

POWERING PAST COAL AND GAS

The Greens' climate and energy plan to fight the climate crisis, grow jobs and repower the economy with net-zero emissions by 2035.



THE
GREENS

"FRONTLINE COMMUNITIES ARE DEMANDING CLIMATE JUSTICE AND CLEAR ACTION: NO NEW FOSSIL FUELS"

– DR. MEHREEN FARUQI

Greens Deputy Leader and Senator for NSW



"[The Greens amending of legislation] has made the timely development of new gas supplies more difficult" ¹

– Meg O'Neill - CEO of Woodside.

"Labor's capitulation to the Greens today further damages Australia's reputation as an investment destination at a time when Australia urgently needs investment in new gas projects" ²

– Australian Energy Producers - the peak body that represents the gas industry's interests

"[The Greens' deal with Labor] has dimmed our appetite for future investment in Australia" ³

– Chevron - the second largest emitting company in world history⁴ and notorious tax avoider.⁵

"I want you to act. I want you to act as you would in a crisis. I want you to act as if the house is on fire, because it is."

– Greta Thunberg - climate activist

¹<https://thewest.com.au/business/energy/aep-conference-woodsides-meg-oneill-reluctant-to-give-greens-credit-for-ap-provals-reform-stalemate-c-14740834>

² https://energyproducers.au/all_news/media-release-no-future-made-in-australia-without-gas/

³<https://www.theaustralian.com.au/business/mining-energy/labors-energy-policy-has-been-almost-exclusively-wishful-thinking-says-woodsides-chief/news-story/d9199a41dd2c6b5e2bcdc5556ca78be2>

⁴<https://carbonmajors.org/briefing/The-Carbon-Majors-Database-2023-Update-31397>

⁵ <https://ministers.treasury.gov.au/ministers/kelly-odwyer-2016/media-releases/chevron-tax-case-outcome-welcomed>

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WE ARE STILL IN A CLIMATE EMERGENCY



Introduction from Greens Leader Adam Bandt

Every generation has prided itself on handing down a better quality of life for the next one coming through. Yet young Australians are watching this unspoken promise disappear - right in front of their eyes - for the first time in human history.

Tinkering around the edges isn't enough. We have to act decisively to protect our planet and hand down a higher quality of life to those following us.

As the world's second biggest exporter of fossil fuel pollution⁶, Australia can single-handedly speed up the trajectory of the entire world's decarbonisation pathway by sending a long term signal that all remaining coal and gas will soon be staying in the ground.

Powering Past Coal and Gas is not just the plan to transition our export industries, it is the Australian Greens fully costed, sector-by-sector plan of how we lower transport, energy and insurance bills for people. It is the pathway of how we transform our old industries and reshape new ones, looking after workers and communities along the way with many exciting new job opportunities that come while we protect our climate and environment.

What this plan shows is that acting on the climate emergency doesn't require any personal sacrifice or change in our standard of living. In fact if we do it right, our cost of living will come down and hundreds of thousands of secure jobs will be created.

If Australia gets it wrong and the climate crisis hits even harder, inflation spikes on essential goods and services like we've recently experienced will be commonplace. Insurance will become impossible to secure in some cities and regions and it will be completely unaffordable everywhere else.

The hotter the planet gets, the more destabilised both local and global politics will be, making meaningful climate action even more difficult. The window in which we have left to act is getting smaller and smaller and we have no more elections left to waste.

Yet in the middle of the climate crisis, the Labor government has approved over 30 coal and gas projects and Peter Dutton is going nuclear in order to destroy Australia's renewable energy industry.

Emissions are still at Morrison-era levels and Australia has already shot past 1.5 degrees of warming. We can't keep voting for the same two parties and expecting a different result.

If you want change, you have to vote for it.

⁶ https://issuu.com/humanrightsdefender/docs/2024_escalation_report_v7_/4?ff

Voting for the Greens does two powerful things at once. It is a vote to keep Peter Dutton and his extreme Coalition out of Government, but it also sends a message to Labor to go further and faster on the climate crisis and economic fairness.

Last time there was a minority government the Greens secured world leading climate laws. After this election, Australia is on track for a minority government again and the Greens will put climate on the table.

Powering Past Coal and Gas is the blueprint the Greens will be pushing to implement in the next Parliament.

GREENS ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE 47th PARLIAMENT

What has been secured for the climate

At the 2022 election, Australian voters put the Greens into a position to determine the passage of legislation. We have worked hard across the Parliament to deliver outcomes on the issues that matter, from climate to housing to economic fairness during the cost-of-living crisis.

This time around, the Australian people are shaping up to place the Greens into the centre of a minority Parliament where we can get action on these critical issues.

History has shown us that without pressure, neither Labor or the Liberals will take the genuine action the community needs on the twin and interlinked crises of climate and cost-of-living.

Some of the positive climate and energy outcomes the Greens secured in the 47th Parliament are:

- **July 2022:** Rewrote the Government's Climate Change Act to ensure the target can never go backwards. The current target is now a floor on ambition, not a ceiling.⁷
- **August 2022:** Strengthened tax breaks for electric vehicles and the Government's EV fleet procurement policy.⁸
- **December 2022:** Secured \$1.7 billion in funding to electrify homes and small businesses and lower their energy bills in exchange for powers to cap coal and gas prices.⁹
- **January 2023:** Removed native forest biomass from the renewable energy scheme.¹⁰
- **March 2023:** Prevented the new manufacturing investment fund (which was also a Greens policy) from investing in coal, gas or native forest projects. Their investment framework also has to legally align with Australia's climate targets.¹¹
- **March 2023:** shut down the legal funding mechanism that the Coalition used to finance their 'gas fired recovery'. Public funding of coal and gas projects is now unlawful.

⁷<https://www.smh.com.au/politics/federal/government-to-rewrite-climate-bill-to-win-over-greens-20220725-p5b4fn.html>

⁸<https://www.theage.com.au/politics/federal/cheaper-electric-cars-hybrids-after-greens-pocock-strike-deal-20221122-p5c08c.html>

⁹<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2022/dec/14/labor-energy-price-cap-plan-to-pass-parliament-greens-deal-gas-transition-electrification-households>

¹⁰<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2022/dec/16/electricity-generated-by-burning-native-australian-timber-no-longer-classified-as-renewable-energy>

¹¹<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2023/mar/09/labor-greens-deal-national-reconstruction-fund-ban-investment-coal-gas-native-logging>

- **March 2023:** Put a hard cap on emissions from coal and gas projects and industrial emitters, stopping around half of the coal and gas projects in the pipeline, and made it more difficult for some new gas projects to commence.¹²
- **May 2023:** Revealed that amendments to the Safeguard Mechanism have added up to \$987m in costs for starting Santos' Barossa Gas Project off the NT coast.¹³
- **October 2023:** Required that all investments made by the Future Fund now have to disclose exactly how much of our money is invested in coal, oil, gas, gambling and weapons manufacturing companies.¹⁴
- **December 2023:** Ensured the threats on water supplies from shale gas fracking must be considered under environmental law, via a "water trigger" and legislated that 450 billion litres of water must be restored to the Murray-Darling Basin.¹⁵
- **May 2024:** In exchange for passing electric vehicle legislation and taxing gas companies more, the Greens forced the Government to drop their proposed laws to fast track offshore gas projects by bypassing environmental laws.¹⁶
- **November 2024:** Legally prevented Australia's export finance credit agency from funding coal, oil and gas projects overseas and ensured no Future Made in Australia support can be for the advancement of fossil fuel projects.¹⁷
- **November 2024:** Secured another \$500 million to help social and public housing tenants electrify and improve the energy efficiency of their homes, saving tenants up to \$1,800 a year and lowering emissions.¹⁸
- **February 2025:** 'Dutton-proofed' the Capacity Investment Scheme, ensuring investment continues to flow to green energy even in the unlikely event the Liberals win.¹⁹
- **February 2025:** Guaranteed that no public money will be spent on Dutton's nuclear fantasy through the FMIA's Production Tax Credits, by ensuring uranium is barred from the scheme.²⁰

¹²<https://greens.org.au/news/media-release/greens-secure-hit-coal-and-gas-safeguard-deal>

¹³<https://australiainstitute.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/P1392-Barossa-Costs-Under-Safeguard-Mechanism-WEB.pdf>

¹⁴<https://www.afr.com/politics/federal/future-fund-to-reveal-how-it-invests-its-250b-20231003-p5e9f6>

¹⁵<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-12-06/fracking-projects-beetaloo-federal-government-water-trigger/103196626>

¹⁶<https://www.afr.com/politics/federal/labor-slammed-for-offshore-gas-approval-backdown-20240516-p5je65>

¹⁷<https://reneweconomy.com.au/australia-to-reshape-manufacturing-base-as-greens-deal-excludes-fossil-fuels-from-flagship-industry-policy/>

¹⁸<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2024-11-28/labor-secures-senate-clean-sweep/104660856>

¹⁹<https://www.afr.com/politics/federal/dutton-proofed-greens-labor-deal-to-keep-gas-out-of-energy-scheme20250212-p5lbev>

²⁰<https://reneweconomy.com.au/no-coal-gas-or-nuclear-greens-cut-deals-to-dutton-proof-labors-flagship-renewable-policies/>

POWERING PAST COAL AND GAS

Executive Summary

The climate and environmental crisis threatens to overwhelm Australia, the world's economy and society. This plan outlines Australia's part in preventing a collapse of our climate, biosphere and society by keeping ongoing global warming below 1.5 degrees.

It is a sector-by-sector plan of getting to net zero as fast as possible, but that isn't the end of the transformation. After that, we have to absorb more greenhouse gases than we produce in order to remove emissions from our oceans and atmosphere and help cool the planet.

While complex and challenging, at the same time what is required is quite simple. Shift electricity generation to renewables and storage. Increase electricity production to allow the direct and indirect electrification of all energy used by households, businesses, transport and industry. Replace our coal and gas exports with green energy and green products that we have manufactured here. Soak up the remaining emissions and move to negative emissions by protecting our forests and landscapes, and reforming our agriculture to drawdown carbon from the atmosphere.

Either we plan and implement this goal in a way that allows manageable structural adjustments to our economy in order to support workers and communities adjust or we pretend nothing needs to happen like the Liberals, or act like we have all the time in the world as Labor does. If we follow either of their approaches, we will have to undergo a messy, bumpy and disruptive transformation to stop the worst excesses of an unfolding climate breakdown.

The world including Australia made pledges to limit global warming at 1.5 to 2 degrees, but instead the world is on track for a catastrophic 3.1 degrees of warming.²¹

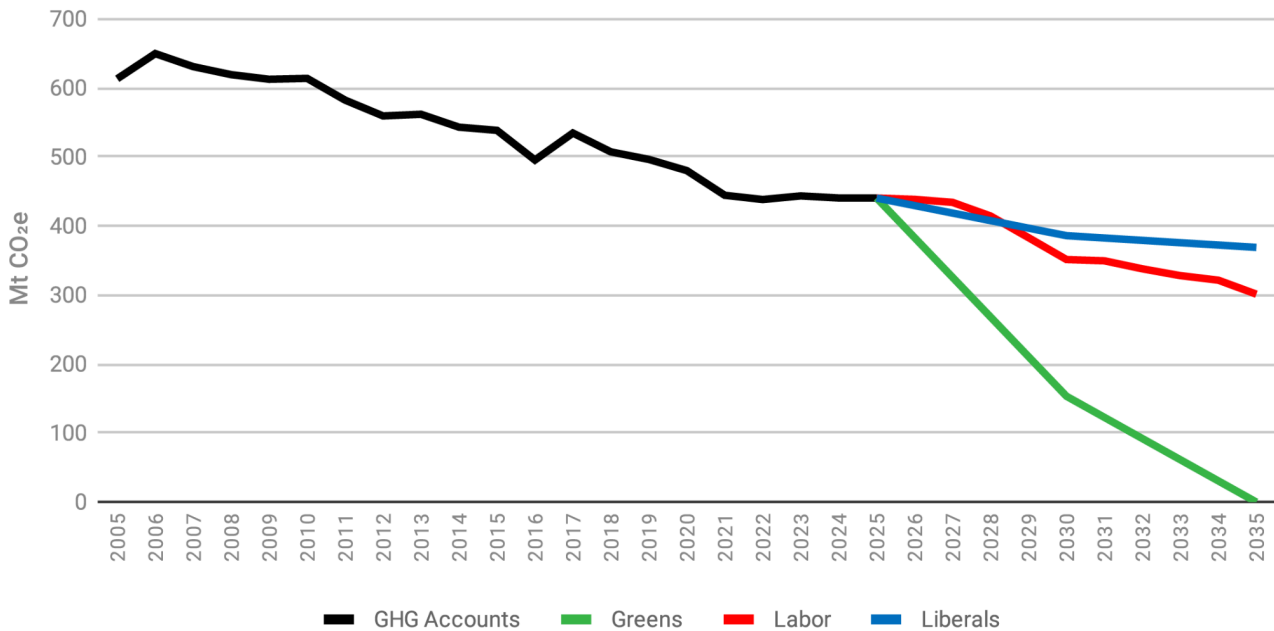
Despite our international obligations, both Liberal and Labor have failed to commit to a 2035 target at the election, and both have inadequate or non-existent climate reduction targets that are not science based. Their unwavering commitment is to keep the mining, burning and export of coal and gas going - and Dutton has taken it a step further with a nuclear plan that could *increase* Australia's emissions by more than two billion tonnes.²² Their policies will not protect Australians or our environment and will not enable us to reap the economic rewards of comprehensive action.

The Greens are the only party putting forward a set of policies and a comprehensive climate and energy plan that matches the international, economic, scientific and environmental imperatives.

²¹<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2024-10-24/un-says-world-is-now-on-course-for-warming-of-up-to-3-1c?sref=UFrV2sgc>

²²<https://www.climatechangeauthority.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/2025-02/Assessing%20the%20impact%20of%20a%20nuclear%20pathway%20on%20Australia%27s%20emissions%20%28FINAL%29.pdf>

EMISSIONS PATHS



Source ²³

The Greens climate targets are for a 75% reduction on 2005 levels by 2030 and for net-zero emissions by 2035. This is consistent with work undertaken by the Climate Targets Panel, an independent group of Australia’s most senior climate scientists and policymakers, who found:

“To be consistent with the Paris Agreement goal of limiting global warming to 1.5°C, Australia’s 2030 emissions reduction target must be 74% below 2005 levels, with net-zero emissions reached by 2035.”²⁴

We would then seek to go further and aim to be a net-negative emissions economy beyond 2035.

The Greens’ Powering Past Coal and Gas climate and energy plan outlined in this document will enable these goals and targets to be met.

Unlike Liberal and Labor’s plan, the Greens plan is realistic about what needs to be done. It doesn’t rely on magical unicorns like nuclear or carbon capture and storage, or a world of

²³ The Greens emissions path is taken from our commitment to 75% below 2005 levels by 2030 and net-zero by 2035, which have both been displayed on a straight line basis. Both historical emissions and Labor’s emissions pathway is taken from *Australia’s Emissions Projections 2024*, which demonstrates their emissions pathway to reach 43% below 2005 levels by 2030 and reach 51% below 2005 levels by 2035. The Liberals emissions path is taken from analysis undertaken by the Climate Change Authority - ‘Assessing the impact of a nuclear pathway on Australia’s emissions’ - which shows that emissions will be 386 Mt in 2030 (37% below 2005) and 369 Mt in 2035 (40% below 2005) under an alternative pathway relying on replacing coal-fired power stations with nuclear energy. A straight line pathway was taken between the respective point data for 2025, 2030 and 2035 .

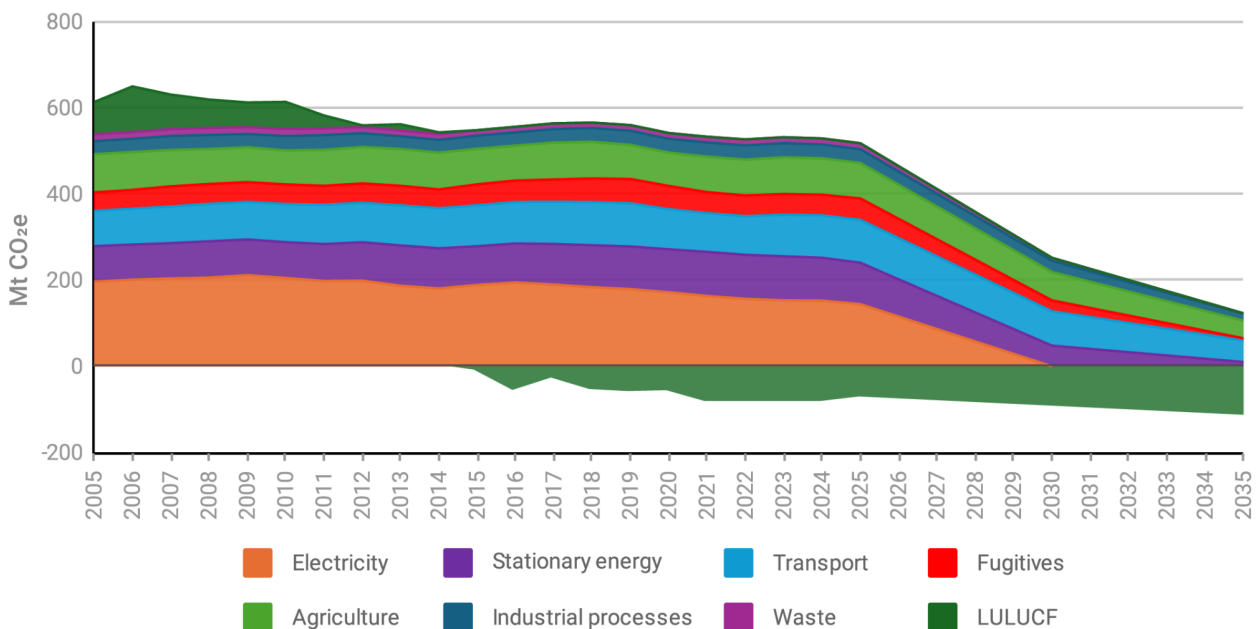
²⁴<https://www.climatecollege.unimelb.edu.au/files/site1/docs/%5Bmi7%3Ami7uid%5D/ClimateTargetsPanelReport.pdf>

unlimited offsets so polluters can keep on polluting and emissions don't come down like we've seen over the last three years.

Proposed sectoral emission reduction pathways

Sector	2025 ²⁵ (Mt CO ₂ e)	% reduction by 2030	2030 (Mt CO ₂ e)	% reduction by 2035	2035 (Mt CO ₂ e)
Electricity	144	-100%	0	-100%	0
Stationary energy	96	-50%	48	-90%	10
Transport	100	-20%	80	-50%	50
Fugitives	50	-50%	25	-90%	5
Agriculture	82	-20%	66	-50%	41
Industrial processes	32	-20%	26	-50%	16
Waste	14	-50%	7	-90%	1
LULUCF	-77	n/a	-99	n/a	-123
Total	441	75% below 2005	153	100% below 2005	0

Total Emissions



²⁵ 2025 emissions are taken from *Australia's Emissions Projections 2024*, after which targets are set for 2030 and 2035 for each sector of covered emissions. Emissions projections can be found here: <https://www.dcccew.gov.au/climate-change/publications/australias-emissions-projections-2024>

Key Elements of Powering Past Coal and Gas

More support for homeowners & renters to electrify

A doubling of rooftop solar and a six-fold increase in storage by tapping our underutilised urban potential through:

- A renter's right to install solar with no upfront costs to landlords, saving renters an average \$1,494 a year in energy bills;
- Getting solar into apartments with an Apartment Dwellers Energy Upgrade Fund;
- A generous grants and loans scheme to get homes and businesses to electrify and store their rooftop solar.
- A massive \$6 billion fund to cover public buildings like schools, libraries, police stations, ambulance and hospital facilities with solar panels; and
- An extended Renewable Energy Target for large businesses to incentivise the installation of solar on their premises.

Cost-price electricity for households and businesses

A not-for-profit energy retailer *PowerAustralia*, that will sell 'cost-price' electricity to households and businesses. The energy will be generated by Commonwealth Electricity Corporation, which will build, operate and generate a public return on rolling out renewables. These two would be created out of the Commonwealth-owned Snowy Hydro.

Build an EV charging network

The Commonwealth Electricity Corporation will build and run a publicly-owned electric vehicle charging network that links up the entire country.

Build a publicly-owned transmission network

A \$7 Billion FutureGrid fund rolled out over seven years to enable the rewiring of Australia, upgrading and building new publicly owned transmission lines and interconnectors and linking up renewable energy zones in line with the market operator's Integrated System Plan.

No new coal and gas

A moratorium on new coal, oil and gas projects in line with the science, International Energy Agency requirements and the introduction of a clear schedule for coal plant closures and a transition out of thermal coal by 2030.

Job & wage guarantees for coal workers

A job-for-job guarantee for coal workers affected by the transition to ensure they get good jobs at the same pay, by enabling their new employers to receive a wage subsidy of up to half the workers' former wage for up to 10 years. Older workers will receive the payment until they reach retirement age.

End fossil fuel subsidies

Ending the billions of dollars of handouts to corporations that encourage them to burn fossil fuels and redirecting that money into creating new jobs and industries.

Exporting 'solar fuels'

Support for the development of a green hydrogen and renewable export industries with Future Made in Australia support to be directed into those areas with global bottlenecks like building transmission towers, electrolysers, wind turbine construction and transport to name a few.

Begin drawdown of emissions

Protecting our forests and landscapes and funding states and territories to create a new ongoing workforce to repair the land and absorb emissions.

Cheaper insurance & better adaptation

Cheaper and accessible insurance for those in high risk areas for climate induced natural disasters like South East Queensland and the Northern Rivers, as well as funding to make homes more resilient and boosted support for emergency services.

AUSTRALIA'S MASSIVE ROLE IN THE CLIMATE CRISIS

Ending Coal, Oil and Gas

It is not nuclear power or 'carbon offsets' that stop global warming, it is ending the mining, transporting and burning of fossil fuels - coal, oil and gas. Australia is the world's second biggest exporter of fossil fuel pollution, behind only Russia.²⁶

The phase out of fossil fuels is the number one task to stop our planet cooking and Australia has an oversized responsibility to contribute because of how much pollution we export to the world.

The International Energy Agency (IEA) just identified that Australia holds 62% of the world's coal projects under consideration, followed by Russia (11%) and South Africa (10%).²⁷ The planet's future is in Australia's hands. If we keep expanding exports of coal and gas, a 3 degree world of climate collapse will be inevitable.

Again, according to the IEA, not one new coal or gas project can proceed if we are to keep below 1.5 degrees. Indeed, the IEA has said that to meet even the net zero by 2050 commitment, not a single piece of new fossil fuel infrastructure can be built.

Despite this, both Liberal and Labor's climate and energy plans envisage more coal, gas and oil projects. Both parties have vowed coal and gas will continue beyond 2050²⁸ and both are committed to public subsidies to expand gas use and production.²⁹

"It's the bubbles in your soda water or out of your SodaStream... so you know we've got to keep it in balance how we think about carbon dioxide"³⁰

– Australia's Resources Minister Madeline King, August 2022

New coal and gas projects have been approved by the Environment Minister beyond 2080³¹ while the Resources Minister has released 46,758 square kilometres of oceans to new gas fields.

²⁶<https://www.unsw.edu.au/newsroom/news/2024/08/fossil-fuel-exports-place-australia-among-worlds-top-climate-polluters>

²⁷<https://iea.blob.core.windows.net/assets/a1ee7b75-d555-49b6-b580-17d64ccc8365/Coal2024.pdf> (pg. 98)

²⁸<https://www.theaustralian.com.au/nation/politics/new-minister-says-coal-may-remain-king-for-decades-under-labor-s-watch/news-story/43bce3b3428c1d14aee09d6904a4ae25>

²⁹<https://www.ntnews.com.au/news/northern-territory/northern-australia-minister-vows-to-continue-with-middle-arm-project-pushing-to-keep-2b-naif-injection/news-story/beb5b5f344483b39be2ea7bdc79b5630>

³⁰<https://www.smh.com.au/environment/climate-change/australia-risks-mangling-the-brake-and-accelerator-on-climate-20220826-p5bcy6.html>

³¹EPBC Act Public Portal: Gina Reinhart's Atlas Gas Project (2080) and Lake Vermont Meadowbrook Coal Mine Project (2088)

More than 30 new coal and gas projects have been approved by the Albanese Government and emissions are at Morrison-era levels. These are not the actions of a government that takes the climate crisis seriously at all.

Australia's role in global negotiations: Remain a petrostate or start a new beginning?

In October 2022, Australia signed up to the Global Methane Pledge to reduce the potent greenhouse gas by 30% by the year 2030. In November 2024, it was revealed that no policies were put in place by the government to achieve this goal and claimed it was not binding and no obligations arising from signing the pledge.³²

This perfectly encapsulates the Labor Government's approach to climate. Look good doing nothing, unless pushed by the Greens. Methane levels are higher now than when they signed the global pledge.

Methane is crucial to stopping runaway global warming because while it is 80 times more potent, its lifespan of trapping heat in our atmosphere is much shorter than carbon dioxide. The increased natural disasters we are experiencing today are likely a result of this potent gas and if we focus our efforts on drastically reducing methane from coal and gas mining, we buy ourselves more time to prevent longer term climate damage.

Australia is seeking to host the 2026 UNFCCC Conference of the Parties (COP). This is the opportunity to shed our past status as a petrostate that is seeking to slow and delay any global action and work to build momentum for a global commitment to phase out fossil fuel use at COP31.

The Greens will sign Australia on to the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty to support global efforts to stop the expansion of fossil fuels and manage a just transition towards safe, renewable and affordable energy for all.

³²<https://x.com/larissawaters/status/1853544895753097669>

SECTION ONE: CLIMATE LEADERSHIP

Summary:

- To treat the climate crisis as the critical emergency that it is, Australia needs a coordinated, whole-of-government approach to achieve net zero emissions by 2035.
- Climate policy needs to be freed from the influence of coal and gas corporations - both within Parliament and outside in the community.
- Greenwashing by both governments and corporations needs to be stamped out
- Nuclear fission energy generation has no future in Australia

National Climate Action Taskforce

Marshalling the resources, focus and nation-wide effort to achieve a 75% reduction by 2030 will require a massive effort. Just in the way that all of society mobilised to keep us safe in World War II and more recently during the COVID-19 global pandemic, we must bring the same urgency and dedication to stop global heating spiralling out of control.

Responding to the climate crisis requires a whole-of-government plan for Australia to achieve net zero emissions by 2035 and manage carbon drawdown afterwards.

The Greens will restore climate leadership to Australia, firstly by re-legislating climate targets to set a 75% reduction on 2005 levels by 2030 and net-zero by 2035, and set a goal of 100% renewables by 2030. This is what committing to maintaining warming at 1.5 degrees requires.

Then we will establish the machinery of government needed to implement action on these targets, with a National Climate Action Taskforce to oversee a whole of government response to the climate and environmental emergency.

Integrity in government

The influence and power of coal and gas corporations over the Liberal, National and Labor parties is holding our entire country back from doing what needs to be done. Their stranglehold comes from donations, access through fundraising dinners, private jets carrying Ministers alongside gas CEOs and offering lucrative jobs after leaving government.

If either the Coalition or Labor form government on their own, climate policy will continue to be written by coal and gas companies protecting their interests. But in a minority Parliament, the next government will be forced to listen to the Greens and Independents instead. Lobbyists hate minority parliaments because they can't simply secure backroom deals with government Ministers and Parliament ceases to be the government's rubber stamp.

The Greens will take the necessary steps to begin cleaning up our political system, including:

- Banning fossil fuel company donations so influence can no longer be bought;
- Strengthen the lobbying code of conduct and extending the ban of former Ministers and their senior staff becoming lobbyists and meeting with current Ministers and Shadow Ministers from 18 months to five years; and
- Requiring Ministers to publish their diaries so we know who they meet with and how regularly.

Get fossil fuel funding out of our communities

Just like tobacco companies did decades ago, fossil fuel companies are buying goodwill by putting their name on sports, arts, and events in Australia. Woodside sponsors kids life-saving in WA as well as sponsoring the Fremantle Dockers while Santos sponsors the national Wallabies team and the Tour Down Under. These companies have no domestic customers - the only reason they advertise is to win public support and extend the social license for their destructive products.

Tobacco advertising was prohibited through strong legislation and hard work, demonstrating the dangers of smoking. It is time for fossil fuel companies to follow. Air pollution from burning fossil fuels is estimated to claim over 11,000 Australian lives every year.³³ The fossil fuel industry shouldn't get away with buying social capital and owning our politicians.

The Greens plan will extend the current tobacco advertising and sponsorship ban to cover fossil fuel companies and require emissions disclosure labels on car, plane and petrol station advertisements. Organisations that lose revenue from breaking with fossil fuel companies will be compensated, while those that seek sponsorship with the clean energy sector will be rewarded under the \$275 million fund.

Ending Greenwashing

Greenwashing should be illegal. Many Australian consumers want to make environmental choices when they buy their everyday products or services, but at the moment businesses can lie or exaggerate their climate and environmental credentials rather than actually improving their practices to meet consumer demands.

³³ https://www.dea.org.au/health_impacts_associated_with_traffic_emissions_australia_expert_positon_statement

Australia was once a leader in consumer protection, yet we are now lagging behind much of the world when it comes to greenwashing. Australian Consumer Law currently prohibits corporations engaging in 'trade or commerce' from making statements that are misleading or deceptive or are likely to mislead or deceive someone. A rise in greenwashing complaints has shown that this legislation is often insufficient against the threat of greenwashing on everyday consumers.

The Greens plan will update corporate and consumer legislation to make false and misleading claims from businesses and governments unlawful, with clear regulations and standards including:

- Standardised definitions of commonly used environmental terms;
- Clear requirements that business must meet to make an environmental claim;
- Independent verification and certification of environmental claims; and
- Penalties for those who do not comply.

Stopping Dutton's Nuclear Delusions

These nuclear plans make no sense. Dutton's nuclear fantasy is slow, expensive, dangerous and so obviously exists to keep old coal stations clunking out pollution for as long as possible and expand new coal and gas projects. The Climate Change Authority found that the Coalition's plan could increase Australia's emissions by two billion tonnes - a climate bomb in its own right.³⁴

The Greens commit to continue using our power in the Parliament to stop the Coalition's nuclear delusions from ever being implemented.

Should the Coalition ever be elected, the Greens will vote to keep the prohibition on nuclear in our environment laws and fight to ensure no uranium mines are approved or extended or enter commercial production.

We will also keep pushing the next government to finally sign the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

³⁴<https://www.climatechangeauthority.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/2025-02/Assessing%20the%20impact%20of%20a%20nuclear%20pathway%20on%20Australia%27s%20emissions%20%28FINAL%29.pdf>

SECTION TWO: CHEAPER POWER AND 100% RENEWABLE ENERGY

Summary:

- Our plan is focused on people power and taking advantage of our underutilised rooftops and storage space. Solar for renters, apartments and public buildings and storage for homes and businesses that already have solar.
- Our homes and business dwellings will be generously supported to electrify and disconnect from gas.
- ‘Cost-price’ clean electricity for households and businesses, generated by the Commonwealth Electricity Corporation and sold by Power Australia (both entities created out of Snowy Hydro).
- Regional communities will be given the tools and funding certainty needed to become renewable energy hubs.
- At a grid level, the existing Capacity Investment Scheme will be dialled up from achieving 82% renewables by 2030, to 100%.
- FutureGrid will target spending to unlock key parts of the grid we need for a linked up network of fast EV chargers, enabling distributed power, grid-level storage and unlocking the rooftops of warehouses, shopping complexes and industrial areas to get to 100% renewable energy.
- Ensure we build the energy we need for new export industries and be a back up to make sure we reach 100% renewables by 2030 through the Capacity Investment Scheme.
- An extended RET for large businesses will incentivise the installation of renewables on their premises to meet targets.

There are no technological or engineering barriers to Australia achieving 100% clean energy by 2030. The planning work has already been done by the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO).³⁵ The only barriers are political.

³⁵ Green Energy Export scenario in AEMO's 2024 Integrated System Plan - <https://aemo.com.au/-/media/files/major-publications/isp/2024/2024-integrated-system-plan-isp.pdf?la=en>

By phasing out coal and gas power plants, investing in renewables and energy storage we can repower our economy and society with clean energy.

By shifting to renewable energy and “electrifying everything” we can not only drive carbon pollution to zero, but we can lower home energy bills and industry costs while creating jobs around the country.

A Renter’s Right to Solar

Around 1 in 3 homes are rental properties, but the split incentives between the landlord who has to pay for solar panels and the tenant who benefits from cheaper bills means that rental properties overwhelmingly don’t have rooftop solar.

Renters are a massive untapped potential in the fight against coal and gas.

\$10 billion will be invested in the Commonwealth Electricity Corporation for a revolutionary ‘renters right to solar’ policy that will finally deal with the split financial incentives between landlord and tenant that have locked renters out of the solar energy boom.

Under this policy, a renter will have the right to request solar on their rental property and a landlord cannot unreasonably refuse. Legitimate reasons would be if body corporate rules prevent it, there are engineering reasons such as a highly congested local network or the property is not suitable.

Importantly under this policy, the cost of purchasing and installing the solar panels isn’t borne up front by the landlord. The cost will be listed as an asset on the CEC’s balance sheet and a caveat will be placed on the title of the property.

Just like with a student HELP debt, the cost value indexes at the lower of CPI or WPI each year. Landlords can choose to pay this amount off early if they wish, but otherwise they pay nothing until the ownership of the property is transferred. The CEC will then be paid out the amount owing.

Because there is no upfront cost to the landlord, there are no costs that can be passed on to the renter, so they get to enjoy an average \$1,494 of savings on their energy bills a year and take pride in finally being able to be part in reducing emissions from their energy use.

This policy will lead to up to 1.3 million rental properties being able to install solar panels and enjoy massively reduced energy bills with no upfront costs to landlords.

Capital City	Renter’s Annual Savings	Energy Generated
Darwin	\$2,024	32kWh
Sydney	\$1,692	28kWh
Hobart	\$1,653	27kWh

Adelaide	\$1,567	31kWh
Brisbane	\$1,534	32kWh
Canberra	\$1,529	30kWh
Melbourne	\$1,144	27kWh
Perth	\$810	29kWh

*SunSPOT estimated annual electricity bill savings from installing a 8kW solar system

Apartment Dwellers Energy Upgrade Fund

For both renters and owner-occupiers alike, living in apartment complexes or dwellings managed by a body corporate shouldn't mean they miss out on the benefits of home-grown energy.

In recognition of how historically hard it has been for people living in apartments to access solar and storage, the Greens will provide \$2 billion in grant funding through the Apartment Dwellers Energy Upgrade Fund. This will build upon the existing \$1 billion currently administered by the CEFC, secured by the Greens in the 47th Parliament. This fund will support apartment dwellers to join in on the renewable revolution with energy upgrades that will lower energy bills, including battery-ready solar PV and modern appliances.

This money will be available over four years to support tenants and owners to change strata rules, engage consultancies and electricians with the expertise necessary to transform apartments into solar and storage energy stations with the benefits shared between all occupants.

Social Housing Energy Performance Initiative

The Greens have already secured \$800 million for the Social Housing Energy Performance Initiative this parliament, and that program is now seeing the Commonwealth work with State Governments to improve the comfort, efficiency and sustainability of public and social housing.

While hundreds of thousands of public housing tenants will enjoy lower bills of around \$1,800 a year as a result, the program doesn't cover all public and social housing. The Greens would commit an additional \$800 million over four years from 2027 when the first round of funding would otherwise wind down, doubling federal funding and taking the total investment of the fund to \$1.6 billion.

Solar and storage on schools and public buildings

This \$6 billion, seven year program will be rolled out to utilise the energy from the roofs of publicly-owned buildings. This means schools, police, ambulance and fire stations, libraries,

TAFEs, public universities, local council buildings, health clinics, hospitals and child care centres will be able to bid into the fund to harness their solar and storage potential.

In addition to lowering emissions and creating lots of installation jobs right around the country, putting solar on public buildings will lower the day to day operating energy costs of our public institutions, freeing up more money for them to spend on service delivery and support in the community.

In the case of public schools, this means more money will become available to spend on students, classrooms, and school grounds.

In addition, ARENA will run a \$750 million program over 10 years to allow public buildings such as libraries, hospitals and council buildings to apply for grants to improve their energy productivity and install renewables.

Getting Homes and Businesses Off Gas

Gas is as dirty as coal and when it is tapped directly into our homes, it's responsible for up to 12% of childhood asthma.³⁶ To improve our health and lower our power bills, the Greens plan would provide grants and loans to households and small businesses to help them disconnect from gas.

Not only does removing gas from your home improve children's health and help the planet, it will set Australians on the path to save up to \$6,000 a year in energy costs.³⁷ But the upfront costs are clearly the biggest barrier to this decarbonisation pathway.

To help households get off gas, a grant of up to \$10,000 and low interest loans of up to \$20,000 will be offered to replace gas-fired boilers, water heaters and cooktops with electric alternatives.

For small businesses, including the thousands of retail and commercial businesses who currently rely on gas for space heating, water heating and appliances, we would offer grants of up to \$25,000 for small businesses and low-interest loans of up to \$100,000.

The grant component is limited to 20% of the total cost of the replacement project, but can be increased to 50% for a household or business if it agrees to disconnect from the gas grid entirely within six months.

³⁶<https://www.nationalasthma.org.au/living-with-asthma/resources/patients-carers/factsheets/gas-stoves-and-asthma-in-children>
&
<https://www.climatecouncil.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Kicking-the-Gas-Habit-How-Gas-is-Harming-our-Health.pdf>

³⁷<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-10-04/rewiring-australian-households-could-save-up-to-6000-per-year/100512028>

Reducing gas demand will create far more jobs local economic activity and reduce emissions, a much cleaner alternative than the opening of new gas fields and building networks of gas pipelines or energy hungry LNG import terminals as proposed in Labor's *Future Gas Strategy*.

According to modelling from the PBO, this program would be expected to see over \$39.7 billion in Government grants and loans to households and small businesses over the coming decade.

Powering Up: Battery Storage for Homes and Businesses

Our plans to unlock solar for renters, apartment dwellers and large businesses requires additional support for battery storage.

For homes with existing solar, grants of up to \$5,000 will be available to install household storage technology. They would be limited to 50 per cent of the total cost of the upgrade. Low interest loans of up to \$10,000 would also be available to any Australian household to install household storage technology.

Grants of up to \$10,000 would be available to any Australian small business with a turnover below \$10 million to install a battery at their business site. Grants would be limited to 50 per cent of the total cost of the upgrade. Meanwhile, low interest loans of up to \$50,000 would be available to any Australian small business to install a battery at their business site.

Better Quality, More Affordable Homes to Live in

Cleaning up our energy system means using energy smarter. Our goal is to double energy efficiency by 2030 – this means significantly reducing the electricity and gas we currently use to achieve the same results.

The most effective way to do this is through improving the quality of housing stock under the National Construction Code. Our plan will establish a taskforce to work with the states on improving the national construction code for newly built homes and apartments, with an aim to make new houses cleaner by design through requirements for rooftop solar, all-electric appliances (no gas connections) and stricter energy efficiency requirements.

Setting effective energy efficiency standards could also reduce energy bills by up to \$27 billion, cut energy network costs by up to \$7 billion and deliver at least 78 million tonnes of savings by 2050.³⁸

³⁸ Australian Sustainable Built Environment Council (ASBEC) and ClimateWorks Australia, *Built to Perform: An Industry Led Pathway to a Zero Carbon Ready Building Code*.

First Nations and Locally Owned Community Renewables

Investment in locally owned renewables helps communities take charge of their future, making energy simple and affordable and generating support for the transition through participation. A range of mechanisms should be available given variety in community profile and needs.

An investment of \$70 million will double the funding for the First Nations Clean Energy Futures Implementation and Grants Program to power communities with cheap, clean power.

Alongside this, a new Commonwealth Agency - Australian Local Power Agency (ALPA)³⁹ will be established to administer the following schemes:

- The Local Power Scheme would establish 70 local power hubs to support renewable energy projects in regional communities. Each hub would distribute seed grants and forgivable loans for small-scale renewable energy and storage projects that are community-driven, have broad local support, and deliver tangible benefits to the region. The PBO estimates up to 10,500 projects could be supported by the agency.
- The Underwriting New Community Investment Scheme would underwrite community owned renewable energy generation and storage projects for up to 10,000 gigawatt hours each year for 10 years in order to guarantee financial and project stability.
- The Community Renewables Investment Scheme would require any new large-scale renewable development to offer 20 per cent of the project equity to local communities within 30 kilometres of the project. To administer this scheme, the ALPA would be provided on-going funding to develop guidelines for the scheme, assess whether developers meet those guidelines, and award approvals once developers have completed co-investment funding rounds.

Supercharging Community Batteries

Batteries are able to store excess solar energy for families and households to use during peak times. Community batteries enable families and households to get the benefits of storage without the costs of installing a battery in their home, support more households to install rooftop solar and allow households who cannot install solar panels to enjoy renewable energy. This will help lower electricity bills, reduce pressure on the electricity grid, absorb excess energy that might cause voltage spikes in the electricity grid and contribute to lower emissions.

The Greens' Community Battery Storage Funding Program would triple the funding for community batteries by allocating an additional \$342 million in funding to ARENA, over four years. The PBO estimates this can establish an additional 667 batteries under the existing Community Batteries for Household Solar Program, enabling a total of over 1000 community batteries to support households and the grid across the country through this program.

³⁹ This policy draws on the Local Power Plan originally proposed by Helen Haines, the independent MP for Indi.

Establishing Zero Emission Communities

The Zero Emissions Communities program will drive innovation and build social licence for the clean energy transition through supporting intensive electrification projects in targeted communities. An allocation of \$340 million will be made to fund 17 Zero Emissions communities, one in each of the country's distribution network (DNSP) areas. The series of "Shire Zeros" in regional areas and "Suburb Zeros" would provide important learnings on the most efficient and effective ways to deploy mass electrification.

100% Renewable Energy

The Government's Capacity Investment Scheme is giving certainty to clean energy investors so we can build the amount of energy where we need it, when we need it. The Greens will update the scheme to align with the coal closure timeline outlined in Section Three below and dialled up to ensure 100% renewable energy in Australia by 2030.

This upgrade will ensure renewable energy projects are built in the right places to avoid damaging important ecosystems and species habitat.

PowerAustralia: A not-for-profit government owned retailer

Privatisation of essential energy production has been a disaster and has hit lower income households the hardest. Energy retailers have done nothing to improve the quality of our lives by spending our money mercilessly advertising back to us. It's time to end this failed experiment.

The Greens' plan reorients Snowy Hydro's publicly owned retail businesses with a new name *PowerAustralia*, and a new mandate to work in the public interest to deliver not-for-profit, low cost energy and drive competition, rather than being just another market player scooping up super-profits. Our plan would also see the majority of profits made by Snowy Hydro's generation division given back to consumers in the form of cheaper power bills.

By taking out the retailer profit margins of energy bills, and returning any dividends to households instead of the Government, our plan is estimated to push down electricity bills by up to \$270 per annum for PowerAustralia customers.

Commonwealth Electricity Corporation: a Publicly Owned Power Generation Company

Australia's publicly owned generation company, the historic Snowy Hydro Corporation will similarly be renamed the *Commonwealth Electricity Corporation* separate from its retail business and will focus on two specific tasks.

Along with administering the Renter's Right to Solar, \$30 billion will be invested in *CEC* to build new wind, solar and storage capacity to deliver the large amounts of energy required to export

clean energy, green hydrogen and value added products like green iron and emissions-free aluminium.

FutureGrid: Rewiring Australia's Energy System

Building on the Rewiring the Nation roll out of transmission lines requires an urgent need to focus on those parts of the grid that need to be set up for a modern, smart energy grid. FutureGrid will be established as a publicly-owned electricity transmission and distribution corporation, with \$7 billion to deliver Australia's energy system, focusing on challenges including:

- Free up local congestion so that homes aren't losing money from their rooftop solar
- Ensure the energy is available to build a linked up network of fast-charging EV stations;
- Ensure sufficient network capacity to turn public buildings, shopping centres and warehouses into massive solar energy stations.

Privatisation of essential services has been a failure, with transmission lines becoming the most expensive component of our electricity. Profits have been gouged through electricity bills where they need not be. As a public infrastructure project developer, FutureGrid will keep power prices down by only seeking to recoup costs rather than seek ongoing profits from households and businesses for decades, like our current privatised market model allows.

An Extended Renewable Energy Target for Large Businesses

There is an opportunity for large companies like major banks, supermarkets and airlines, that have already set their own voluntary renewable energy targets to drive down Australia's emissions by extending and refocusing the Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme to meet legislated renewable energy targets.

Instead of putting obligations on retailers as the RET does, extending it to businesses with a group turnover of more than \$250 million a year will incentivise the installation of renewables to meet their annual targets or otherwise buy RECs from small or medium businesses that elect to enter the scheme.

Small and medium businesses could produce these renewable generation certificates and sell them to reduce the cost of installing solar, in the same way as the first wave of the scheme helped households.

Electrification of public education and implementation

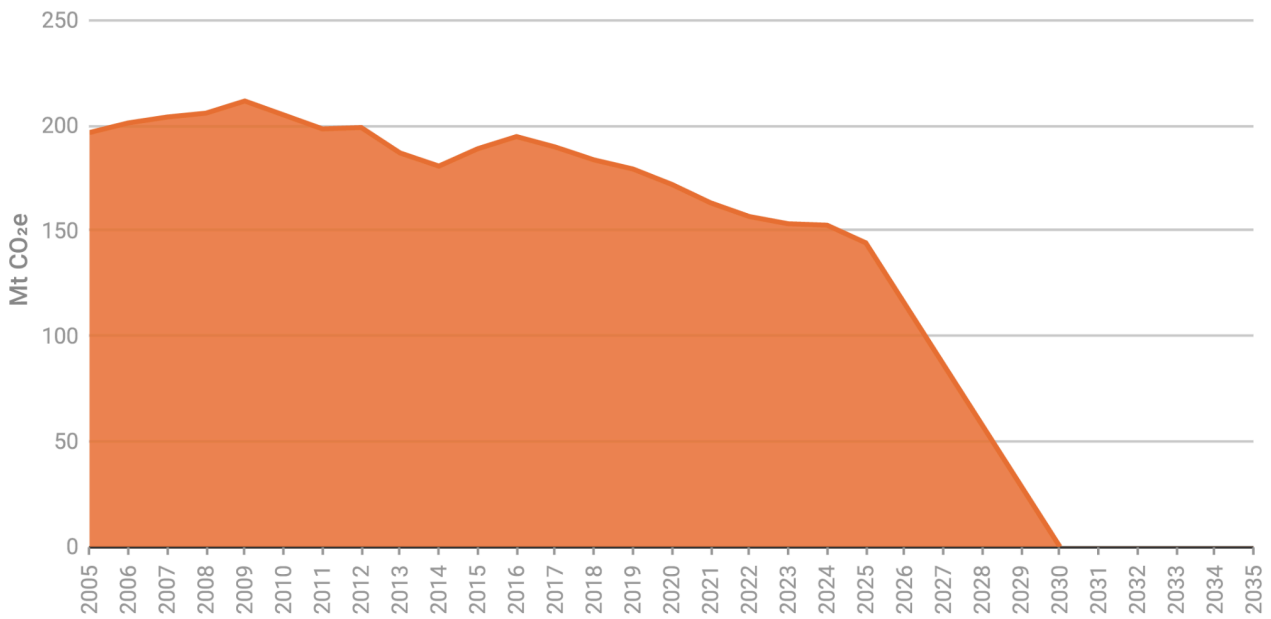
Electrification at such a large scale will require strong frameworks, to ensure existing systems are fit for purpose and support further innovation and public education.

The Office of Electrification will be established with \$10 million per year to build momentum around electrification policy development and implementation.

To ensure everyone has access to the information and support they need to electrify their homes, communities or businesses, \$80 million will be allocated to fund national marketing and education campaigns to support informed decisions about electrification.

A review will be undertaken into the National Electricity Market and funding provided to write new “household centred” rules.

Projected electricity emissions



Greens policies will mean electricity generation will reach 100% renewables by 2030 and emissions will be zero. Electricity demand will continue to grow in the coming decades to underpin the electrification of transport, homes, business and industry; underpinning new energy intensive investment such as metals processing, manufacturing and data processing; and new export industries in hydrogen and direct exports to the Asia-Pacific region via undersea cables.

SECTION THREE: PHASING OUT COAL AND GAS WHILE LOOKING AFTER COMMUNITIES

Summary:

- Keeping fossil fuels in the ground is the very first step to halt the climate crisis. This means cancelling all exploration and fracking permits, no more seismic testing and preventing the renewal or expansion of existing projects.
- To support the steady, guided investment in renewables and storage, a coal closure timeline is needed, with workers supported by the Net Zero Economy Authority.
- Coal workers will be provided with a job-for-job guarantee that means their wages will be guaranteed for 10 years in new jobs, with their new employer receiving a wage subsidy.
- Ending subsidies, tax breaks and paying for externalities of the fossil fuel industry will free up billions over the decade to fund the jobs and industries of the future while lowering energy and transport costs for the rest of us.

No New Coal, Oil and Gas

You don't put out a fire by pouring more petrol on it. In an emergency, the very first action to take is to immediately remove whatever is causing the damage. That means keeping all untapped coal, oil and gas fields in the ground.

So long as the Coalition and Labor have no plan to phase out coal and gas exports, they have no plan for climate change.

For offshore oil and gas projects in Commonwealth waters, the government can - without legislation - prevent the issuing of all new exploration permits and stop prepared projects like Woodside's dangerous North West Shelf Extension. Similarly, the Federal Parliament can override all fracking in the Northern Territory and put an end to the Beetaloo gas climate bomb.

For everywhere else, the Federal government can use its current legislative and constitutional powers to prevent the approval, renewal or expansion of new projects and ban all seismic testing that devastates our marine life.

Coal Closure Timeline

In order to keep coal in the ground and ensure that workers have financial security while clear guidance for investment of how much power needs to be built where, and by when, a staged closure of coal stations is crucial.

A planned coal closure framework will create a jobs boom in renewable energy construction that won't end in a bust, but ensure a steady continuation of employment right around the country for the next two decades.

In combination with a well financed Net Zero Economy Authority and a job-for-job guarantee for coal workers we can ensure coal workers aren't abandoned to the whims of company boardrooms like they currently are.

Under their Green Energy Exports scenario, the energy market operator, AEMO, has already charted a path to phase out nearly all coal-fired power capacity by 2030.⁴⁰ The management of the coal closure timeline would be undertaken by AEMO, who would be empowered to also develop the plan to accelerate the closure of the final 5 GW of coal capacity in the NEM from 2031-32 to 2030.

Below is the proposed timeline for closure:

Year	NEM Coal Fired Capacity (MW)	SWIS Coal Fired Capacity (MW)
2025	21,255	1,366
2026	18,375	1,173
2027	18,375	1,173
2028	12,945	856
2029	9,066	856
2030	0	0

Job-for-Job Guarantee: Looking after coal communities

Coal workers are being lied to by Liberal and Labor politicians who say coal will stay in the system beyond 2050. Workers know they are going to get screwed over by coal corporations; they want a clear pathway that will ensure their financial security and keep their communities in place.

⁴⁰ Green Energy Exports Scenario, 2024 Integrated System Plan, page 10:
<https://aemo.com.au/-/media/files/major-publications/isp/2024/2024-integrated-system-plan-isp.pdf?la=en>

No coal worker should suffer the anxiety and financial insecurity that comes from losing their job suddenly. With a planned transition, we can assure workers that they will continue in gainful employment until retirement, and that their children will have jobs in the region that they love, long after coal mines and coal plants have closed.

We owe coal workers a debt of thanks for powering our country. We don't need to choose between taking urgent climate action and supporting coal communities. We can do both. A job-for-job guarantee program will secure new jobs for coal workers, including in mining and energy, without loss of pay.

A generous financial support package to support coal workers move to new industries was a central component of the successful strategy employed by Germany to phase out their coal industry without a single worker losing their job.⁴¹

The Job-for-Job Guarantee package will provide 50% of a coal worker's wage for a decade, provided as a wage subsidy to employers who provide an equivalent paying job. Workers over 55 will be able to receive the wage subsidy for up to 12 years as they transition to retirement. Workers who cannot find alternative work can receive the subsidy directly.

Under the Greens plan, these wage subsidies would be put in place for eligible thermal coal mine workers and domestic coal generation workers from 1 July 2025, and for eligible metallurgical coal and gas workers from 1 July 2030.

An Expanded Net Zero Economy Authority

In the 2022 election it was only the Greens that committed to create a statutory authority to support coal and gas workers through the transition and in the last Parliament it was finally created. However the scope of the Net Zero Economy Authority is limited in two important ways that *Powering Past Coal and Gas* will change.

Firstly, it only covers workers in domestic coal and gas plants, it doesn't support the other 90% of coal and gas workers that work in our mines and terminals for export. The functions and Fair Work coverage powers of NZEA will be expanded to cover the rest of the workforce.

Secondly, NZEA has no power to actively invest in new industries that will support the regions affected by the transition to zero emissions. Under the plan, NZEA will be given \$10 billion credit to invest in industries and infrastructure that overlap with communities affected by the transition.

End Handouts for Coal, Oil and Gas Corporations

2024 was the hottest year on record and still, both major parties give over \$1 billion in handouts every month to the coal, oil and gas corporations driving the climate crisis.⁴²

⁴¹<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-02-18/australia-climate-how-germanyis-closing-down-its-coal-industry/11902884>

⁴²<https://australiainstitute.org.au/post/fossil-fuel-subsidies-hit-14-5-billion-in-2023-24-up-31/>

To be below 1.5 degrees - or even achieve net zero by 2050 - the world's climate budget cannot accommodate one single new coal or gas mine or fossil fuel infrastructure.⁴³ Yet Federal and State Liberal and Labor governments are actively pouring money into opening up new coal, oil and gas projects.

By stopping the handouts that encourage the use and development of fossil fuels, we will free up to a staggering \$102 billion over the decade to redirect from these sunset industries to reinvest in the sunrise jobs and industries of the future. The funding allocated for the Middle Arm Sustainable Development will not be allowed to fund fossil fuels, and instead will be reallocated through the NZEA to go towards building the renewable energy transmission and network infrastructure directly needed for manufacturing and export hubs.

After two decades and billions of dollars of public money trying to prop up carbon capture and storage for coal and gas projects, it is time to acknowledge the failure and stop throwing money at it. If the coal and gas industry truly thought it would work and provide them with a future, they would be investing their own money into it.

Make the Polluters pay for the damage they are doing

In 2010, when the Greens were in minority parliament, we established the carbon pricing mechanism. This was considered world-leading climate legislation and led to substantial emissions reductions until it was trashed by Tony Abbott.

The Greens want a carbon price to pick up where it was heading; ultimately linking it to the European carbon market for the benefit of Australian farmers and driving innovation, clean investment and emissions reductions right across the entire economy, while banning international offsets to drive these new industries here in Australia.

Make Gas Exporters Pay Taxes and Royalties

No royalties, no taxes, very few jobs, but gas companies continue to have a complete stranglehold over our political parties. The Australian Tax Office has named gas companies "systemic non-payers of tax".⁴⁴

While the rest of us are living through a cost-of-living crisis, gas companies are making out like bandits from wartime profits, free gas and a broken tax regime their accountants run rings around.

The Greens will fix our broken oil and gas tax by wiping all the dodgy tax credits they have accumulated and use to avoid paying taxes. This will mean when excess profits are earned by

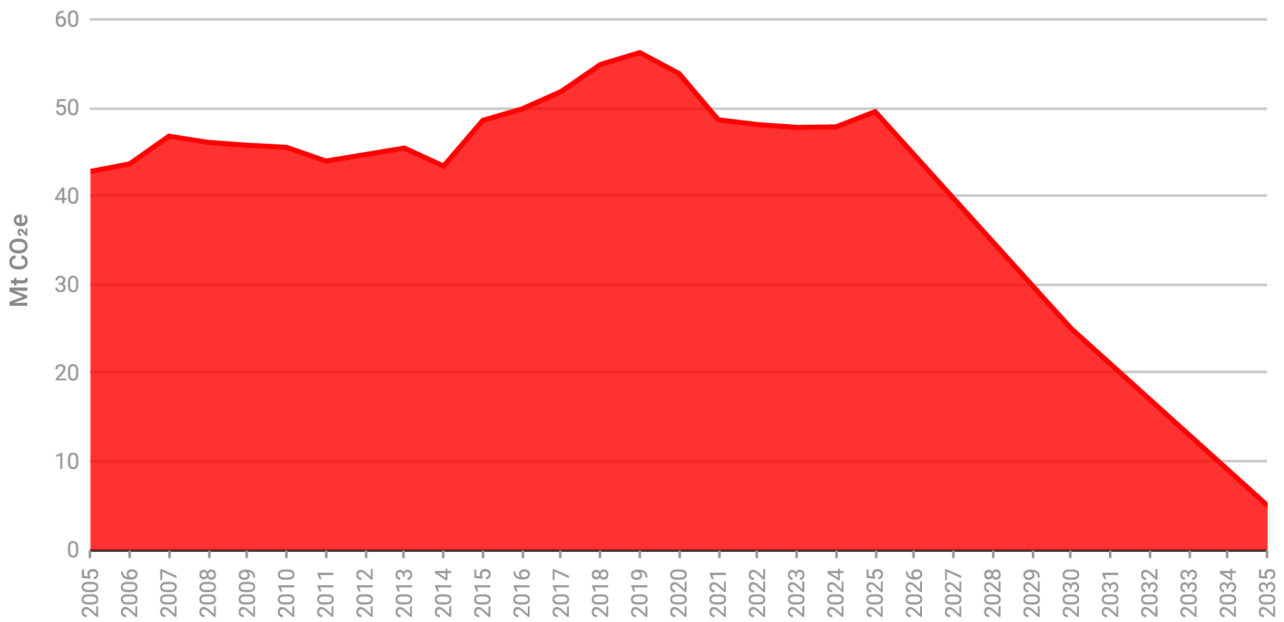
⁴³<https://climateanalytics.org/comment/the-iea-just-published-its-2024-world-energy-outlook-what-does-it-say>

⁴⁴ <https://www.afr.com/politics/federal/oil-gas-systemic-non-payers-of-tax-20191211-p53iys>

gas companies, 40% of it will stay in Australia to help families struggling with the cost of living crisis (including rising gas bills!)

During a cost-of-living crisis while corporations are making record levels of profits, gas companies can afford to pay more tax to help everyday Australians cope with the cost of living crisis. The \$128 billion raised over the decade from oil and gas companies will be redirected to support people struggling with higher prices and invest in the industries of the future.

Projected fugitive emissions



Greens policies for a moratorium on new coal, oil and gas and to phase out existing extraction will see fugitive emissions from fossil fuel production decline to very low levels by 2035. Fugitive emissions from remaining metallurgical coal, oil and gas production will have to be mitigated, with the small remainder of emissions requiring negative emissions in the LULUCF (Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry) sector.

SECTION FOUR: REPLACING COAL & GAS EXPORTS TO BE A CLEAN ENERGY EXPORT POWERHOUSE

Summary:

- A phase out of thermal coal exports by 2030, supporting workers and communities to transition to the new green economy
- Instead of Australia's main global contribution of exporting coal and gas, plans will be implemented to focus on Australia exporting key clean energy infrastructure that is currently experiencing bottle-necks and global shortages.
- To turn Australia into a renewable energy superpower, we will electrify and convert gas export terminals and build Australia's clean energy export capability.
- A circular economy will be established in Australia, slashing our emissions and ocean pollution from plastics, waste and landfill.

Thermal Coal Phase-out

80% of the coal that Australia extracts is exported overseas, just like the companies' profits. Coal companies are profiting from driving climate-fuelled natural disasters while the rest of us have to pay to clean up the damage their products are causing.

We will place an export cap on thermal coal exports, using tradable permits issued by the Commonwealth to decrease the maximum allowable annual thermal coal exports from 200 million tonnes in 2025 to 0 tonnes by July 1 2030.

We will also set a levy of \$1 per tonne on all coal exports, rising by a further \$1 per tonne each year, sending a long-term signal to global markets that coal will be in tight supply and increasingly expensive, and changing the investment decisions of our customers to hasten the transition to pollution-free energy and steel-making.

As the world's second biggest exporter of fossil fuel emissions, Australia can single-handedly speed up the trajectory of the entire world's decarbonisation pathway by sending a long term signal that there is no future for thermal coal.

Australia as a Green-Export Superpower

Green steel, hydrogen, ammonia, aluminium, battery and car components, heat pumps, electrolysers, transmission cables - the list of what the world urgently needs can be made with our competitive advantages.

Our contribution to global decarbonisation can be in unblocking these global bottlenecks as the world scrambles to decouple emissions from economic growth.

That is why the Greens priority for a Future Made in Australia will be to start sector assessments immediately, with the key priority areas where there are global shortages of key components for decarbonisation, including:

- Shipbuilding for purpose built vessels to transport offshore wind turbines in South Australia
- Electrolyser manufacturing used to make green hydrogen
- Constructing transmission towers, cables and transformers for energy grids
- Heat pump manufacturing and supply chain support to get homes and businesses off gas
- Railway tracks made from green steel
- Wind turbine construction in the Illawarra and Whyalla

Green Industrial Transformation

The clean energy export economy is ours to make. It requires developing hydrogen and ammonia export infrastructure and international underwater cables for direct transmission. Diversification also requires building materials here that we can export and add value - instead of continuing to lazily just ship raw commodities.

Decarbonising some of our key exports will be critical to decarbonising and set us on our pathway to becoming a clean energy export powerhouse. Working alongside the Government's Green Iron Fund and green aluminum investment,⁴⁵ green metals will be allocated initial \$700 million in upfront funding in 2025-26, followed by additional funding of \$350 million a year in the form of loans, equity, grants or direct investment to go towards developing a zero carbon Australian metal sector.

\$21.4 million per year will be given to Green Aluminium Australia to modernise and secure its emissions free future.

The Clean Technology Investment Program, axed by Tony Abbott, will be reinstated to co-invest with industry in capital equipment that will help electrify everything and replace gas use and gas feedstocks allocating \$1.6 billion from 2025-26 until 2031-32. The adjacent Clean Technology Food and Foundries Investment program, also axed by Tony Abbott, will be allocated \$28.6 million per year to help manufacturers in the food and foundries industries to invest in energy efficient capital equipment, shift off gas and emissions intensive fertilisers.

⁴⁵<https://www.pm.gov.au/media/albanese-government-building-australias-green-iron-future>

& <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2025-01-19/labor-pledge-2-billion-for-new-aluminium-production-credits/104835420>

The Clean Technology Innovation Program will receive \$57.1 million per year to support research to reduce greenhouse gas emissions with a focus on hard to abate sectors while \$28.6 million will be given each year for research and development into cement to reduce emissions in production and electrification processes.

\$20 million will be put towards the development of a National Green Procurement Strategy to change the way the government invests in Australia's clean technology businesses and ensure that Australian content is maximised in energy infrastructure projects.

Fast charge Australia's battery manufacturing

With Australia's critical minerals and abundance of renewable energy sources, there is an opportunity to leverage this to grow our battery manufacturing industry onshore.

To do so, the Greens will provide an additional \$5 billion over 5 years to support the National Battery Strategy to support manufacturing incentives, support for recycling and other forms of industry support.

To ensure we keep the critical minerals that we need for this industry onshore, a national critical minerals reserve policy will be enacted to ensure a minimum reserve of critical minerals such as lithium are reserved for Australian manufacturing.

Electrifying LNG terminals to secure Australia's last gas and prepare for the transition

Rather than accepting that LNG terminals are stranded assets, the Greens plan will dedicate funding to electrify LNG terminals in order to free up gas right now for our domestic transition and set up these sites to be export terminals for hydrogen and ammonia in the future.

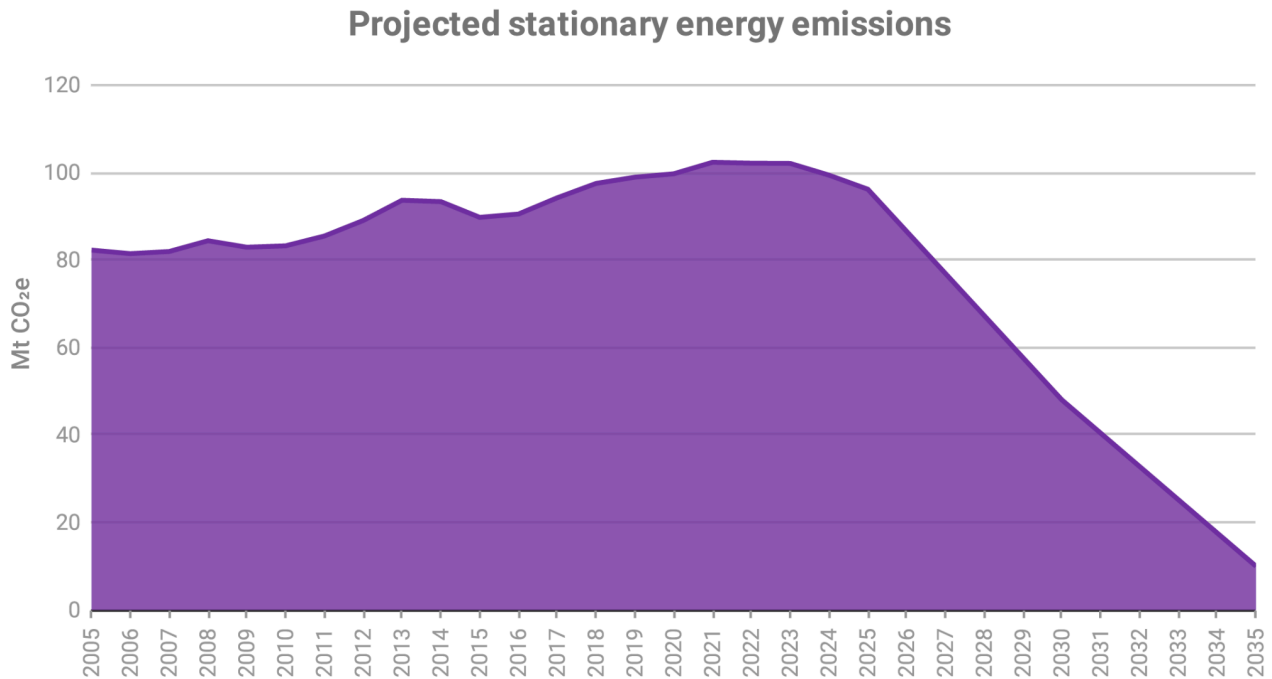
While hydrogen will require substantial upgrading of pipelines, port infrastructure, and compression or transformation technology, the existing major LNG export hubs in Gladstone, Darwin, and the Pilbara have an excellent infrastructure base on which to build clean export hubs.

Electrifying Australia's eleven LNG export terminals is crucial to supporting our transition away from gas and will be achieved by:

- Immediately dropping the safeguard baselines for LNG compressors to zero, forcing electrification instead of running them on gas, and freeing up to 435 PJ⁴⁶ of gas for the domestic market;
- Providing \$4.4 billion in equity funding to the Net Zero Economy Authority to invest in common use infrastructure in heavy industrial areas to transform LNG sites into clean energy export sites.

⁴⁶https://www.energy.gov.au/sites/default/files/2024-08/australian_energy_update_2024.pdf

This will help ensure Australian homes and businesses don't get caught without gas for our domestic transition.



Policies to electrify homes and businesses, tighten the safeguard mechanism and invest in green heavy industry will ensure that manufacturers are able to invest in emissions-free technologies. Stationary energy emissions are the result of energy generation for manufacturing, mining, built environment and construction sectors, and the negative emissions in the LULUCF sector will mitigate the remaining stationary energy emissions.

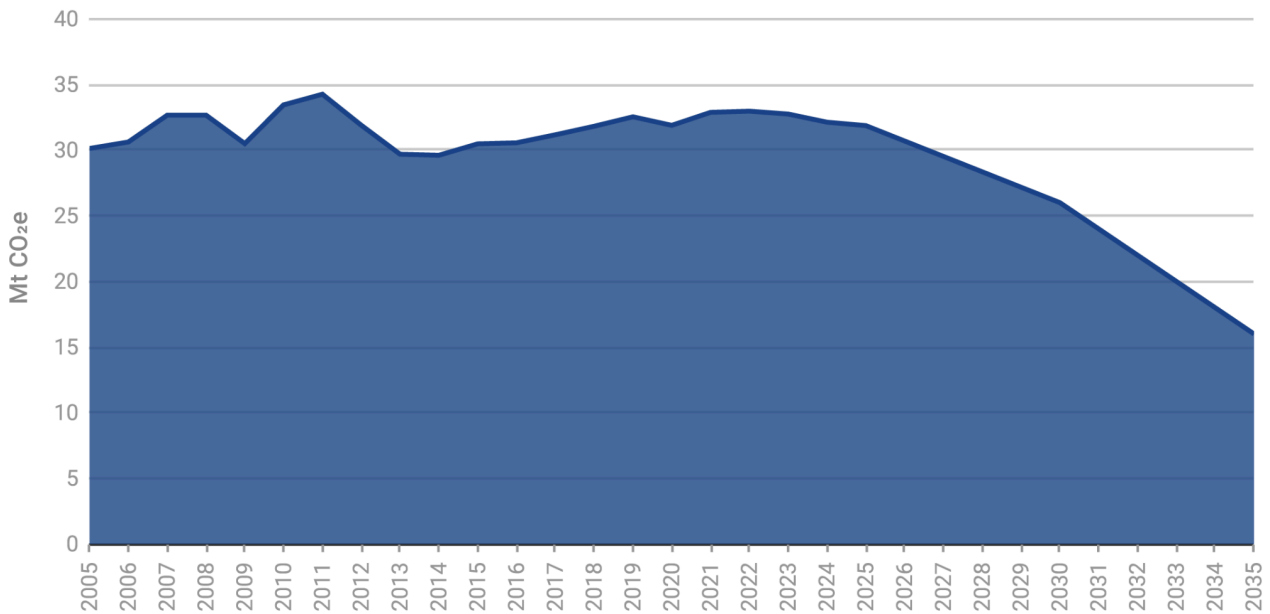
Aligning the Safeguard Mechanism to 1.5 degrees

The Safeguard Mechanism applies to Australia's coal mines, gas fields, LNG terminals and largest industrial facilities. The rate at which these facilities have to decarbonise are aligned with Labor's climate targets, which is more than 2 degrees of warming.

Not only that, but companies are able to buy unlimited amounts of 'offsets' so their actual pollution stays high.

To drive down industrial emissions, regulatory changes will be made to the Safeguard Mechanism to ensure covered emissions, baselines and the decline rate are recalibrated to what the science requires and ACCU offsets will be limited to those few hard to abate sectors. Safeguard Mechanism Credits will still be tradeable as an incentive for those covered facilities that can drive fast reductions to make money from other Safeguard facilities that aren't.

Projected industrial process emissions



Industrial process emissions are generated by a wide variety of industrial activities, such as manufacturing. The policies above will lead to significant emissions reductions in industrial processes. Remaining emissions be cancelled out by negative emissions in the LULUCF sector.

A Circular Economy

Transitioning to circular economies could generate \$1,860 billion in direct benefit to the Australian economy over 20 years, and prevent 165 million tonnes of CO₂ emissions in Australia by 2040⁴⁷.

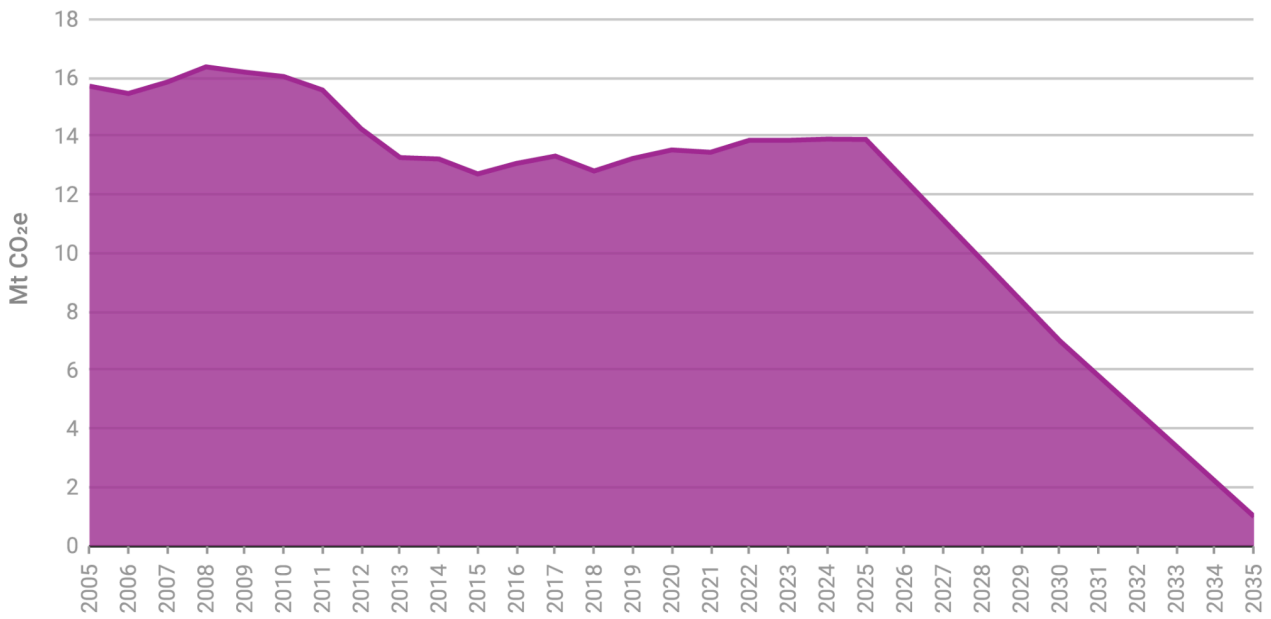
Currently, the big corporate producers and retailers of plastics and plastic packaging have no obligation to take responsibility for the products they unleash, leaving the costs of recovery and recycling squarely at the feet of consumers and local governments. Further, plastics make up 45% of the petrochemical sector, which is expected to drive growth in the world's oil demand out to 2050.⁴⁸

The Greens comprehensive plan to create a circular economy will prioritise avoidance and reduction of waste including through a ban on single use plastics (with medical exemptions), while also investing in research and technologies to improve recycling programs and help create secondary markets for recycled materials, and moving away from waste incineration.

⁴⁷ <https://www.pwc.com.au/assurance/esg/building-a-more-circular-australia.pdf>

⁴⁸ <https://www.iea.org/news/petrochemicals-set-to-be-the-largest-driver-of-world-oil-demand-latest-iea-analysis-finds?>

Projected waste emissions



Our policies to create a circular economy, including rebooting recycling, incentivising manufacturers to include recycled content in their products, and funding research and development to avoid and reduce plastic waste will drive emissions reductions in the waste sector.

SECTION FIVE: CHEAP AND RELIABLE CLEAN TRANSPORT

Summary:

- To lower transport emissions, 50 cent fares around the country will drive public transport use, while a ten-year \$40 billion investment in sustainable cities will expand our active and public transport network over the decade.
- A guarantee of the high speed rail network between Melbourne, Sydney, Canberra, Brisbane and key regional areas to remain in public ownership.
- Through rebates and tightened emissions standards, purchasing a new electric vehicle (EV) will be made cheaper and availability expanded.
- Building a publicly-owned linked up network of fast charging stations across our suburbs and highways to ensure that everyone has access.
- Driving investment in a home-grown EV manufacturing industry.

Abundant and Dependable Public Transport

Transport is responsible for 22.8% of Australia's annual carbon pollution and it is growing.⁴⁹ Transport emissions are on track to be Australia's largest source of pollution in coming years. Transport includes personal vehicles, public transport, couriers, logistics and haulage as well as domestic flights.

So while electric vehicles are important, this alone won't solve Australia's big emissions problem. Reducing pollution in transport requires getting people into public transport, bikes and walking. But for so many people this isn't a realistic alternative right now. That is why reducing emissions in transport requires huge investment in public transport infrastructure as well as a huge expansion in our bus networks and fast rail between cities.

The Greens will commit \$40 billion over ten years in grant funding to support sustainable cities capital projects, including for active and public transport. This funding will be tied to clear national standards for sustainable urban development. To ensure people can get to where they want to go, easily, frequently and cheaply, 50 cent fares will be rolled out across the country.

⁴⁹ Quarterly Update of Australia's National Greenhouse Gas Inventory: September Quarter 2024

High speed rail between Australia’s eastern mainland cities would be a transformative project that will link up regional cities with our capitals and will be central to the shift to a clean economy. Building high speed rail would provide a sustainable alternative to domestic flights between Sydney, Melbourne, Canberra, Brisbane, and connecting regional cities.

Rather than leaving the project to private developers, the Greens will build this project with public funds in the public interest. The Greens will ensure the High Speed Rail Authority is able to get on with building the network by investing substantially towards a goal of a completed network from Brisbane to Melbourne, including a guarantee the high-speed rail network remains in public hands, from construction to service delivery.

Cheaper Electric Vehicles in Australia

It should be easy to make the smarter, cleaner choice. While EVs are far cheaper to own than petrol cars, the up-front price remains higher. As batteries keep getting more efficient and cheaper, this means prices will come down - but not fast enough.

To get electric vehicles onto the road, we have to speed up their affordability, similar to the way we did with rolling out solar panels onto Australia rooftops. To accelerate the uptake of EVs, the Greens will provide financial assistance for first-time buyers of EVs, with grants of up to \$10,000 available.

The First EV Rebate would provide up to \$10,000 for your first electric vehicle,⁵⁰ with the total maximum grant size declining over the coming years as EV uptake increases and phasing out entirely after 2.5 million vehicles have been rebated under the scheme as per the below timetable:

Eligible Buyers	Total Rebate	Bonus Rebate
First 100,000	\$10,000	\$5,000
Next 200,000	\$7,500	\$3,750
Next 200,000	\$5,000	\$2,500
Next 500,000	\$3,000	\$1,500
Next 500,000	\$2,000	\$1,000
Final 1,000,000	\$1,000	\$500

The bonus rebate would be made available to purchasers of cars made in Australia, which will help incentivise the return of Australian motor vehicle manufacturing. For cars made in Australia

⁵⁰ Each individual would be eligible for up to one rebate, with a register to be kept by the Clean Energy Regulator on receipt of the rebate. Given low uptake of electric vehicles to date, this would be the first electric vehicle for most individuals, however existing electric vehicle owners who have not yet received a rebate would also be eligible.

the maximum rebate is up to 30% of the total cost of the vehicle, and 20% for cars made offshore.

A Linked Up Network of Fast-Charging EV Stations Across Australia

One of the big psychological barriers for people to purchase EVs is what happens on those occasional long trips taken each year. Buying an electric vehicle should be the straightforward choice - Australians shouldn't feel stressed and impeded by poor infrastructure.

To make this 'range anxiety' disappear, we need the construction of a carefully deployed network of major highway and outer suburban charging stations that quickly gets the vehicle back to full power. Under the Greens' plan, the Commonwealth Electricity Corporation will build a publicly-owned network of EV chargers. \$2 billion in equity funding will be provided to roll out this publicly-owned fast charge EV network complimenting existing commercial and state funded programs.

This funding will be prioritised for fast charging stations that allow drivers to get to 80% charge in approximately 15-30 minutes, with a focus on installing over 30,000 fast chargers at critical points all across the country, ensuring that everyone will have access to the electric vehicle revolution.

Tightening vehicle emissions standards

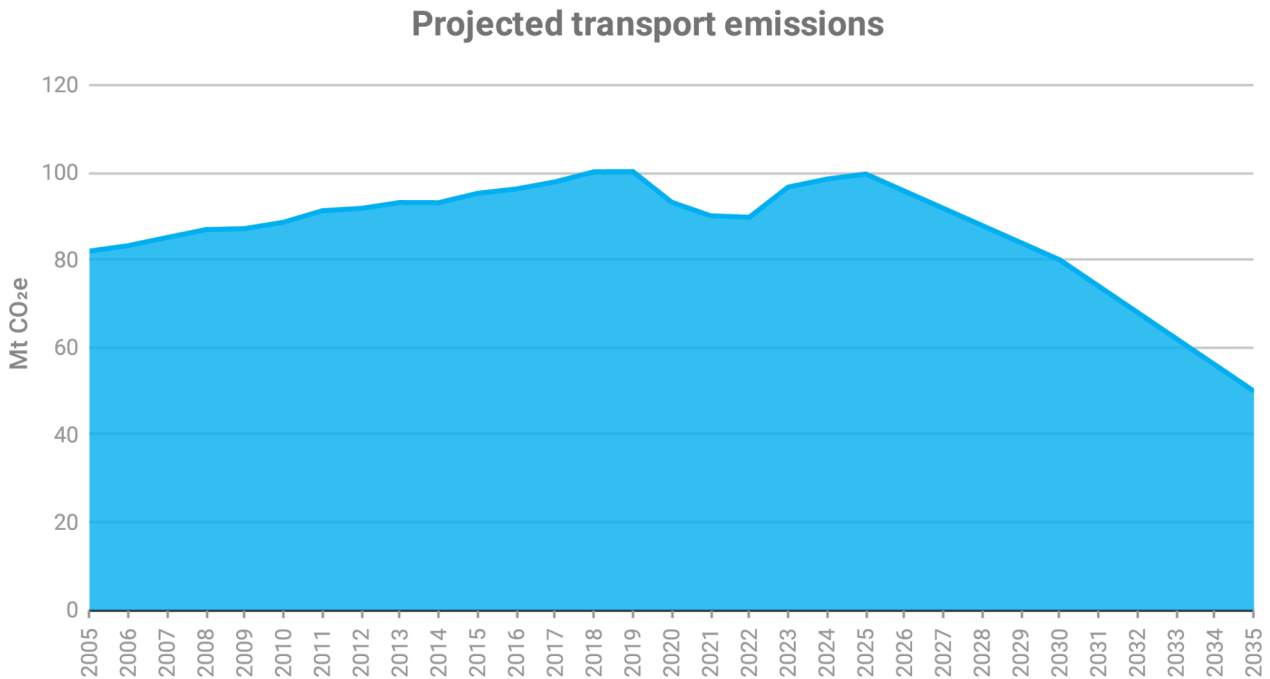
The Greens were the only party that took a policy to the 2022 election to introduce emissions standards on new vehicles. Without it, Australia would be the dumping ground for polluting vehicles because efficient cars would be diverted to every other market with fuel standards.

This Parliament, it was legislated, but with generous carve outs and weakened trajectories to what was first announced. These changes are too slow and won't drive the uptake in the limited time that we have, that is why the standards will be improved.

Financial Year	Emissions standard
2025-26	105g/km
2026-27	84g/km
2027-28	63g/km
2028-29	42g/km
2029-30	21g/km
2030-31	0g/km

The penalty for non-compliance will be \$100 per one excess gram of carbon dioxide per km over the set standards, multiplied by total passenger vehicle sold in Australia for the given year.

Like in many other advanced economies, from 1 July 2030 the sale of new internal combustion engine passenger vehicles would end.



Our policies to support the uptake of electric vehicles, invest in cheaper and more frequent public transport, and create walkable and bike-friendly cities will drive down transport emissions, a major contributor to Australia's total emissions. The negative emissions from the LULUCF sector will cancel out any remaining transport emissions.

Making Electric Vehicle Components in Australia

Previous Federal governments have been asleep at the wheel when it has come to enticing and promoting electric vehicles and manufacturing in Australia, but now there is a slow increase in uptake of EVs after the Greens worked with the Labor government to put fuel efficiency standards in place.

Australia has the capacity and the potential to be an international participant in the electric vehicle market, but this sector has been neglected by past governments, increasing not only our national transport emissions but also the price of EVs.

Australia's flagging electric vehicle market will be invigorated by providing \$1.2 billion in funding over three years for the National Reconstruction Fund to attract EV and EV supply chain manufacturers to Australia.

Alongside the bonus rebate for Australian made EVs this will be a strong market signal for re-establishing a homegrown car industry.

By encouraging EV manufacturers to set up shop in Australia, there will not only be the creation of new, clean jobs but we will also be entering into a growing and desirable market which, as it expands, will help EVs become more affordable.

SECTION SIX: CLIMATE REPAIR - RESTORING THE LAND AND CARBON DRAWDOWN

Summary:

- To return to a safe climate we need to go beyond net-zero emissions and start drawing down pollution from the atmosphere. Over time Australia's landscape can play a big role in drawing down carbon and putting us on a pathway to safe-climate.
- The easiest emissions reduction pathway is to close down the loss-making native forestry businesses of NSW and Tasmania, start protecting and regenerating ecosystems and support sustainable jobs.
- Investments in agriculture will be made to make our farming sector more diverse and more resilient as a heating planet is already taking profits away from farmers.
- A Centre for Climate Repair will research and develop ways to start to repair the climate from large scale drawdown to improved air quality in our cities.

National Centre for Climate Repair

Getting to net-zero emissions will stop making the climate crisis worse, but it won't end the damage caused by global warming. Heat-trapping gases can hang around in the atmosphere for a very long time so unless we go beyond net-zero and return our atmosphere to safe levels of gases – the climate damage will continue to unfold.

Scientists estimate a safe climate to be somewhere between 300-350 ppm of CO₂, which means we need to reduce atmospheric CO₂ concentrations in the atmosphere by approximately 100 ppm.

That is why the Greens climate targets are for a 75% reduction on 2005 levels by 2030 and net-zero emissions by 2035. We will then go further and aim to be a net-negative emissions economy with net drawdown every year.

With the right policies we estimate that we can drawdown millions of tonnes a year of emissions through land use change and protecting our land and our forests. At first this drawdown will be needed to support our goal of net-zero and cancel out remnant emissions that are hard to eliminate quickly. Over time as we move to net-negative emissions, this drawdown can start to

contribute to the goal of returning the world to a safe climate.

Labor and Liberal's aspiration for net-zero envisages the continued use of fossil fuels which must be "netted" out with negative emissions. They have no plan for drawing down carbon pollution beyond net zero and assisting in the return to a safe climate. Their policies are a recipe for continued climate damage from ongoing sea level rise, high temperatures and extreme weather.

The Greens are the only Australian political party with a policy for carbon drawdown and climate repair. As we move to net zero, increasing attention will need to be given to identifying actions that can begin to repair the damage to our climate.

With \$249 million over the decade, a Centre for Climate Repair will research and develop ways to start to repair the climate from large scale drawdown to improved air quality in our cities. The Centre will have a particular focus on how to protect the Antarctic regions under Australia's responsibility, as the collapse of the Antarctic ice sheets, if not prevented, will drive multi-century sea level rise.

Protecting our Forests

The easiest and cheapest way to help prevent further global heating is keeping our forests exactly as they are. Our climate plan requires ending the destructive logging that is destroying wildlife habitat, water catchments, carbon stores, the beauty of our forests, and opportunities for tourism and recreation.

The Greens will do this by fixing the loopholes in our broken environment laws that allow deforestation and destruction of critical habitat to continue across the country, including through repealing the Regional Forest Agreements (RFAs) between federal and state governments and the continuing use exemption exploited by some in the agricultural sector.

Under this plan to protect native forests and the climate, we will spend \$10 billion over 20 years to fund ecological restoration and support a just transition for workers. For eligible states there will be minimum annual payments of:

- \$140.4 million per year for New South Wales
- \$43.9 million per year for Victoria
- \$58.4 million per year for Western Australia
- \$198.8 million per year for Tasmania
- \$58.5 million per year for Queensland

This funding will not be used as industry buyouts. These funds would be used to develop, implement, and support integrated ecological and economic development plans that enable forest management, ecological restoration, fire prevention and response, and economic transitions.

These projects would provide significant employment through ecological restoration such as:

- restoring previously logged forests, including where post-logging regeneration has failed;
- restoring biodiversity and threatened species habitat, and sequester carbon;

- pest and invasive species control;
- effective, ecologically appropriate and culturally-informed fire management;
- park ranger, education, and sustainable nature tourism facilities; and
- plantation forestry, farming, and fibre production.

According to research by The Climate Council's Clean Jobs Plan⁵¹ a \$500 million investment in ecosystem restoration could create 3,000 jobs over 3 years. Under our plan, maintained per year over 20 years, this could mean:

- 842 jobs for New South Wales;
- 263 jobs for Victoria;
- 350 jobs for Western Australia;
- 1,193 jobs for Tasmania;
- 351 jobs for Queensland.

These commitments would save at least 14.5 million tonnes of CO₂ per year,⁵² restore critical habitat for endangered species, provide employment for communities and First Nations people using environmental knowledge and support regional economies through sustainability and tourism infrastructure. Australia cannot meet its emissions reduction targets without ending native forest logging.⁵³

Green Australia Fund

To restore our natural environment, create jobs and lower emissions below zero, the Greens are committed to a significant step up in funding for nature to ensure 1% of the Federal Budget goes towards Australia's precious natural environment. This includes \$2 billion a year spent on biodiversity restoration through the Green Australia Fund which will fund a range of projects, including through the recently established Nature Repair Scheme and local council greening programs.

This program will be targeted towards threatened species and ecosystem recovery projects including, but not limited to: habitat protection and restoration, monitoring and data collection, development and implementation of threatened species recovery plans, and threat abatement plans, rehabilitation of waterways; and invasive species management.

This funding boost is urgently needed to address decades of critical underfunding and meet targets to halt extinctions and protect 30 per cent of land and seas by 2030.

Research by the Biodiversity Council has shown that the Australian Government spends up to 50x more on biodiversity harmful direct and indirect subsidies (\$26.3 billion) than biodiversity protection (\$475 million).⁵⁴ The Greens will commission an independent assessment of harmful

⁵¹https://www.climatecouncil.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Climate-Council_AlphaBeta-Clean-Jobs-Plan-2007-20.pdf

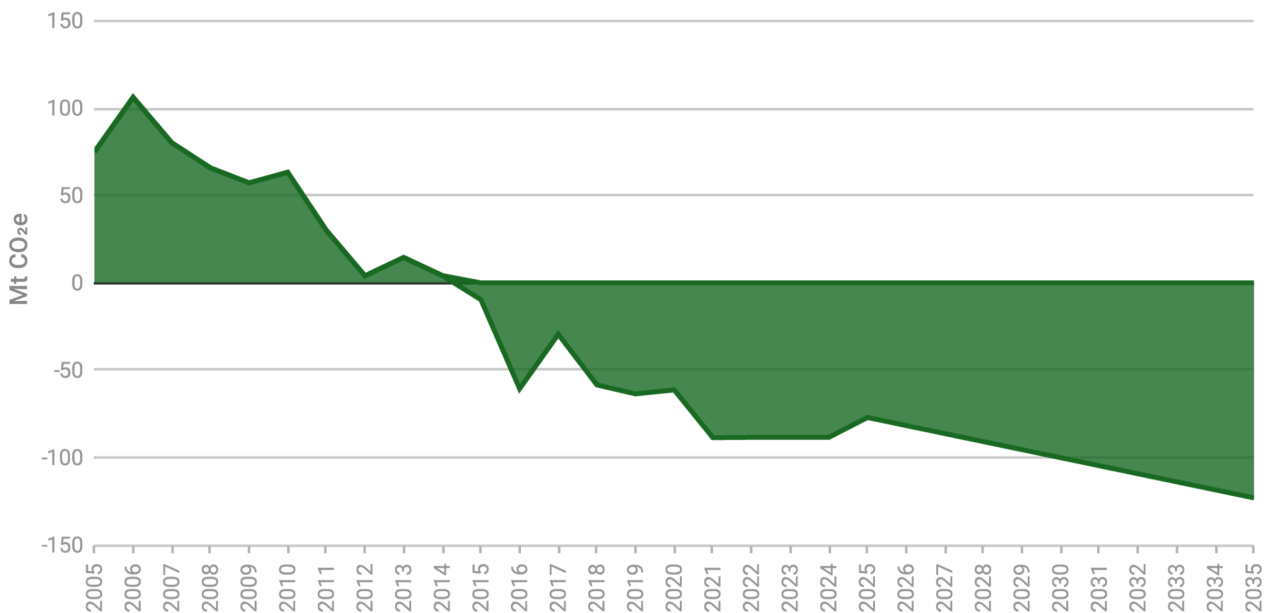
⁵²<https://biodiversitycouncil.org.au/news/our-emissions-targets-are-easy-peasy-to-meet>

⁵³<https://www.anu.edu.au/news/all-news/stopping-native-forest-logging-key-to-getting-to-net-zero>

⁵⁴<https://biodiversitycouncil.org.au/resources/identifying-and-assessing-subsidies-harmful-to-biodiversity-in-australia>

biodiversity subsidies with a view to reform them accordingly to fund further biodiversity conservation initiatives.

Projected LULUCF emissions



The LULUCF sector is instrumental in achieving net zero by 2035. The Greens’ policies such as supporting carbon drawdown, protecting native forests and restoring habitat will ensure the LULUCF sector emissions will reach negative emissions. This will offset emissions in other sectors to meet net zero by 2035.

Improved Agriculture

Currently agriculture is responsible for 19.2 per cent of Australia’s emissions,⁵⁵ but there are huge opportunities for Australian farmers and land managers to change their practices, regenerate their land, and turn Australia’s landscape from a carbon source into a carbon sink. There is already significant action being taken across the agricultural sector. Meat and Livestock Australia, for example, has a carbon neutral target by 2030.⁵⁶

Diversifying and making our agricultural sector more resilient is not only good for reducing emissions but it will also protect the incomes of farmers. Research by government agency ABARES shows that due to the changed climate since 2000, farmers have already lost 18% of their profits. The impact is most pronounced in cropping, which has suffered a 35% drop, equivalent to \$70,900 per farm per year.⁵⁷

⁵⁵Quarterly Update of Australia’s National Greenhouse Gas Inventory: September Quarter 2024.

⁵⁶<https://www.mla.com.au/research-and-development/Environment-sustainability/carbon-neutral-2030-rd/cn30/>

⁵⁷<https://www.agriculture.gov.au/abares/products/insights/effects-of-drought-and-climate-variability-on-Australian-farms>

The Greens will invest \$50 million to support rapid scaling of on-farm renewable energy generation, and a further \$50 million in subsidy funding for on-farm batteries and renewable energy storage infrastructure.

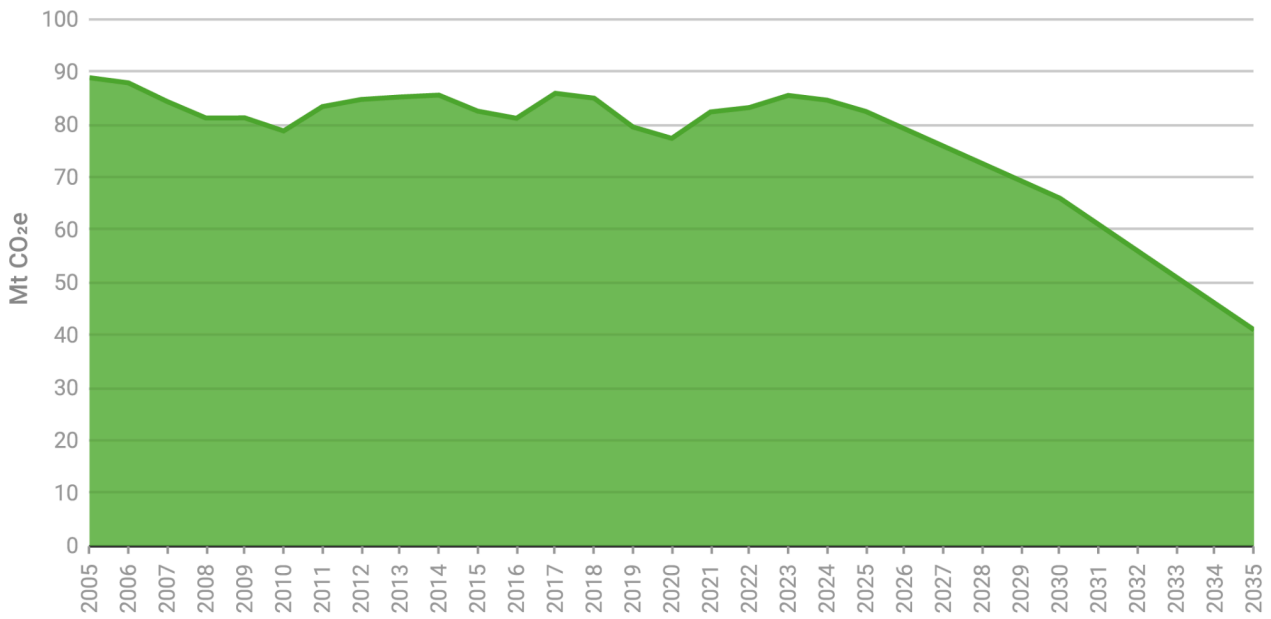
\$2 million will be used to establish an agricultural demonstration and knowledge-sharing program within the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) and a further \$2 million to establish an agrovoltatics research and knowledge sharing program to encourage communities, showing that agriculture and renewable energy production can co-exist.

Australia has the potential to create a \$1.5 billion seaweed industry over coming decades.⁵⁸ Seaweed farming could contribute significantly to Australia's sustainable development agenda, but this can only be realised with appropriate regulation and management. A science-based adaptive policy approach is important.

That is why the Greens will support the establishment and growth of an Australian seaweed industry by investing \$50 million for research, development and extension (RD&E) projects for commercial seaweed aquaculture and harvesting in Australia. A further \$100 million will also be used to fund research and operations to support new protein-rich foods exported to the world while contributing to a greener and future-proof food system.

⁵⁸<https://agrifutures.com.au/product/seaweed-aquaculture-governance-in-australia/>

Projected agriculture emissions



Policies such as incentivising on-site renewables and storage and supporting technologies for enteric fermentation mitigation will help drive down agricultural emissions. Remaining emissions will be cancelled out by negative emissions in the LULUCF sector.

SECTION SEVEN: PROTECTING OUR COMMUNITY FROM CLIMATE BREAKDOWN

Summary:

- Citizens will have a right to sue coal and gas companies for damage to property from natural disasters. Coal and gas companies will also pay for the damage they are doing, by creating a legal power for the Government to require coal, gas and oil companies to contribute to both the reinsurance pool and the Disaster Recovery Fund
- Removing stamp duty on insurance will put more than \$4 billion back in people's pockets across Australia in the first year alone. States will be reimbursed the lost income - paid for by coal and gas companies.
- Flooding events from Brisbane and the Northern Rivers, down to Melbourne have made insurance inaccessible or massively increased. To tackle insurance inflation, the government owned reinsurance corporation will expand beyond cyclones to cover flood and fire risks too.
- We will bolster our public infrastructure with additional funding to ensure that communities are made safer from the increasingly frequent and severe natural disasters.

The first responsibility of any government is to keep its citizens safe. But both Coalition and Labor governments intend to leave us in harm's way instead of taking on the coal and gas companies threatening our homes and communities. Australia is more exposed to climate damage than pretty much any other country.

When Brisbane was flooded in 2011, everyday people were asked to pay \$5.6 billion in clean up costs through an increase in the Medicare Levy.⁵⁹ Under our plans, the companies that are profiting from driving the climate crisis will be made to pay to clean up after themselves.

The money raised from ending the suite of handouts that support burning coal, oil and gas is more than enough to cover the costs of creating the hundreds of thousands of jobs needed to achieve a safe climate.

⁵⁹ <https://www.smh.com.au/business/levy-to-pay-for-5-6b-flood-bill-20110127-1a64x.html>

Cheaper insurance, accessible insurance

Between September 2022 and September 2024, insurance premiums in Australia increased, on average, by 30.8%.⁶⁰ This is the highest increase of all essential items and is being driven by the escalating intensity and frequency of climate-driven natural disasters, such as flooding and bushfires.

Communities in areas that insurance companies have designated as high risk of exposure to cyclones, floods and bushfires have seen the steepest premium increases and reported growing insurance unaffordability and unavailability.

The Actuaries Institute says that 1.6 million households are currently experiencing insurance stress - many of whom are concentrated in these high-risk areas.⁶¹ Climate Valuation projects that by 2030 more than 3 million households - or 21% of all homes - will have some exposure to riverine flooding.⁶²

To halt the rising trend of underinsurance, the government-owned Cyclone Reinsurance Pool will be extended to cover all natural disasters to lower premiums and ensure everyone can access affordable insurance.

This will be accompanied by a legal power for the Government to require coal, gas and oil companies to contribute to the reinsurance pool and Disaster Ready Fund, to ensure that the reinsurance pool does not increase costs for consumers.

Further, insurance costs will be reduced by wiping the notoriously inefficient stamp duties imposed on house and car insurance premiums. States will be reimbursed for lost revenue in exchange for wiping this awful tax in order to increase coverage and improve affordability.

State	Average Annual Insurance Savings for Households in 2026-27
Victoria	\$582
New South Wales	\$271
Queensland	\$505
Western Australia	\$616
South Australia	\$524
Tasmania	\$474

⁶⁰ABS, Consumer Price Index, Table 9 via Parliamentary Library

⁶¹Actuaries Institute, Home Insurance Affordability and Home Loans at Risk, August 2024, <https://actuaries.asn.au/docs/thought-leadership-reports/home-insurance-affordability-and-home-loans-at-risk.pdf>

⁶²Climate Valuation, Going Under: The imperative to act in Australia's high flood risk suburbs, June 2024, https://climatevaluation.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Climate-Valuation_Going-Under-Report_June_2024.pdf

Northern Territory	\$859
Australia (Average)	\$446

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission will be given \$5 million a year to monitor insurance premium prices across Australia and publish monitoring reports on a quarterly basis, requiring transparency from insurers to provide clear breakdowns of premium costs and adjustments.

The Greens will also proceed with our *Liability for Climate Change Damage (Make the Polluters Pay) Bill*, which gives people the right to sue coal, oil and gas corporations for their contribution to the climate-induced damage caused to people’s homes and businesses.

Preparing for Climate Impacts

Our national infrastructure is already failing to cope with a radically changing climate. We have built our cities and regions for a climate that is no longer with us. That is why we will provide an additional \$4.5 billion over a decade to the Disaster Ready Fund, to which coal, gas and oil companies will also be required to contribute, for investment in public infrastructure to boost disaster mitigation and resilience measures.

Even under a low emissions scenario, natural disasters are expected to cost the Australian economy at least \$73 billion annually by 2060.⁶³ For every dollar spent on protecting and preparing communities, up to ten dollars could be saved,⁶⁴ but there is a current lack of interest from the government to help out households, exposing them to increased vulnerability.

One-off grants of up to \$20,000 will be available to all single dwelling households in high-risk flood or cyclone zones to subsidise the costs of protecting the house and keeping communities together.

Finally \$10 million will be invested to establish and maintain a public national disaster risk map and database, covering all types of natural disasters in Australia. This will help prospective home-owners, renters, insurance companies and state governments to know the exact levels of climate risk a community faces and plan accordingly.

⁶³https://australianbusinessroundtable.com.au/assets/documents/Special%20report:%20Update%20to%20the%20economic%20costs%20of%20natural%20disasters%20in%20Australia/Special%20report%20_Update%20to%20the%20economic%20costs%20of%20natural%20disasters%20in%20Australia.pdf

⁶⁴https://insurancecouncil.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/R_ICA_Resilience_Final_220218.pdf

Extreme Weather Preparedness Emergency Services Funding

Our frontline services are critical in responding to emergencies, and with climate-induced natural disasters including bushfires and floods are on the rise, they need support to ensure they are equipped to assist our communities.

An investment of \$5 billion over 10 years to support fire and emergency services across the country will be directed to equipment upgrades, bushfire prevention and land management programs and hiring and training new personnel.

National Climate Response Service

Communities across the country are bearing the brunt of the climate crisis caused by coal and gas, and brave volunteers are spending countless hours protecting people and cleaning up afterwards, but too often the government is underprepared and can't stay to help the community put the pieces back together

A national Climate Response Service would help co-ordinate the thousands of volunteers who already do this lifesaving work across the country, putting thousands of people on the ground to help prepare for fires, floods, and cyclones and assist with the extensive cleanup after they strike.

\$3 billion in funding would be managed by the National Emergency Management Authority, working with local communities to provide skilled, scalable support in a crisis.

National Disaster Response Unit

Longer and increasing fire seasons in both the northern and southern hemispheres means that where there used to be months separating these seasons, they now overlap. Overlapping fire seasons mean we can no longer rely on sourcing the aircrafts and crews we need from northern hemisphere countries when we need them. Simultaneously, longer fire seasons coincide with our increasingly destructive wet season in the north.

According to bushfire experts, Australia needs fast-attack aerial capabilities and strategies to stop megafires from forming.⁶⁵ This means stopping bushfires in their early stages, which for remote bushfires requires an aerial firefighting capability that can be dispatched quickly, with minimal travel time, and appropriate logistical support. This could include both crewed flights and drone technology.

The Greens will invest to create and operate a National Disaster Response Unit (NDRU) that will become a specialised natural disaster rapid-response capacity for states and territories.

\$375 million will be dedicated to capital costs such as procuring aircraft and infrastructure. With \$50 million per year for ongoing costs, the Greens will commit to a total investment of over half a billion dollars to the NDRU through to 2029 to ensure it has the infrastructure, staff and a flexible fleet it needs for rapid natural disaster response.

⁶⁵<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2020/may/13/australia-needs-fast-attack-strategies-to-stop-megafires-forming-bushfire-experts-say>

Aircraft and aviation crew will be based in strategic and existing facilities around the country. Options for long-range large aerial tankers will be restricted to infrastructure with longer runways, while smaller aircraft with shorter ranges could be based in more regional areas.

This will allow for timely, dynamic, and strategic deployments across the country that are coordinated in the national interest.

NDRU on-the-ground responders and assets will be strategically located around Australia, and will be capable of responding to various natural disasters - including floods, tropical storms, and remote area bushfires - complex and remote area search and rescues, and foreign disaster response/relief efforts provided by the Commonwealth.

This is a policy that will not only save civilian lives, but also look after the safety of frontline emergency workers. Under this model, the NDRU's frontline personnel will work year-round, and remain in peak condition. This also means that in times of natural disasters, jurisdictional fire stations will be able to retain more of their state-funded firefighters and emergency services personnel.

The National Disaster Response Unit will also increase Australia's capacity to meet its responsibilities in providing Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief to the Asia-Pacific region, as we did with the 2015 wildfires in Indonesia and Papua New Guinea, the 2017 typhoon (Damrey) in Vietnam, the 2018 earthquake and tsunami in (Sulawesi) Indonesia, the 2020 cyclone (Yasa) in Fiji, and the 2023 cyclone (Lola) in Vanuatu.

APPENDIX A:

Financial implications of *Powering Past Coal and Gas*

Financial implications for measures prepared by the independent Parliamentary Budget Office and relate to the period 2024-25 to 2034-35. Figures presented on an underlying cash balance basis.

SECTION	MEASURE	FINANCIAL IMPACTS OVER THIS CRITICAL DECADE (UCB)(\$M)
Climate Leadership	National climate action taskforce	-\$16
	Ban Greenwashing	\$0
	Get fossil fuel funding out of our communities	-\$275
Cheaper Power and 100% Renewable Energy	100% renewables	\$22
	Rental right to solar and publicly owned energy	\$149
	Apartment Dwellers Energy Upgrade Fund	-\$2,013
	Solar and storage in our schools and public buildings	-\$6,675
	Helping Homes and Businesses Transition off gas	-\$14,982
	Household Solar Storage Scheme	-\$2,270
	Small Business Solar Storage Scheme	-\$1,432
	Better quality homes that are more affordable to live in	-\$10
	First Nations Clean Energy Futures Implementation and Grants Program	-\$70
	Locally owned community renewables	-\$1,051

	Public Housing Energy Upgrade Fund	-\$800
	FutureGrid - public ownership of the future energy grid	\$773
	Extending the RET	-\$3
	Zero Emission Communities	-\$340
	Office of Electrification	-\$90
	Public Education and thought leadership on electrification	-\$80
	Review of NEM and writing new household centred rules	-\$10
Phasing Out Coal and Gas While Looking After Communities	No more coal, oil and gas	\$0
	End fossil fuel subsidies	\$101,754
	Big Corporations Tax (Oil and Gas)	\$127,870
	Plan for Coal and Gas Workers	-\$10,264
Replacing coal and gas exports to be a clean energy export powerhouse	Green Transformation Fund	-\$3,327
	Thermal coal phase out	-\$117
	National Green Procurement Strategy	-\$20
	Fast Charge Australian Battery Manufacturing	-\$5,000
	More electric vehicle manufacturing incentives	-\$1,200
	Identifying Australia's clean competitive advantages	-\$8
	Align safeguard decline rates to limiting warming by 1.5 degrees	-\$3
	Retrofit LNG Terminals	\$1,495
Cheap and Reliable Clean Transport	50c fares for public transport	-\$29,993

	Transforming Australian Cities	-\$36,116
	Getting high speed rail back on track	\$450
	More Electric Vehicles - EV Rebate	-\$7,110
	More Electric Vehicles - Fleetwide Emission Caps	-\$6,760
	More Electric Vehicles - Fast charging infrastructure	\$254
Climate Repair - Restoring the Land and Carbon Drawdown	Centre for Climate Repair	-\$249
	Protecting Native Forests, Protecting the Climate	-\$4,505
	Green Australia Fund	-\$20,000
	On farm Renewable Energy Generation Accelerator	-\$50
	On farm Battery Charging and Storage Accelerator	-\$50
	On-farm Renewables and Battery Storage Demonstration and Knowledge-sharing Program	-\$2
	Seaweed farming	-\$50
	Future proofing the food system	-\$100
Protecting Our Community From Climate Breakdown	Extreme Weather Preparedness Emergency Services Funding	-\$5,138
	Extreme Weather Infrastructure Preparedness Program	-\$4,500
	Extreme Weather Preparedness Household Program	-\$15,850
	Cheaper insurance in a climate crisis - stamp duty	-\$49,295

Cheaper insurance in a climate crisis - other measures	-\$60
National Climate Response Service	-\$3,000
Establishing National Support for Natural Disaster Responses	-\$873
TOTAL UNDERLYING CASH BALANCE IMPACT (Excluding PDI)	-\$990



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