ENVIRONMENTAL POLITICS
AND INSTITUTIONAL CHANGE
RESHAPING AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTIONS

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ENVIRONMENTAL POLITICS
AND INSTITUTIONAL CHANGE

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For
Nicos Emmanuel Papadakis
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Preface and Acknowledgements

This book reflects a continuing interest in environmental politics that was stimulated some time ago when, as a student at the University of Hamburg, I was captivated by the rise of new social movements that challenged the development of nuclear power in Germany. As I argue in this book, there are strong parallels between the concerns of environmentalists in Europe, in North America and in Australia. There are also definite similarities in the responses emanating from established political institutions. Although much of the empirical detail in this work is derived from Australia, links are made with patterns of political change in other countries. Above all, the work is located in intellectual traditions and challenges to these traditions that have emanated from and apply to many different contexts. This will become obvious as the reader works through the text.

What does need to be made transparent in the preface is the contribution by certain friends, colleagues and acquaintances. Anya Moore, apart from being a true companion, made numerous constructive comments on the entire manuscript. John Braithwaite, Peter Corrigan and Ian Marsh provided encouragement and detailed commentary on many aspects of the work. Conversations with and work by Ian McAllister, Clive Bean, Jan Pakulski, John Warhurst, Eric Livingston, Graham Maddox, Uma Pandey, Leslie Sklair, Barry Hindess and Bob Jackson have all been most helpful. A large portion of the data on public opinion is from the Australian Election Surveys in which Ian McAllister, Roger Jones, David Gow, David Denemark and Anthony Mughan have all played a key role. Gillian Evans and Jennifer Rindfleish both rendered fine research assistance. Gina Butler redefined standards of excellence for administrative assistance, and she was ably supported by Jodie Attenborough.

My children put the whole enterprise into perspective. As the book was in the final stages, my daughter attached a notice to the fridge door to the effect that the book was going well and that I was ‘trying very hard to end it’. She also added that: ‘Elizabeth Papadakis has been hard at work in school but she is now having a nice holiday at home with no work.’ The Australian Research Council and the University of New England provided funds and infrastructure. The dedication is to someone who has always taken a great interest in my endeavours.
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Abbreviations

ASEAN Association of South-East Asian Nations
ACF Australian Conservation Foundation
AES Australian Election Survey
ALP Australian Labor Party
CFCs chlorofluorocarbons
CSIRO Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation
ESD ecologically sustainable development
EIS Environmental Impact Study
IAEA International Atomic Energy Agency
UNSCCOUR United Nations Scientific Conference on the Conservation and Utilization of Resources