

**Climate Justice Taranaki's oral submission
to the Parliamentary Transport & Infrastructure Committee on
the **Offshore Renewable Energy Bill****

6 March 2025

**Climate Justice Taranaki (CJT) is not convinced that
developer-led, large-scaled offshore renewable energy is
essential for Aotearoa New Zealand's
energy decarbonisation, resilience, democracy and equity**

Offshore wind energy development - Why?

Where is the **whole-of-energy analysis**?

Impacts & opportunity loss on other renewable energy development?

Where is the **full cost-benefit analysis**?

Costs on households?

Where is the **spatial planning** to safeguard threatened species & marine ecosystems?

Energy Decarbonisation - Energy transitions or additions?

Global primary energy consumption by source

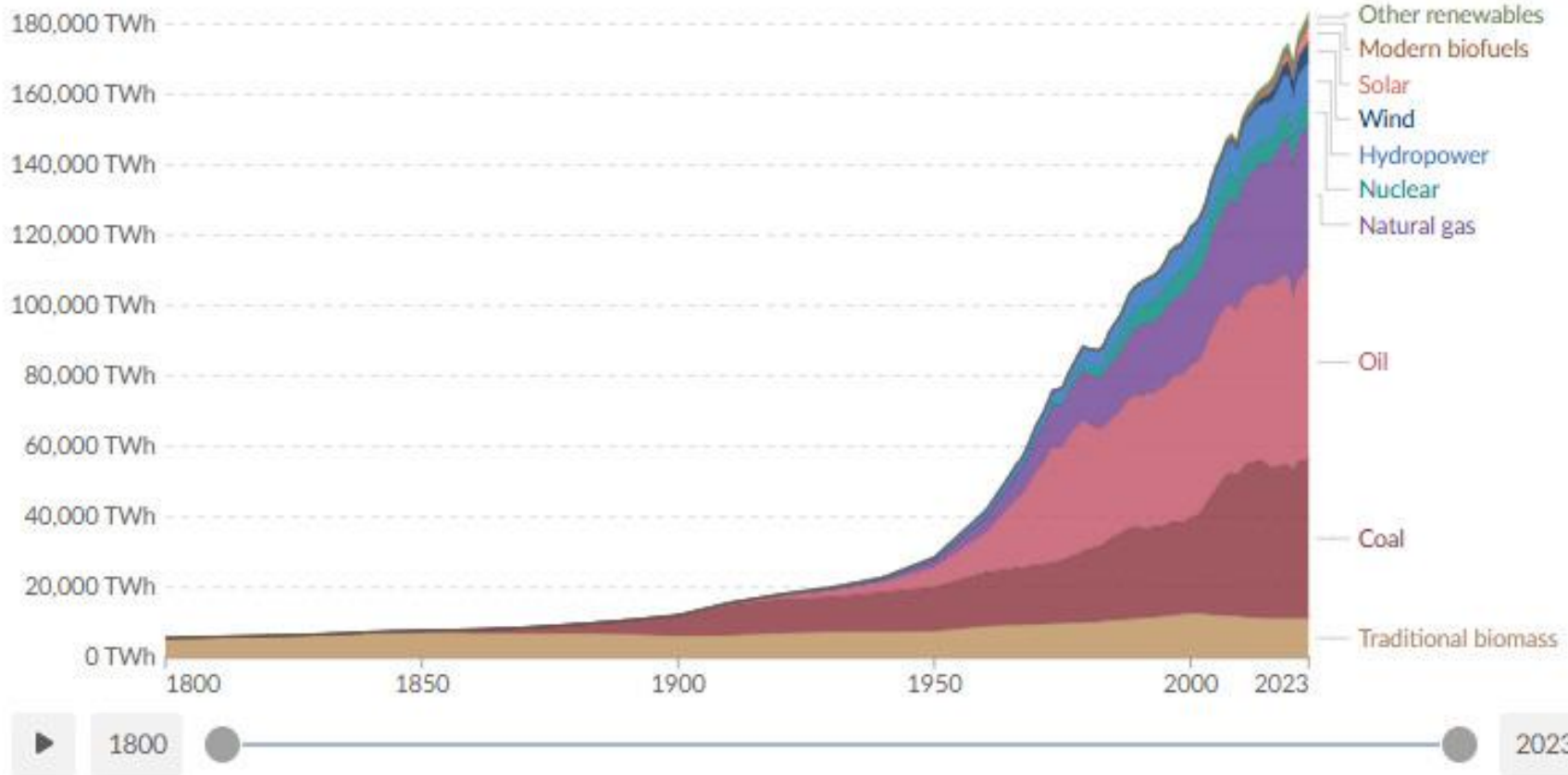
Primary energy is based on the substitution method and measured in terawatt-hours.

Our World
in Data

Table

Chart

Settings



Data source: Energy Institute - Statistical Review of World Energy (2024); Smil (2017) – [Learn more about this data](#)

Note: In the absence of more recent data, traditional biomass is assumed constant since 2015.

OurWorldinData.org/energy | CC BY

<https://ourworldindata.org/global-energy-200-years>



Energy Decarbonisation / Transition?

Offshore oil and gas ban 'worst political decision', Shane Jones says

8:22 pm on 22 November 2024

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Robin Martin, Reporter

[@robincharles](#) robin.martin@rnz.co.nz



<https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/political/534582/offshore-oil-and-gas-ban-worst-political-decision-shane-jones-says>

How the fast-track saved New Zealand coal

Private forecasts show mining giant Bathurst plans for decades of fast-tracked coal as UN calls for a moratorium on new mines



by Fox Meyer

01/11/2024

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The mothballed Escarpment mine borders the Stockton mine, both run by Bathurst. Image: Neil Silverwood

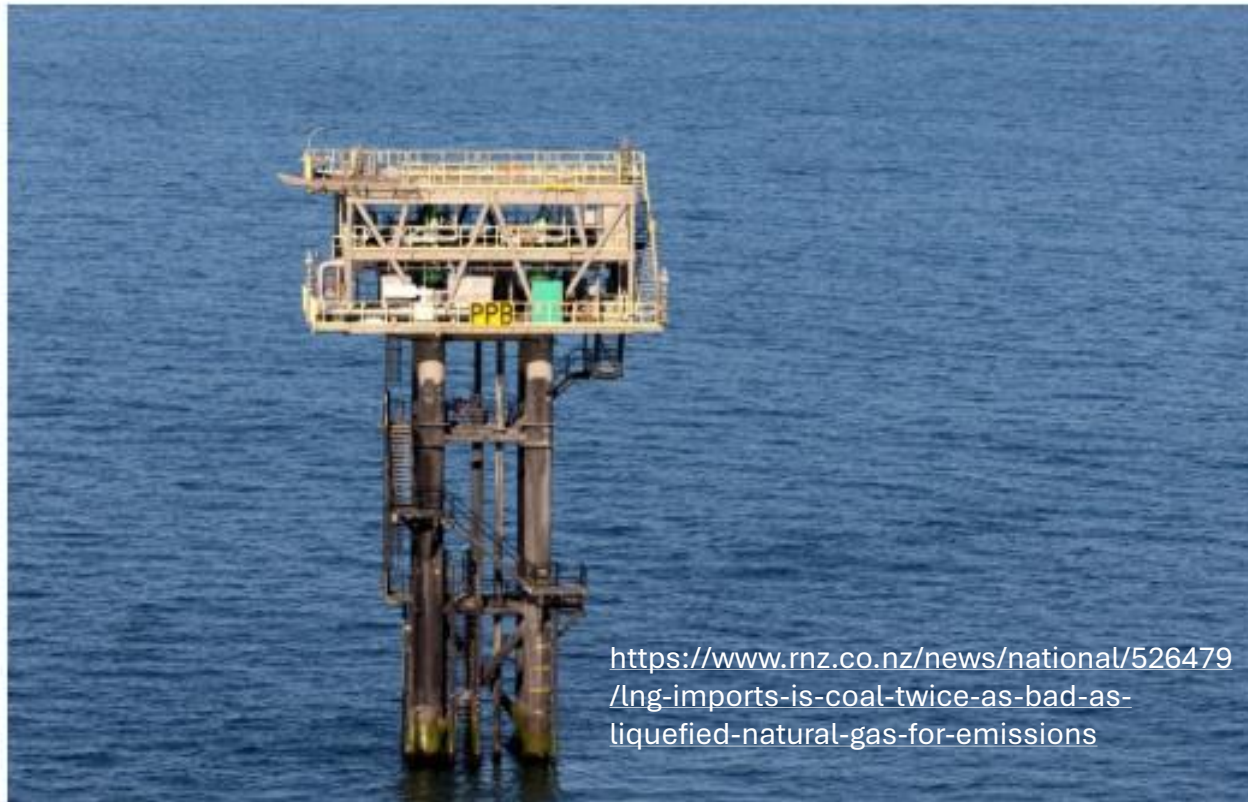
<https://newsroom.co.nz/2024/11/01/how-the-fast-track-saved-new-zealand-coal/>

LNG imports: Is coal 'twice as bad' as liquefied natural gas for emissions?

10:11 am on 29 August 2024

Eloise Gibson, Climate Change Correspondent
✉ Eloise.Gibson@rnz.co.nz

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<https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/national/526479/lng-imports-is-coal-twice-as-bad-as-liquefied-natural-gas-for-emissions>

Simeon Brown appointed prominent oil, gas lobbyist to energy savings board against official advice

22 minutes ago

Eloise Gibson, Climate Change Correspondent
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<https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/environment/543882/simeon-brown-appointed-prominent-oil-gas-lobbyist-to-energy-savings-board-against-official-advice>

Planetary boundaries & Ethical concerns

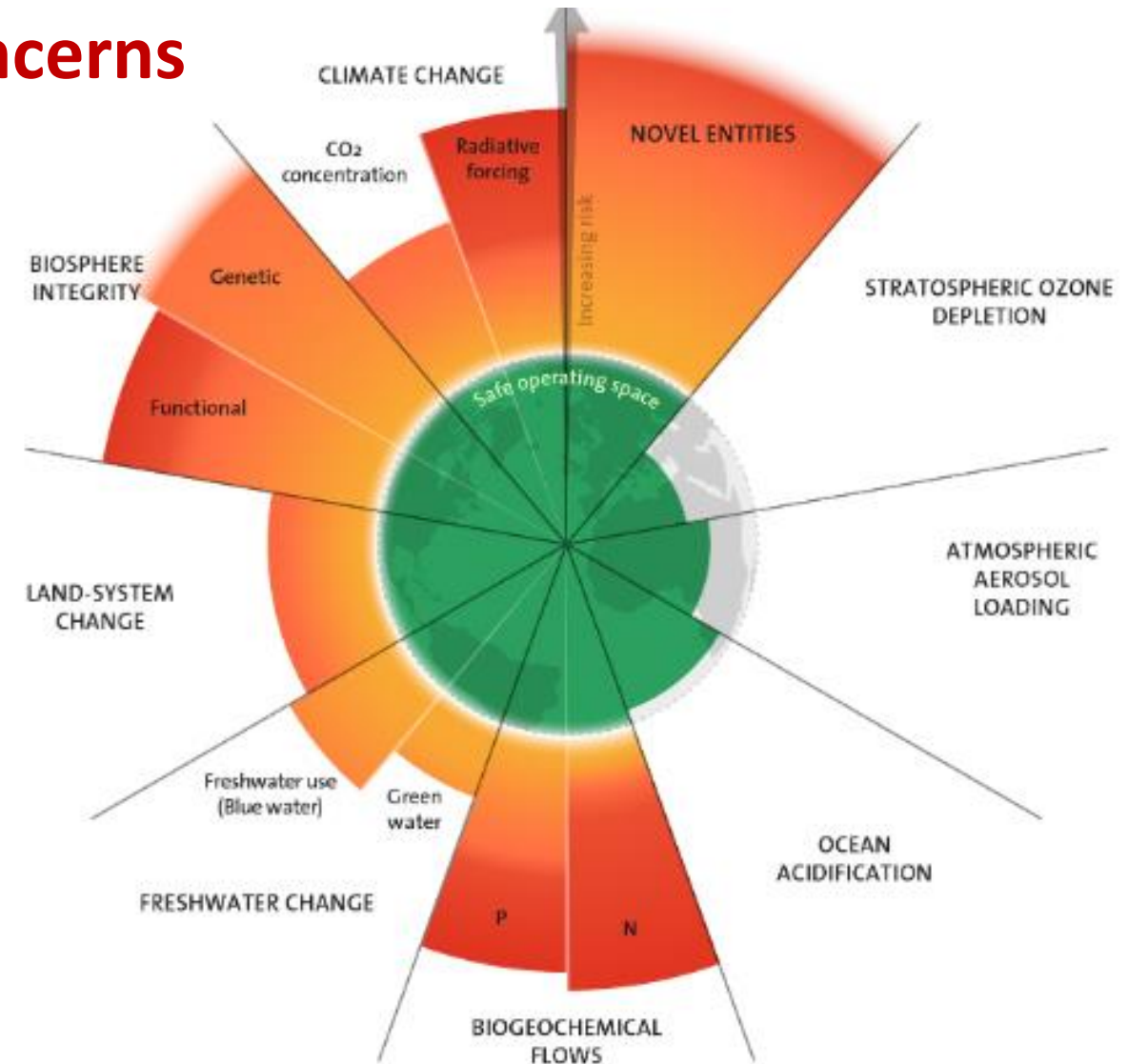
The International Energy Agency warns that the shift to a “clean” energy system will drive “a rapid rise in **demand for critical minerals** – in most cases well above anything seen previously – poses huge questions about the availability and reliability of supply”.

<https://www.iea.org/reports/the-role-of-critical-minerals-in-clean-energy-transitions/executive-summary>

Offshore windfarms require up to **10 tonnes of copper per megawatt (MW)** installed capacity, twice that of onshore installations.

<https://www.pnas.org/doi/10.1073/pnas.2205429119>

Taranaki Offshore Partnership’s proposed 1GW windfarm offshore from S. Taranaki could require 10,000 tonnes of copper.



The 2023 update to the Planetary boundaries. Licensed under CC BY-NC-ND 3.0. Credit: "Azote for Stockholm Resilience Centre, based on analysis in Richardson et al 2023". [Download the illustration here.](#)

<https://www.stockholmresilience.org/research/planetary-boundaries.html>

Energy Inequity & Hardship

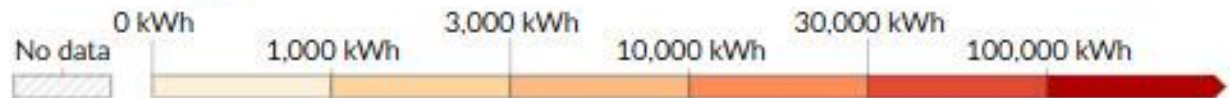
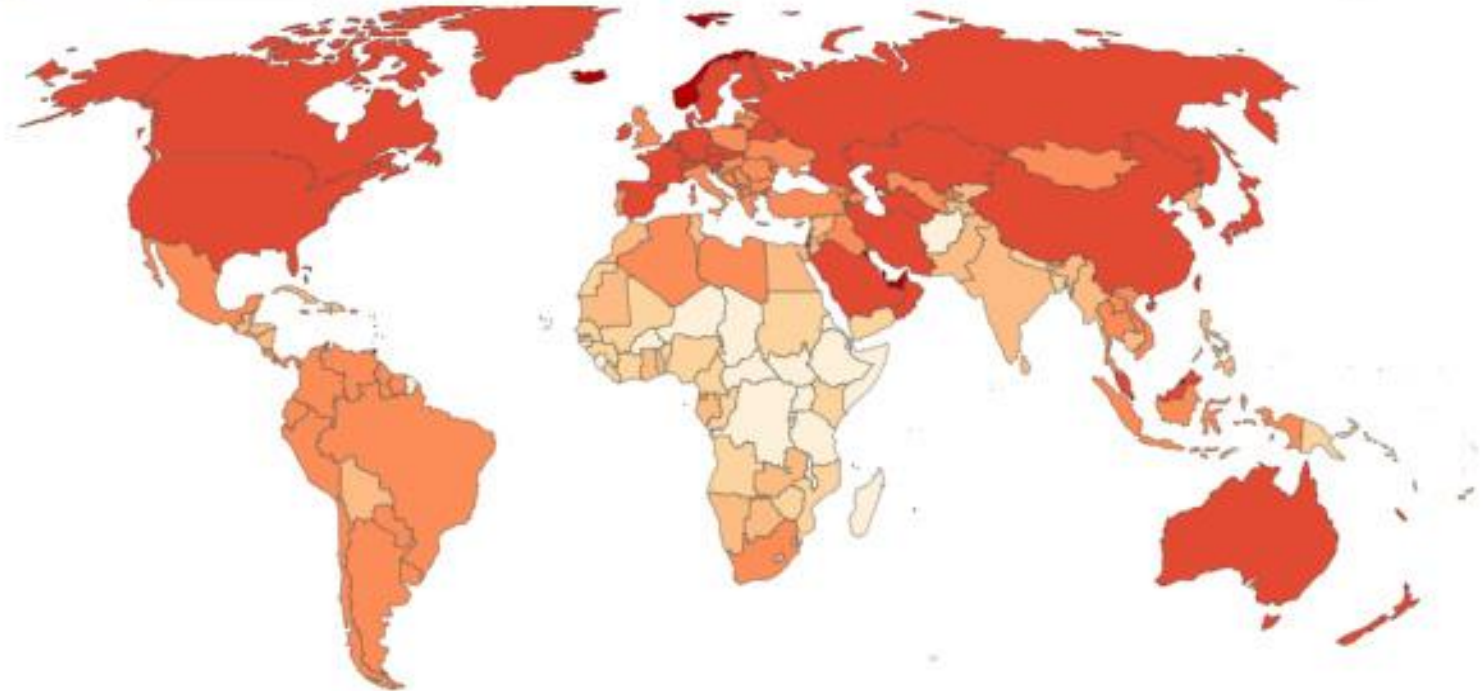
Energy use per person, 2023

Measured in kilowatt-hours per person. Here, energy refers to primary energy using the substitution method.

Our World
in Data

Table Map Chart

World



1965

2023

Data source: U.S. Energy Information Administration (2023); Energy Institute - Statistical Review of World Energy (2024); Population based on various sources (2023) - [Learn more about this data](#)

OurWorldinData.org/energy | CC BY

There are vast differences in energy consumption across the world.

e.g. The ratio between the US and India's per capita consumption is around 12.

<https://ourworldindata.org/per-capita-energy>



Offshore wind energy development – Costs burden

*“Investments in enabling **ports and energy transmission infrastructure** will need to lead the development of offshore wind farms,”* PWC National Impact Study (2024)

<https://www.porttaranaki.co.nz/news/offshore-wind-opportunity-too-important-to-let-sail-past>

*“...developers to advise and collaborate with the government on the **support required to derisk projects and secure finance**.*

*In a market already heavily reliant on renewable generation... critical for the government to provide the **required level of certainty**... to ensure projects remain viable”*

<https://www.xodusgroup.com/this-is-what-we-do/aotearoa-new-zealand-development-of-the-offshore-wind-supply-chain/>

*“...in Australia, we find that CfDs [**Contracts for Differences**] are a regressive form of **taxation** used by state governments to fund renewable energy commitments. We illustrate the **impact that CfDs have on different energy users** and provide recommendations to reform renewable energy policies to provide greater **social equity**.”*

https://www.griffith.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0033/1869126/No.2023-14-Contracts-for-Difference.pdf

Alternatives for Energy Resilience, Democracy & Equity

Why solar makes sense

It's cheaper, gives us the extra electricity we need to move away from fossil fuels, and improves the country's energy security.



Dominic Thorn



Ben Fahy

February 24, 2025

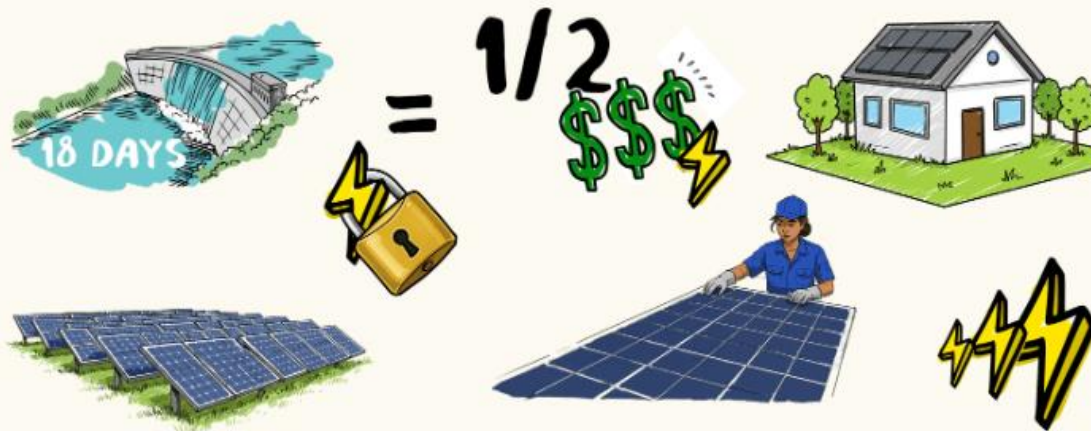
Investing in Tomorrow: The Electrification Opportunity

Dr Saul Griffith
Josh Ellison
Michelle Peterson
Paul Conway

Peer reviewed by Geoff Simmons

August 2024

Rewiring
Aotearoa



*“... an opportunity to save thousands on cost of living, and could save New Zealand around **\$10.7 billion per year by 2040.**”*

11% DRY YEAR INCREASE

DAYS OF HYDRO STORAGE

IF 10% OF HOMES
HAD A 9KW
SOLAR SYSTEM

=



IF 80% OF HOMES
HAD A 9KW
SOLAR SYSTEM

=



IF 10,000 FARMS
HAD A 300KW
SOLAR SYSTEM

=



IF 25,000 FARMS
HAD A 300KW
SOLAR SYSTEM

=



<https://www.rewiring.nz/watt-now/why-solar-makes-sense>

<https://www.rewiring.nz/tomorrow>

Our requests

A whole-of-energy analysis

- **Comparative full life-cycle assessments of different technologies**
- **Impacts & opportunity loss on other renewable energy development**
- **Incorporate energy demand reduction**

A full cost-benefit analysis

Costs on households, especially low income households

Spatial planning

To safeguard threatened species & marine ecosystems