

# DIRTY

## Introduction

The Green Movement does not like many things. Rather than explain their reasons for their dislikes in a rational way using facts and logic, they prefer to mislead and deceive us, arouse our emotions, and have us react irrationally.

To achieve their goals, they misuse our language. This Reading looks at this language deceit and their misuse of the word “dirty”.

## Our Dirty Life

Planet Earth is dirty. So, not surprisingly, living here is a dirty business. We wash our bodies on a regular basis because they are dirty. We wash our clothes because they get dirty. We clean our houses because they get dirty.

Most activities we undertake requires us to ‘clean up’ after we have finished. When we defecate, we wipe our bums when we are finished because our bums are dirty. When we prepare a meal and eat it, we ‘clean up’ when we are finished. When we work in the laundry we clean up after we are finished. When we work in the garden, we become dirty and clean up when we are finished. We wash our cars because they become dirty.

Getting dirty is just one of the costs of living and as a necessary part of life we rarely pay much attention to getting dirty. Unless of course it is a new and a worse “dirty” than we are use to - then we do talk about it.

As cavemen we were not fussed about getting dirty, but after finding that some “dirties” could make us sick and even kill us, we became interested in becoming clean. Recently, this drive towards cleanliness is also undertaken for aesthetic reasons. We want “whiter than white shirts”.

When the Green movement wants to vilify anything, they will often use the word ‘dirty’ so we will agree with them - even if the “anything” is not dirty. Because of our growing irrationality and our inability to think critically, we are easily misled and deceived in this way.

## Dirty Carbon Dioxide

Carbon dioxide is a colourless, odourless, and invisible gas, yet the Green Movement insists it is “dirty”. If it were to kill humanity you might call it dangerous or harmful, but not “dirty”.

We now know increasing carbon dioxide in the atmosphere in not going to cause catastrophic global warming but does have several beneficial effects. Cereal crop yields have already increased by 5-30%, and the extra carbon dioxide is

greening the planet with plants penetrating areas in which they could not previously grow.

So, the word “dirty” is used to engender emotions and stop us thinking about why it is considered dirty or dangerous.

Using visual deceit, the Greens will fill a room with black balloons to show how dirty it is and to exaggerate the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. They will alter photos of cooling towers to show black smoke coming out of them and forming a black dirty cloud above the cooling towers – all to mislead us. So, is carbon dioxide ‘dirty’?

Every breath we take we exhale carbon dioxide. Do we clean our mouth because it is dirty? Does our dentist encourage oral hygiene because of dirty carbon dioxide? Every carbonated drink we consume has carbon dioxide in it – do we clean ourselves after drinking? Do farmers growing plants in glasshouses with 4-6 times more carbon dioxide than normal notice the significantly increased ‘dirtiness’?

**Carbon Dioxide is not dirty.**

### **Dirty Conventional Power**

Let us search for the “dirtys”. We, the consumer, have been using conventional power all our lives. Did we ever have to clean the power outlets in our house because dirty electricity was coming out from there? Did we spend time cleaning all our electrical devices because they became “dirty” from using “dirty” electricity? More importantly, did we do less cleaning once “clean Green” electricity came into our house to power our electrical devices?

**No. Because the electricity is the same and is exceptionally clean!**

This is not a cute conclusion which avoids the issue. As consumers, we are being asked to pay thousands of extra dollars for “clean” electricity that is four times more expensive [1] than “dirty” electricity. What are we getting for our money – we not doing less cleaning – we are not getting “dirty” or “clean”? We cannot see the difference as the electricity is the same.

So, this “dirty” stuff must be down in the power stations and we, collectively, are paying billions of dollars to clean the power stations. Boy, they must be dirty to cost this much to ‘clean up’.

How many power stations are there in Australia? Twenty, at the time of writing.

Before the 1970s, such power stations were emitting “dirty stuff” from their chimneys that could affect the health of Australians. Consequently this “dirty” stuff was identified as pollutants in legislation and power companies were forced to filter

all these ‘dirty’ pollutants out. So, post 1980s, power stations were not releasing anything into the atmosphere that was considered “dirty”.

Once again, 24 million Australians are not becoming “dirty” from using conventional power but are being asked to pay an extraordinary amount to “clean up” 20 power stations and a few hundred employees. Boy, they must be really dirty.

Stepping into the power stations and moving backwards in their process of manufacturing electricity we find ourselves in the generator hall that will contain a handful of generators that produce the electricity. The generator halls are probably cleaner than many kitchens, bathrooms, and laundries in most Australian houses. Nothing to “clean up” here.

Steam power is used to spin the generators and here we find some “dirt”. Coal or gas is burnt to boil the water to produce the steam to operate the generators. The filters capturing the pollutants need to be cleaned and the residual ash from burning coal needs to be “cleaned up”. Like a fireplace in winter within our homes.

This cleaning process is not new and the cost of “cleaning up” is already reflected in the cost of ‘cheap’ conventional power.

So, tell me again – “Why are we being charged thousands of extra dollars to buy clean electricity at four times the price when we have already paid to “clean up” “dirty” conventional power so it would be “clean” conventional power?

## **Conclusion**

By using language deceit and the word “dirty” we have been misled and deceived into believing that conventional electricity is so dirty that we should embrace an alternate power system, that is very expensive, inefficient, unreliable and cannot meet baseload power on many occasions – which then needs a conventional power backup!

This decision is not rational. The decisions made to get where we are today display the growing irrationality our society, and our inability to think critically.

First, we behaved like children believing the Henny Penny story that carbon dioxide was going to destroy humanity by the year 2000. Then when it was obvious that the Green theory had been falsified dozens of times and all their alarmists’ predictions had failed, we still acted irrationally and emotively.

Waving a banner with the word “dirty” printed on it we have conflated the original scare campaign with concerns about pollution – which no longer exists. Forty years later, we are building a triplicated power system for Australia that is awfully expensive, inefficient and unreliable – we couldn’t do worse if we tried.

These efforts have already seen consumers moving from having the top 5% cheapest electricity in the World, to falling to the bottom 30% of the most expensive electricity in the World. And our fall has not finished. For what? For nothing.

**Notes:**

- 1. Alternate power costs vary all over the World within a range of 3-8 times more than conventional power. Some of the cost differences are caused by; the size of the subsidies, the mix of renewables, and geographical locations. In Canberra Australia, alternate power is four times more expensive. Other locations in Australia are either more or less expensive than Canberra.**