

A FICKLE FUTURE

A recent LIV forum heard worsening climate change will convert the great Amazon Basin to desert and allow boats to sail straight through the Antarctic Circle.

But the sobering message was that while humanity probably cannot avoid a disaster, it can possibly avoid a catastrophe.

According to forum speakers the answer is to act, and act now.

The 22 April LIV CPD Green Forum discussed current laws both curbing and accelerating global warming and possible compliance regimes as regulators consider enforcing carbon reduction and other environmental controls.

Speakers suggested governments should be forced to think globally and cooperate, companies and individuals should act responsibly and green buildings should be considered as part of the solution.

Lovegrove & Lord managing partner and Victorian Building

Practices Board chair Kim Lovegrove presented a synopsis of the Rudd government's draft *Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme (CPRS) Bill*.

The CPRS aims to reduce Australia's greenhouse gas emissions to between 5 per cent and 15 per cent below 2000 levels by 2020 and is scheduled to be in force by early 2010.

The scheme proposes to target the 1 per cent of businesses responsible for three-quarters of all emissions.

Fellow Lovegrove & Lord partners Andrew Lord and John Perry also addressed the forum.

Mr Lord spoke on the science behind global warming, important climate change reports and government attitudes.

Mr Perry focused on judicial decisions made around sustainable living and carbon reduction and the importance of sustainable building.

The keynote speaker was Victoria's Building Commis-



Green Forum forum chair and former head of the Climate Institute of New York and ex-Victorian government minister Tom Roper and speakers Lovegrove & Lord managing partner and Victorian Building Practices Board chair Kim Lovegrove and Lovegrove & Lord partner Andrew Lord

sioner and World Green Council chair Tony Arnel and forum chair was former head of the Climate Institute of New York and ex-Victorian government minister Tom Roper.

LIV Professional Development general manager Julie McCormack said the inaugural key-issue forum, held at the LIV, was seen as an opportunity to introduce a topic of current importance

to practitioners from a range of differing backgrounds.

She said it also gave practitioners an opportunity to create business with professionals from other industries.

The next forum will be held at the LIV on 16 June and will discuss the Rudd government's *Fair Work (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Bill*. For more information on the forum, see www.cpd.liv.asn.au.