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Reactions to extension of Eraring power station continue

More reactions are flowing to the extension of Eraring power station in NSW to August 2027. The **Australian Conservation Foundation's** national climate policy advisor, **Annika Reynolds**, said:

Now is not the time for a two year delay, it's the opposite – the Minns government must speed up the renewables transition and not fallback on unreliable coal clunkers like Eraring.

Eraring is the largest coal-fired power plant in Australia. It contributes almost 3% of Australia's total greenhouse gas emissions and just last year, the mercury pollution rose by 130% which is bad for local health...

It is positive to see the Minns government commit \$8.4m to accelerate big battery connections but it is a pittance compared to the hundreds of millions of dollars it'll take to prop up Eraring beyond its closure date.



An aerial view of Eraring Power Station on the shores of Lake Macquarie in NSW. Photograph: Blake Sharp-Wiggins/The Guardian

Meanwhile **Tim Buckley**, director of independent public interest think tank **Climate Energy Finance**, labelled the decision “the devastating consequence of a decade of government planning failure.”

Critically, this decision is a powerful disincentive to clean energy investors that sends exactly the wrong signal. It will act as a deterrent to private capital looking for opportunities to invest in the energy transition as the world rapidly decarbonises ... The NSW government has now left action on transition and a decision so late that they have no other option than to capitulate.

https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/live/2024/may/23/australia-politics-live-melbourne-students-pro-palestine-camp-university-australians-repatriated-new-caledonia-icc-arrest-warrent-bhp-suv-renewables?CMP=share_btn_url&page=with%3Ablock-664e8dfb8f0859c6d084143a#block-664e8dfb8f0859c6d084143a