

Statement by

## Karin Geiselhart

Dr Karin Geiselhart has a Phd in electronic democracy and did post-doctoral research on e-business. Formerly a journalist in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, she has also lectured at the Australian National University in electronic marketing. Currently she is an Al Gore Ambassador for climate change, and involved in green property development and community green entrepreneurial activities.

Hi again Helen,

I've now had a look at your slides, and was angered and saddened by the monstrous idea of such an extension of Siena airport. Clearly no need for it, and the picture of the enormous plane over the historic building said it all. When will such misguided development stop? Because a government with *coraggio*, as the poster calls for, wouldn't consider such a proposal. Someone stands to make big money, or at least rip off the public purse, at the expense of more sustainable lifestyles.

Today informed people are more likely to question the destruction of their environments and livelihoods: it is a question of whether enough of us wake up and get active before too much is gone.

A few years ago I was active in a group to stop a charcoal factory\* from being built on the south coast of N.S.W. That, too, was a ridiculous idea, and it was stopped, largely through public action. But this weekend I found out they are proposing a biofuel energy station\* instead, which would also be very polluting and nonsensical. Another battle coming up.

Let's keep talking, I'm interested to know how it goes with the airport, we seldom hear that sort of news from overseas.

cheers,

Karin

\* burning native trees; anything to sell the wood and make money, clear the land for houses eventually.