The independent expert panel’s recommendations for emissions reduction targets of 32 – 39 % below 2005 levels by 2025, and 45 – 60 % below 2005 levels by 2030 are based on the assumption of a remaining carbon budget. There is no remaining carbon budget. The earth is already too hot. These targets – if agreed upon – demonstrate how the government is failing to protect us and future generations in the face of the climate and ecological emergency.

Extinction Rebellion is an international movement that uses non-violent civil disobedience to persuade governments to act on the climate and ecological emergency. We have three demands:

§ We demand that the Victorian government tell the truth by declaring a climate and ecological emergency and honestly inform the public that we are facing a threat to human civilisation that imperils the life of most people on Earth.

Our leaders, including those in the current Victorian Government, have promoted the falsehood that climate change is not a serious or imminent threat to our survival. We are in a climate and ecological emergency and the population deserves to be informed.

§ The Earth is already too hot. It is reckless beyond imagining to continue making our planet hotter. We demand that all levels of government, including the Victorian government, work to rapidly reduce greenhouse gas emissions to zero by 2025. We must also commence the massive task of removing excess greenhouse gases already in the atmosphere until we restore a safe climate.

Urgent action is not only required but achievable. We must move to an emergency footing to address this threat to our survival.

§ To stop our democracy from being further corrupted by vested interests and support our political representatives to protect us, we demand that the Victorian government create and be led by the decisions of a Citizens’ Assembly on climate and ecological justice.

We need a Citizens’ Assembly to initiate, direct and oversee the implementation of those solutions that governments are clearly unwilling or unable to achieve without such assistance.