.com/>