

## **For immediate release**

### **Largest-ever civil disobedience campaign by scientists to begin on April 4<sup>th</sup>**

Starting April 4<sup>th</sup>, coinciding with the release of the next part of the 6<sup>th</sup> IPCC report, scientists calling for “Climate revolution now!” will occupy universities worldwide with strikes and occupations, in the world’s largest ever scientist-led civil disobedience campaign. An earlier version of the report was leaked by the group last August.

On April 6<sup>th</sup>, hundreds of Scientist Rebellion activists will take disruptive, disobedient actions targeting scientific and governmental institutions in over 25 countries, on every continent, risking arrest in order to highlight the urgency and injustice of the climate and ecological crisis.

The scientists are acting under the slogan “**1.5°C is dead, climate revolution now!**”. Dr. Rose Abramoff, a US climate change scientist, warns that “we have not made the changes necessary to limit warming to 1.5°C, rendering this goal effectively impossible. We need to both understand the consequences of our inaction as well as limit fossil fuel emissions as much and as quickly as possible. As scientists, we tend to be risk-averse. We don’t want to risk our jobs, our reputations, and our time. But it is no longer sufficient to do our research and expect others to read our publications and understand the severity and urgency of the climate crisis. On the 6<sup>th</sup> of April, together with hundreds of others around the globe, I will take action to urge governments and society to stop ignoring the collective findings of decades of research. Let’s make this crisis impossible to ignore.”

Prof. Jorge Riechmann, a social scientist from Spain, argues further that “we are experiencing an absolutely exceptional historical situation, in terms not only of the history of our universities, our cities or our countries, but of the history of the human species and planet Earth writ large. The prospects are ecocide, plus genocide, and require a strong social reaction. We are hundreds of scientists calling on our colleagues across disciplines to join us in the streets, to live up to the truth of the words we write: that if we do not act now, not only is total catastrophe certain; but it would occur in the most unjust way possible, where those who have done the least to cause the problem are those who suffer most from it. I feel a moral obligation to prevent this from happening.”

Mike Lynch-White, former Theoretical Physics PhD candidate turned full-time climate activist, explains scientists’ need for action this way: “Imagine two people are sitting in a house. One turns to the other and calmly states that the house is on fire and the roof is about to collapse and kill them both, before going back to their morning newspaper. It would be completely unreasonable for the other to believe the threat, no matter how real it is.”

Scientist Rebellion will be on the streets between April 4<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, acting like our house is on fire. Because it is.

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