

PRESS RELEASE
EXTINCTION REBELLION CAPE TOWN
14 NOV 2022



**extinction
rebellion
CAPE TOWN**

COP 27 WATER DAY

*"We are in the fight of our lives.
And we are losing.
Greenhouse gas emissions keep growing.
Global temperatures keep rising.
And our planet is fast approaching tipping points that will make climate chaos irreversible.
We are on a highway to climate hell with our foot still on the accelerator. "*
Antonio Guterres, COP27 7 November, 2022

What? On the COP27 "Water Day", we will be staging a short piece of street theatre to highlight the fact that Fossil Fuel "Business as Usual" is leading to climate disasters, such as SEA LEVEL RISE (which is on the COP27 agenda for today).

Who? Extinction Rebellion Cape Town

Where? Glencairn Tidal Pool, Glencairn, Cape Town CBD

When? Monday 14 Nov 2022, 9:45-10:15

Contact persons:

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Press Statement

The theme for today's action is a reference to the fact that a wealthy minority of the world's countries and corporations are the principal cause of the climate and ecological crisis while its adverse effects fall first and foremost on the poor who have done least to contribute to the crisis. These corporations and governments do not care that the world is already facing climate disasters, such as sea level rise which is swallowing island states and submerging coastal cities around the world, as long as they can continue making obscene amounts of profit.

The science is clear: we need to stop burning fossil fuels immediately and move to clean, renewable energy, or face even more catastrophic climate breakdown. Yet, the political will to ensure that this happens is lacking, and fossil fuel lobbyists are flooding COP27 yet again to make sure that their interests (and profits) are protected.

Extinction Rebellion Cape Town is calling on our president to TELL THE TRUTH, by immediately declaring a climate and ecological emergency. The “climate literacy” in South Africa very low, with most people being completely unaware of what we will be facing. South Africa is heating at more than twice the average global rate. By calling it what it is – AN EMERGENCY – all South Africans will be made aware of the immense scale of the challenge we are facing, and will be able to act together with purpose to ensure a liveable future for all.

Extinction Rebellion Cape Town is also calling on our government, and the governments of the world, to move away from fossil fuels immediately, and to rapidly transition to renewable energy, which is now cheaper, cleaner, safer and more people-centred than fossil fuels. There is still hope to avert the worst of the climate catastrophe, but we need to ACT NOW, and with haste, as if our lives depend on it. Because it does.

—END

Cassi Goodman

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Boiler plate

Extinction Rebellion (XR) is a global network and believes it is a citizen’s duty to rebel using peaceful civil disobedience when faced with criminal inactivity by its Government. The Rebellion centres on demands for Government to tell the truth about our dire situation and to act accordingly, including to decarbonise our economy by 2025, in a mobilisation of war time like proportion.

We declare a non-violent rebellion on behalf of life itself and against our criminally negligent government. Our government’s abject failure to protect citizens and the next generations from unimaginable suffering brought about by climate breakdown and social collapse is no longer tolerable.

The group’s key demands are:

- The Government must admit the truth about the ecological emergency, reverse all policies inconsistent with addressing climate change, and work alongside the media to communicate with citizens
- The Government must enact legally binding policy measures to reduce carbon emissions to net zero by 2025 and to reduce consumption levels
- A national Citizen’s Assembly to oversee the changes, as part of creating a democracy fit for purpose.

Website: www.extinctionrebellion.org.za