

## CENTRAL SYDNEY

# Clover's climate of fear

By Derrick Krusche, The Daily Telegraph Wednesday 26th June 2019 at 12:00am | 285 words, page 5, 140cm<sup>2</sup>

A City of Sydney Councillor said he was called a “flat-Earther” and a “coal-lugger” when he attempted to remove the word “emergency” from a council motion declaring a “climate change emergency”.

Liberal councillor Craig Chung (pictured) wanted to change the language in the motion put forward by Lord Mayor Clover Moore at a meeting on Monday night, which claimed climate change poses a “serious risk” to Sydneysiders and should be treated as a “national emergency”.

But he was shouted down by protesters in the public gallery when he pushed for the amendment, while other protesters held a sign outside Town Hall saying “coal is genocide”.

“The moment that you don't get involved in their motions and the moment you cut yourself out, you get called all sorts of names,” he told Sky News yesterday.

“Last night, I was called a flat-Earther and a coal-lugger despite the fact that I think we do need to take some action - it's the language I object to.

“This gallery was full of people - Clover supporters - all of these people absolutely jeering me and cheering Clover.”

The mayoral minute had called on the federal government to respond to the “emergency” by reintroducing a price on carbon and establishing a body to help transition workers from the coal industry to different jobs.

Sydney is the latest council to declare a climate “emergency”, following other cities such as London, Auckland and Vancouver. But Mr Chung said Ms Moore's language was “crazy”.

“This is about her preaching to her choir, about getting a headline but actually offering no solutions,” he said.

All councillors voted in favour of the motion except Liberal councillor Christine Forster who abstained.

