

## **Jim Walker sub to LGA Review**

There is a critical need to build a plan to cope with global warming into all levels of government, now.

Global warming has been an issue since at least the 1960s but little practical recognition of it is yet evident in Victorian governance. Quite the opposite in fact, with government policy to increase population and fossil fuel based energy use.

We have to learn to live within the boundaries of the natural environments we have. This means stabilising human populations at a sustainable level, according to the technology available and levels of consumption possible. As this is not happening we are already in an extremely dire situation.

We can anticipate that catastrophic wildfires will increase from now on and at a rate higher than most people anticipate. Lack of water, increased temperatures, wildfire, and ecosystem collapse will drive farmers from the land. The subsidies to keep them there will have to cease.

Given that temperatures well above 40<sup>0</sup>C and winds over 100kph are likely to occur on extreme days in future it is quite possible that fire storms will develop in cities.

Our comfortable air-conditioned colonial societies, still living in a greener part of Europe in their mind's eye, need a reality check. This is the driest habitable continent on Earth.