

Andrew Bolt: Alarmist Greens are wrong on global warming again

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THE Greens are vultures. They flap in to feed off every natural disaster, screeching: “Global warming!” They’ve done it again with the fires in NSW and Victoria and the cyclone that hit Darwin.

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[MASSIVE STORM DEVASTATES RURAL COMMUNITIES IN VICTORIA’S WEST](#)

[GREENS LEADER RICHARD DI NATALE WON’T STAND DOWN AFTER BY-ELECTION LOSS](#)

With the fires at Tathra still burning, Greens leader Richard di Natale on Monday accused the Turnbull government of doing “everything it can to slow this country’s transition to renewable energy”. Australians were “bearing the brunt of their failure”, he claimed. “In the last few days we’ve seen bushfires savage Tathra, Bega and South West Victoria. We’ve seen a cyclone hit Darwin.”

Di Natale made three points there — each one false. How typical.

First, a cyclone hitting Darwin is not a sign of warming. Even the Bureau of Meteorology admits its warming models actually “project fewer tropical cyclones in the Australia region in the future”. Get that? Global warming means fewer cyclones, not more. Indeed, the BOM reports a steady fall in the number of cyclones here over the past 30 years — and fewer severe cyclones, too.



With the fires at Tathra still burning, Greens leader Richard di Natale on Monday accused the Turnbull government of doing ‘everything it can to slow this country’s transition to renewable energy’. Picture: AAP

Secondly, Di Natale is also wrong about the fires. True, Tathra residents lost 69 homes. Thank heavens no one was killed. But in the past century we’ve had many worse fires, making these far from unusual or evidence of a more dangerous climate. In 1939, for instance, the Black Friday fires killed 75 people and the heatwave that summer was so extreme — reaching 47.8 degrees in Sydney — that more than 400 other Australians also died. Never since has Sydney been that hot, despite all the Greens’ talk of global warming.

Di Natale’s third point is even madder — that these fires and the cyclone are the price we pay for the government’s bad global warming policies. In fact, nothing Australia could do would make any measurable difference to temperatures. We’re just too small, making up only 1.3 per cent of the world’s emissions.

What’s more, satellite data shows the world’s temperature last month was just 0.2 degrees above the average for the past 30 years.

What tiny part of that tiny warming (some of it natural) could we have changed by cutting our emissions even more? And what difference would that have made to the fires? So Di Natale is either a liar or a fool, in my opinion.



If the Greens were genuinely interested in what fed these fires, they'd ask what some locals are asking — whether authorities were too green to do proper hazard reduction burns. Picture: Gary Ramage

Now, if the Greens were genuinely interested in what fed these fires, they'd ask what some locals are asking — whether authorities were too green to do proper hazard reduction burns. Or they'd ask why the Bega Valley Shire Council has a 30-page document outlining its rules and regulations against clearing trees. Or they'd ask why the Rural Fire Service initially turned down offers of help from the urban-based Fire and Rescue NSW.

But no, the Greens are too eager to beat up their warming scare to ask such practical questions. And they've done that for years. They're always the vultures when there's death and destruction.

Ten years ago, when we had a drought, then Greens leader Bob Brown blamed global warming, claiming he had “data indicating that drought was the new norm across Australia’s greatest food bowl” — the Murray Darling basin. Indeed, he said in 2006 we faced there “the spectre of permanent drought”. When the rains instead returned and floods hit Brisbane in 2011, Brown didn’t miss a beat. This, too, he claimed, was global warming at work and coal companies should pay for the flood damage they’d caused.

What a phony. Once again, those Brisbane floods were far from the worst to hit the city. In 2013, Greens leader Christine Milne blamed global warming for the floods of Cyclone Yasi, as well as for the dry that fed the later fires in NSW. Picture: Matthew Newton

There had been a higher flood in 1974 and an even higher one in 1841 — 150 years before the Greens got their global warming religion. It’s as if the Greens have no memory at all of the floods and droughts and fires Australia has endured for centuries. Every disaster for them is the first and worst and sign of a climate in chaos.

And so in 2013 Greens leader Christine Milne blamed global warming for the floods of Cyclone Yasi, as well as for the dry that fed the later fires in NSW.

Greens MP Adam Bandt last year likewise blamed global warming for Cyclone Debbie and accused the Turnbull government of not doing enough “to stop cyclones becoming more violent”. Yet just the year before — 2016 — Australia for the first time recorded not one severe cyclone. If that’s global warming, then good.

Enough. The Green vultures have feasted too long on our disasters. Drive out these scavengers.