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**Australia's Former Prime Minister Joins 100+ International Renewable Energy Leaders
at American Renewable Energy Day Summit**

Kevin Rudd, Tom Friedman, Amory Lovins, Sylvia Earl, Gen. Wes Clark, Tim Wirth, Bill Ritter among Speakers
Local's Passes Now Available to the 12th Annual AREDAY Summit, August 8-13

Snowmass Village, Colo...Next month, 106 of the nation's most dynamic and entrepreneurial thought leaders on climate will descend on Aspen/Snowmass, Colorado for four days of intense discussions revolving around the urgency of creating solutions to climate change. American Renewable Energy Day (AREDAY) convenes August 8-13 in Snowmass Village for its 12th Annual Summit.

Former Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd will kick off the Summit with a conversation on Sunday, August 9. Mission Blue oceanographer Dr. Sylvia Earl also will be featured that day. They will be among a diverse group of speakers that include author and New York Times columnist Tom Friedman and Rocky Mountain Institute's Chief Scientist Amory Lovins in conversation on Monday, August 11, followed by the UN Foundation's Tim Wirth, Gen. Wesley Clark of Growth Energy, China's "Solar King" Huang Ming and former Colorado Governor Bill Ritter of the Center for the New Energy Economy, among dozens more.

A limited number of discounted local's passes are now available to Roaring Fork Valley Residents for \$250, along with discounted small business, non-profit and student passes, ranging from \$295 to \$695. Regular passes are available for \$895. All passes include access to the Film Festival, all speakers, the gala, the Expo and the Taj Mahal concert. They can be purchased on the [registration page](#) of the AREDAY website, or through the Wheeler Box Office in Aspen at 970-920-5770.

"This event affords locals the best opportunity in the region to be part of the dialogue and connect with some of the most interesting, powerful and diverse change agents in the climate world," says Chip Comins, Founder of AREDAY and Chairman and CEO of its parent organization, American Renewable Energy Institute (AREI). "Anyone in the Roaring Fork Valley or Colorado interested in this critically-important topic will gain a lot from this Summit."

In its mid summer issue, hot off the press, [Modern Luxury Aspen magazine](#) calls AREDAY, "the go-to destination conference for political leaders, energy billionaires, scientists, communicators and activists who want to be part of the solution to the global energy equation". It also notes that in the past 11 years, AREDAY has grown to become, "...a global gathering that gives the Aspen Ideas Festival a complementary intellectual jamboree for those who want to influence the world".

(MORE)

Page 2 – AREDAY's 100+ Global Climate Leaders

This year's theme is "***Racing Climate Change: Green Bridge with China, The Road to Paris***". Growing global climate change challenges, coupled with the road leading up to the [UN Climate Change Conference](#) (UNFCCC COP 21) in Paris this December, have thrust a multitude of critical issues toward a tipping point that requires increased momentum and urgent action, according to AREI founders Comins and Sally Ranney.

Among the 100+ participants at the Conference will be CEOs of private companies and non-profit organizations, government policy makers, college professors and other educators, religious leaders, researchers, scientists, engineers, inventors, politicians, entrepreneurs, venture capitalists, environmental activists, filmmakers and media.

Topics for the Summit's four-day speaker series focus on global climate issues, including bilateral leadership between the US and China and the gathering of 192 countries in Paris this December for COP 21. Speakers will address new ideas in renewable energy – solar, wind, biofuels and efficiency – as well as earth, atmospheric, ocean and forest systems, food security, water and the rapid decline of the biosphere. Other highlights include solutions around leading-edge breakthroughs in clean tech, energy efficiency and energy storage, investment and financial opportunities, and educational initiatives.

A few of the dozens of companies and organizations represented include the Clinton Climate Initiative, GE Power & Water, Citibank, EcoWatch, Carbon War Room, NREL (National Renewable Energy Lab), NCAR (National Center for Atmospheric Research), US Department of Energy, Colorado School of Mines, Colorado Renewable & Sustainable Energy Institute, Citizen's Climate Lobby, South Pole Group, As You Sow, Alliance for Sustainable Energy, Alliance for Sustainable Colorado, Colorado Energy Research Collaboratory, Distributed Sun, Resilience Cooperative, Women's Earth & Climate Action Network, Green Alpha Advisers, Optimizing Energy Solutions, Ocean Conservancy, Food Climate Nexus, Turner Foundation, Turner Endangered Species Fund, Slow Money, Wind Powering America, Nokero Solar, Sustainable Settings, Foundation Earth, Global Security Institute. Blume Distillation, Sturman Industries and the Conservation Fund.

This year's AREDAY Summit commences with the [Impact Film Festival](#) on Saturday, August 8, at the Westin Snowmass. Tickets for the 10am – 10pm event are \$50, which includes five films. In addition, Academy Award-winning filmmaker Louie Psihoyos (*The Cove*) will be screening his new documentary, *Racing Extinction*, on Tuesday, August 11 at 8pm. The film is open to the public. The cost of that screening only is \$35. The four-day Summit speaker series, August 9-12, will be followed on Thursday, August 13 by an afternoon and evening renewable energy Expo on the Snowmass Mall and an evening concert by Taj Mahal.

About AREDAY – The AREDAY Summit is a program of the American Renewable Energy Institute (AREI). It takes place August 8-13 in Snowmass Village, Colorado with headquarters at the Westin Resort. The agenda includes a multi-day speaker series, a film festival and an outdoor expo of environmental products and services. AREDAY offers attendees the opportunity to engage with clean energy world leaders from the public and private sectors, including the fields of finance, politics, solar, wind, biofuels, geothermal and leading-edge energy technologies. An estimated 300 tickets will be available for the Summit. They can be purchased on the [registration page](#) of the AREDAY website, or through the Wheeler Box Office in Aspen at 970-920-5770. For more information, visit [AREDAY.net](#)

About AREI - The American Renewable Energy Institute (AREI) is a registered 501(c)(3) organization based in Colorado's Roaring Fork Valley. Focused on fostering actionable solutions around climate change, its programs emphasize the "**Five E's**" – **Energy, Environment, Economy, Education and Employment** – which run as threads throughout the organization's core initiatives. These include the annual **AREDAY Summit** and Speaker Series, [American Climate & Education Literacy Initiative](#) (ACELI), [RENEW program](#), and [Start-Up Green](#). For additional information, visit [AREDAY.net](#)