

Competing conflicts in climate change adaptation

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'We should be on the offensive' – James Hansen calls for wave of climate lawsuits

By Jonathan Watts

Veteran climate scientist says litigation campaign against government and fossil fuels companies is essential alongside political mobilisation in fighting 'growing, mortal threat' of global warming

A call to arms
in 2015:
“litigate to
mitigate”



▲ James Hansen in Bonn: he and his fellow Nasa researchers first raised the alarm about global warming in the 1980s. Photograph: Friedemann Vogel/EPA

“There is a trend towards more litigation around climate change, and probably the lack of political action in the United States may increase that trend,” said Sophie Marjanac, a London-based lawyer at non-profit environmental law group ClientEarth.

“Where there’s an abdication of leadership on climate action, I think the courts will have a greater role to play,” she told the Thomson Reuters Foundation.

Challenges of seeing litigation as leadership

20 years of Belongil Litigation

- 2018 judgment:
balancing competing
public and private
interest in the coastline
- Rethinking binaries

← Byron Echo, Local News | April 18, 2018 | by Hans Lovejoy

No assurance beach will remain if Belongil rock walls approved



Manfred Street beach after the 2016 storm. Public submissions for five rock wall DAs close on April 20. Photo Paul Spooner

WE HAVE AN EXTENSION! - the Office for Environment and Heritage (OEH) has said they will accept **late submissions (cut off point was last Friday so the time to move is NOW!)**

Several Belongil beachfront landowners have again applied to the NSW Coastal Panel to 'repair' the rock works in front of their properties. The applications can be seen on the [Coastal Panel website](#). The work is not 'repair' but rebuild.

So to stop the building of rockwalls on our beaches YOU NEED to make an **URGENT** submission to the Coastal Panel of the OEH.