

if they had persisted with it'



Making their point to passing motorists on Victoria Rd, Gladesville, are Lynda Whiteman, Pamela Reeves, Franca Spangaro McAllan and Jo Spangaro of the Ryde Gladesville Climate Change Action Group.

Ms Spangaro said she was disappointed the Rudd Government had scrapped the insulation scheme and delayed the introduction of the ETS, suggesting the government should work harder.

"This government is happy to just shut things down when they become difficult and it's completely unnecessary," she said.

The group, along with 70 similar organisations across Australia, is calling on the government to choose a cleaner energy future.

"Other countries are leaving Australia in the dust," she said.

"People talk about China being a polluter but China is really becoming a leader in renewable technology and installing renewing technology."

Ms Burt said her initial reaction to the scrapping of the ETS was "deep disappointment".

"However, on further reflection, I realised that they were actually taking the position that politicians have to take to represent the majority view of the community," Ms Burt said.

"Today, 70 per cent of people say they are concerned about climate

change, but when they are then asked the question 'are you prepared to pay more for your electricity, to address this concern?', the majority of the people say 'no'.

"So I don't think there was enough community support for the government to have the level of confidence they needed to have to actually persist."

"It would have been brave and courageous if they had persisted with it. I think they were just being realistic and felt the public was not demanding that anymore."

Fisherman rescued after fall from cliff

BRIAN KARLOVSKY

A CARLINGFORD rock fisherman has had a narrow escape after he fell off a cliff just days after five rock anglers tragically lost their lives at Catherine Bay Head.

The 60-year-old man from Carlingford was climbing down the cliff at Blue Fish Point, North Head, and fell while negotiating a steep rock face, injuring his arm.

The fall sparked a large land, air and sea response by emergency services.

Manly local area commander Supt Dave Darcy said ambulance paramedics who were landed at the foot of the cliff decided the safest course of action was to walk the man to safety, rather than airlift him.

"I was concerned about the swell," he said. "It was really big and looked unpredictable."

Supt Darcy said he was surprised anyone would consider rock fishing at North Head, given the unpredictability of the swell and with the shadow of the deaths of five rock fishermen at Catherine Hill Bay, south of Newcastle, on Sunday still hang-

ing heavily over the angling community.

A 61-year-old woman, a 63-year-old man and their 25-year-old son, all from Carlingford, were among the five anglers who went missing on Sunday, May 9.

A NSW Police spokeswoman said the bodies of four of the five anglers had been found but one was still missing. The search was scaled back last Thursday and abandoned the following day until new information emerged.

All of the bodies were found at Flat Bed Rock at the southern end of Catherine Hill Bay, 125km north of Sydney.

Two members of the group from Carlingford immigrated from Hong Kong and regularly went fishing in Catherine Hill Bay.

Australian National Sportsfishing Association safety officer Stan Konstantaras said quite a few deaths attributed to rock fishing were the result of people trying to climb up or down cliffs near rock shelves.

"The danger is always there it's all part of the package," he said. "No matter how experienced you are, you have to remain keenly aware of the conditions."



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