

# The West Australian



protagonists are religious fundamentalists with little regard for science, particularly if it doesn't support their faith.

Now a climate change controversy has erupted in Perth over a planned speech next Monday at a Belmont community group which has greenies rallying to have it shut down. In their sights is geologist **David Archibald**, whose paper *The Past And Future Of Climate* is a systematic dismantling of the science and beliefs behind the Greenhouse Effect and global warming. But it's not the voracity of Archibald's argument that has piqued *IC's* interest — it's the intensity of a letter-writing campaign to the Belmont Business Enterprise Centre, which is hosting the event, seeking to muzzle Archibald which has *IC's* dander up.

It's enough to make the Taliban blush, such is their dislike for the expression of views counter to their own.

**Adam Mullet** fulminates in his letter to the BEC: "Your centre is hosting someone who is preaching what I'd call heretical claptrap." He then goes on to threaten: "I demand you have his speech cancelled. If you do not, I will boycott your centre." Heresy? Isn't that a religious term?

**Robert Catomore's** biggest beef seems to be that the audience will be too thick to understand the debate. He lectures the BEC that "rather than speaking . . . in a forum for educated scientists, he (Archibald) has chosen to denounce the . . . world's climate scientists to an audience who must base their opinions largely on trust".

Oh dear. He then goes on about "dangerous views" and threatens to "boycott your centre". Another writer talks about the BEC's "duty of care" to not allow the discussion to proceed.

The language of fundamentalism is clearly alive and well in Perth.

The BEC, which last year ran Green Advantage workshops with Edith Cowan Uni, says the talk will go ahead, along with the other 40-odd presentations during its Design Edge Innovation festival throughout May.

## HOT AIR AT BELMONT

The debate over climate change can get incandescently heated. The recent release of Professor **Ian Plimer's** book, *Global Warming: The Missing Debate*, questioning the science behind the accepted theology of climate change, has caused a furore amid charges that the eminent professor is full of, well, hot air. For his part, he says most climate change