We call on the Australian Parliament to declare a climate emergency and initiate a society-wide World War Two scale climate mobilisation.

We have just experienced the hottest year on record. In February, there was an alarming global temperature spike above 1.6°C of warming, just months after the Paris Climate talks set an aim of not exceeding 1.5°C. Our Great Barrier Reef and ancient world-heritage Tasmanian forests are dying from climate heating.

We must devote all the resources necessary to preserve a liveable planet and to protect the vulnerable from the dangerous climate impacts already locked in. Carbon emissions must be reduced to zero within years, not decades, and we must safely draw down the excess carbon dioxide already in the atmosphere.

The survival of ecosystems and the future of human civilisation now hang in the balance. Parliament must agree to make action on global warming Australia’s highest priority, nationally and internationally.