

Industry Breakfast 2021

Dr Richard Denniss, former Executive Director, The Australia Institute



Dr Richard Denniss is the Chief Economist and former Executive Director of The Australia Institute. He is a prominent Australian economist, author and public policy commentator, and a former Associate Professor in the Crawford School of Public Policy at ANU. He has been described by Mark Kenny in the Sydney Morning Herald as "a constant thorn in the side of politicians on both sides, due to his habit of skewering dodgy economic justifications for policy".

Phil Woods, Strategy Manager - Resource Recovery & Circular Economy, Sydney Water

Phil's role as Strategy Manager is to lead the Development and delivery of Sydney Water's strategic direction and goals in the areas of Circular Economy and Resource Recovery. Phil has recently led the development of Sydney Water's Net Carbon Zero Plan. Aside from a target of net zero Operational emissions by 2030, this plan will help make Sydney Water an international leader in the use of energy and the production of renewable energy from waste. Phil has been with Sydney Water for 14 years and holds degrees in Mathematics and Environmental Management.



Industry Breakfast 2021

Lisa McLean, Chief Executive Officer, NSW Circular



Lisa is a circular economy and zero-carbon business transformation leader. She has been successfully advising industry and governments in developing new policy frameworks and regulations that bring about market change to enable the circular zero-carbon economy over the past 14 years. This work has covered the energy, water, waste and mobility sectors in the UK and Australia.

Lisa established and led the Open Cities Alliance, a peak industry association with unique membership from government to private sector and research organisations. Open Cities advocates for the circular economy, prosumer rights and new local utility and mobility precinct approaches.

In Australia, Lisa initiated and established the Australian Solar Thermal Association (AUSTELA), advised electric mobility providers, and worked with Flow Systems from a start-up sustainable water utility to its major role in shaping a new sustainable water and now multi-utility market.

Starting her career as a political journalist working in the national press gallery, Lisa moved to advising ministers and premiers on education and climate policy, before heading to the UK to help establish the Clinton Climate Initiative.