

Jagajaga Climate Scorecard – Candidate’s Policies
Policies as at 11 April 2025

This document consists primarily of verbatim extracts from parties’ policies which are relevant to the seven NCAT scorecard scoring categories. Some relevant parliamentary documents, media reports, independent policy analyses etc. are also quoted. Omissions within a sentence are marked by ellipses (‘...’), but are usually not noted between paragraphs or in lists; explanatory additions are in square brackets.

1. Strong Leadership on the climate emergency

| Party | Extracts from policies |
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| Chris Kearney Independent | <p>Climate Policies (website)</p> <p>Climate change</p> <p>Our changing weather and extreme events are caused by greenhouse gases trapping heat in the atmosphere. Insurance costs are rising to cover the damage caused by these changes. To slow and reverse this, we must stop releasing these harmful gases into the environment as soon as possible.</p> <p>Here’s how we can act:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce carbon emissions by adding the real costs of greenhouse gases to today’s energy prices through a carbon price to achieve a 75% reduction by 2030. • Immediately ban new licences for thermal coal and natural gas extraction and remove government subsidies, while reserving Australia’s existing gas supplies for Australians use during the transition to renewable energy. • Remove barriers to building the energy networks needed to deliver affordable renewable energy to everyone. • Provide Federal funding for urban development, which includes solar generation and electrification, that is less energy hungry and adapted for flooding and heat effects due to the changing climate. • An immediate end to the logging of native forests with support for plantation replacements. <p>Climate change is real and happening now. We have to stop polluting the atmosphere with carbon dioxide but Labor and Liberal keep approving new coal mines and gas fields, making the situation worse. That's why you need to vote for a community independent, someone who represents your interests and not those of the fossil fuel industries!</p> |
| Chris Parr Liberal | <p>Let’s Get Australia Back on Track – Priorities of a Dutton Coalition Government</p> <p>Deliver Affordable and Reliable Energy (Page 14):</p> <p>... The Coalition believes we need to deliver cheaper, consistent and cleaner power. Labor’s industrial scale renewables-only rollout is destroying prime agricultural land, our national landscapes and our coastlines. We are committed to achieving net zero emissions by 2050. This must be done through considered planning that doesn’t inflict higher power prices on the Australian economy and that doesn’t result in manufacturing jobs moving offshore to countries with higher emissions than Australia ...</p> <p>Build Strong and Sustainable Communities (Page 32-35):</p> <p>... Our Solution ...</p> <p>Genuine Conservation</p> <p>A Dutton Coalition Government will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on practical and genuine environmental conservation ... • Support practical initiatives to address climate change ... <p>[Multiple other references to ‘zero emissions’ energy, but no other direct references to climate change.]</p> |

| Party | Extracts from policies |
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| | <p>Our Plan for Zero-Emissions Nuclear [Frequent mention of 'zero emissions', but no reference to climate change in this plan]</p> <p>Peter Dutton says Coalition will not set 2030 climate target before next election (ABC News website, 11 June 2024): ... Mr Dutton said his priority was on economic conditions, not on trying to "please people in Paris". "I'm not going to destroy the economy and send families bankrupt in the process of decarbonising the economy," he said ...</p> <p>Leader of the Opposition –Address to Minerals Week 2024 Conference, Canberra (Peter Dutton speech transcript, 11 September 2024) ... Labor is hindering our resource sector with red and green tape. Nobody here in this country or, indeed, around the world could argue that we have inadequate environmental protections. The Government's changed the Safeguard Mechanism into a new carbon tax – one that is three times higher than that proposed by Julia Gillard. They've provided millions of taxpayers' dollars to the activist-led Environmental Defenders Office to wage lawfare. They've passed new mandatory climate disclosure laws – more draconian than anywhere in the world ...</p> |
| <p>Leslie Ralph Pauline Hanson's One Nation</p> | <p>Climate Policies (website) One Nation believes Australia should withdraw from the United Nations <i>Paris Agreement</i> signed in 2016. Australia has committed to the deepest and most savage carbon emission cuts in the world on a per person basis. This commitment is predicted to slow the Australian economy with enormous job losses. In our view, this economic suicide cannot be justified on the evidence put forward by the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). We know that the majority of people believe in man-made global warming caused by carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases. This belief is reinforced by media coverage of events like forest fires and droughts, but government policy needs to rest on the evidence and there is a growing concern about the evidence on which the claims of man-made global warming rests. It is just too easy to allow our memories, often unreliable, to accept the often repeated claims that it has never been hotter. Given the economic costs, we believe we need to listen to the evidence. It is the evidence we should take regard of when making policy. The history of science is that it's the evidence that counts. We have confidence in evidence when the experiment can be repeated and the same results are achieved. We have confidence in science when the evidence is consistent with the theory and that theory predicts events in the future. Scientists predicted global warming would lead to extremes of weather, <i>which would be more intense and more frequent</i>, but despite media reports extreme weather events were more common prior to 1960 than at any time since. Climate science suffers from problems not found in other areas. Firstly, there are no accurate records for past temperature and it is difficult to reconstruct those temperatures from proxies. Secondly, it is difficult to arrive at a single temperature for the earth in the past and a single temperature for the earth now, so that the two temperatures can be compared and in that way, we can say there is a pattern of warming not seen before the greenhouse gases increased in the atmosphere. Central to both these problems is the fact that there is no one place to take the earth's temperature, but rather an infinite number of places ranging from the equator to the poles. Any attempt to add temperature measurements together creates uncertainty because the average varies depending on how many temperatures are collected in cold places and how many in hot places. If there is global warming, then we say it should be reflected in a large number of</p> |

| Party | Extracts from policies |
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| | <p>places in different climate zones but in Australia that appears not to be the case. The longest-running weather collection station in Australia, known as the Nobby's Weather Station at Newcastle, <i>has shown no pattern of warming since temperature records were collected in 1862</i>. The hottest mean average temperatures at Nobby's were before 1900 and the highest maximums before 1890. There are other historical records for temperature kept by telegraph operators on the Overland Telegraph Service from the mid-1800s. They show temperatures were higher and heat waves were longer in duration before 1900. The Australian Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) was established in 1906 and its records start in 1910, but it does not use earlier temperature records.</p> <p>The IPCC uses a homogenized data set known as HadCrut4, which is compiled by the Hadley Centre of the UK Met Office and the Climate Research Unit (CRU) at the University of East Anglia. The 2009 Climategate emails from the CRU at the University of East Anglia reveal the problems with the methods used by climate scientists to determine global temperatures. These emails show how difficult it is to recreate past temperatures from tree rings, lake sediment cores, bubbles of air caught in ice cores and other proxies for past temperature. It is critical these reconstructed past temperatures are right, because any claim of global warming rests on evidence that temperatures were lower in the period before 1850 when industrialisation started to increase the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. Climate scientists acknowledge that the earth's climate has changed in the past including when large parts of the world were covered in ice. The medieval warm period (950-1200) was followed by colder and warmer periods. It is generally agreed that natural events caused these temperature changes. These natural events include volcanic eruptions, and progressive changes in the <i>earth's tilt, the earth's path around the sun</i> and the wobble effect of the <i>earth spinning on its axis</i>. It was only in 2015 that evidence was found of a connection between the <i>earth's tilt</i> (that shifts through a 41,000 year cycle between 21.5 degrees and 24.5 degrees) and the <i>movement of the low-pressure band of clouds</i> (that is the earth's largest source of heat and moisture- the Intertropical Convergence Zone). This research suggests severe <i>droughts and severe flooding can be caused by changes in the earth's tilt</i>. It is clear to us that climate research needs to continue, but after thirty years of work by the IPCC there is insufficient evidence of global warming of the kind claimed by the IPCC and there is insufficient evidence of the climate catastrophes predicted. We are the only political party to question climate science. One Nation Senators have taken every opportunity to use the Senate Estimates cycle, to understand the position of government advisers on climate science like CSIRO.</p> |
| Rae Rancie Family First | <p>Net Zero and the Paris climate accords are dead (dated 18 February 2025) 'Net Zero and the Paris climate accords are dead ... hopefully Albanese, Bowen and Dutton will see the light.'</p> <p>New Family First Ad Exposes the Truth Behind Soaring Power Bills (dated 26 March 2025) ... both major parties — Labor and the Liberals — are obsessed with the globalist net zero agenda ... Tied to the Paris Agreement and committed to rolling out unreliable and expensive wind and solar projects, both sides of politics are making electricity more costly — and in turn, driving up the price of everything else ...</p> |
| Jy Sandford Greens | <p>Your vote can get strong climate action (website): If you're worried about the climate crisis, you're not alone. Millions of us are worried about rising power bills, environmental destruction and protecting our families from extreme weather.</p> |

| Party | Extracts from policies |
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| | <p>Labor has approved over 25 more coal and gas projects, while Dutton's nuclear plan will delay action and keep coal going for longer. Both take millions in coal & gas corporations donations to fund their election campaigns. We can't keep voting for the same two parties and expecting a different result. This election, you have a once-in-a-generation chance to get strong climate action ...</p> <p>Policy principles: Environmental Principles (website) The Australian Greens believe that ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The human induced climate crisis poses the greatest threat to our world, and urgent and sustained local, national and global action is required to ensure a safe climate. • The climate crisis will increase the intensity and frequency of bushfires; scientifically-based, ecologically appropriate use of fire is an important means to protect biodiversity and manage habitat effectively ... <p>The Australian Greens want ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urgent action on global warming to maintain a climate system conducive to the preservation of our environment ... <p>Policy principles: Climate Change and Energy (website) The climate crisis is negatively impacting all aspects of modern life, contributing to disruption of ecosystems, biodiversity and human societies through sea level rise, extreme weather events, desertification and changing weather patterns, and threatening food security, water, the economy, social cohesion and the well-being of humans and other living things. These impacts will escalate in the future. The climate crisis requires us to seize the opportunity to transform Australia into a greenhouse gas-negative powerhouse that creates new jobs and a cleaner planet.</p> <p>The Australian Greens believe that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The impacts of the human-induced climate crisis pose an existential threat to ecosystems, biodiversity and human societies. • It is the duty of every government and organisation to take substantive action to solve the climate crisis. • Urgent, equitable and sustained local, national and global action is required to avoid climate catastrophe. • A safer climate will require a return to an atmospheric concentration of greenhouse gases equivalent to 350 parts per million of CO₂, or lower. • Australia's climate policy must be consistent with our commitment under the Paris Agreement to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels ... • Failing to transition to a net negative greenhouse gas future will have adverse impacts on people and society through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ mass death and suffering; ○ increasing and intensified extreme weather events and related environmental disasters; ○ increased risks to water resources, agriculture and food security; ○ the increased cost of adaptation and ○ lost or diminished economic opportunities by delaying the transition to renewables. <p>Policy principles: Biodiversity (website) The Australian Greens believe that ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The threat to Australia's biodiversity from the climate crisis should be recognised as a high priority for government action to address global warming ... |

| Party | Extracts from policies |
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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The loss of Australia’s biodiversity dramatically reduces our ability to cope with major ecological threats such as the climate crisis ... • Over-exploitation, habitat loss, the spread of invasive species and the climate crisis are major threats to the biodiversity of the planet ... <p>The Australian Greens want ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An all-of-government commitment to mitigating the climate crisis as a priority in order to maintain biological diversity and give ecosystems the best chance for survival ... • Full integration of ecological sustainability and the precautionary principle, into all decision-making that impacts our biodiversity ... |
| Kate Thwaites Labor | <p>Protecting our climate (website): Australians voted for action on climate change and the Albanese Labor Government is delivering. We're also protecting more of our natural world- doing more than ever to protect our environment ...</p> <p>ALP National Platform 2023 (pages 45-47): Labor recognises the strength and sustainability of our economy depends on the health of the environments in which we work, live and play ... Labor acknowledges that the world’s climate emergency is Australia’s jobs opportunity ...</p> <p>Labor accepts the science of climate change. An increase in global average temperatures by 2 degrees or more above pre-industrial levels will have devastating effects, especially for and on Australia ... Labor is committed to holding the increase in global average temperatures to well below 2 degrees above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the increase to 1.5 degrees above pre-industrial levels ...</p> <p>Under Labor, Australia joined Pacific leaders to declare that our region is facing a climate emergency. We will continue to listen, engage and work constructively with our Pacific partners to address and respond to climate change ...</p> <p>Labor will support the economy to adapt to a changing climate, and its impact on our natural environment ...</p> <p>Labor sees Australia becoming a global leader, delivering significant employment, investment, economic diversification and environmental sustainability dividends. Labor will lead Australia to become a renewable energy superpower both in our region and globally ...</p> <p>Labor believes in an independent, fully resourced Climate Change Authority to provide advice to the Australian Government and help guide Australia towards net zero ... Labor is committed to the integrity and independence of the environment and climate change portfolios and relevant science agencies. This includes improving the effectiveness of the Clean Energy Finance Corporation and the Australian Renewable Energy Agency.</p> <p>2024 Annual Climate Change Statement to Parliament (Chris Bowen Speech, 28 November 2024) ... this week has been a reminder of why decarbonising matters. Not just the unseasonably hot weather, but the increasing unreliability of coal. Renewables address both.</p> |

| Party | <i>Extracts from policies</i> |
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| | <p>Solar, wind and other renewable energy sources are available right now to help tackle the worst of climate change. Crucially they make our energy system more reliable and resilient than a system dominated by aging coal generators. The importance of transforming to a renewable electricity system underpins the Annual Climate Change Statement, which is the third I have delivered to Parliament.</p> <p>The Annual Statement reports progress on our climate change and energy initiatives in 2024 and is an account of our commitment to transparency regarding our climate actions. We are doing well, but there is more to be done – for emissions, for affordability and for reliability ...</p> <p>The Annual Statement this year reflects how far we’ve come over the past two and a half years to get Australia back on track after a decade of delay and climate denial.</p> <p>We’ve reduced sovereign risk and rebuilt confidence in Australia as an investment destination. This translates to better economic activity and more long-term jobs around the country. We’ve now put the systems and processes in place to set us up for a prosperous future; To make the most of our country having the best resources in the world for what everyone wants next - sun, and wind, and critical minerals; To benefit from being a significant player in delivering the global shift to net zero; And to do it simultaneously with bringing emissions down.</p> <p>We’ve built a lot of momentum. But the job is far from done. The key is to build on this momentum, and build more. Because there is no achievable alternative that doesn’t see otherwise avoidable harm done to our environment, our planet and our future generations.</p> <p>Net zero by 2050 is not optional. Which means the critical decade is now. Not some hypothetical time in the distant future ...</p> <p>Carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuel and industry, when measured on a per capita basis, are the lowest they’ve been in Australia since the late eighties. But, they need to fall faster in future.</p> <p>The Authority has emphasised it will be important to hold course; to deliver the outcomes envisaged by the policies now in place. We agree. The annual emissions projections confirm our policies are working, and Australia is on track to deliver on our legislated targets ...</p> <p>Stronger action on climate change (Media Release 16 June 2022) ... Quotes attributable to the Minister for Climate Change and Energy: “The world’s climate emergency is Australia’s jobs opportunity.” “With the right ambition, action and cooperation, Australia can seize the once-in-a-generation opportunity ahead of us and thrive in a net zero world,” he said.</p> <p>Australia and California drive action to combat climate crisis (Media Release 16 August 2023) As the world confronts the urgent threat of the climate crisis, the governments of Australia and California have signed a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to accelerate our shared efforts to deliver climate action and support clean energy transition ... Quotes attributable to Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senator the Hon Penny Wong:</p> |

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| | <p>“Australia is committed to working with international partners to address the climate crisis, which is the biggest threat faced by the Indo-Pacific.</p> <p>“Our new partnership with the State of California will accelerate our shared efforts to mitigate and adapt to climate change, including by promoting climate-related disaster resilience and supporting the development of clean energy technologies.” ...</p> <p>Bowen: “It’s too late to avoid the climate emergency” (Renew Economy, 25 July 2023)</p> <p>Australia’s climate and energy minister Chris Bowen says the extreme weather events of recent years, and the heatwaves sweeping the globe in this northern summer, show that the world has already failed to prevent a climate emergency.</p> <p>“To be frank, it’s too late to avoid the climate emergency,” Bowen said in a speech to the Australian Chamber of Commerce in South Korea. “But it’s not too late to avoid the worst of the climate emergency, if we act swiftly.” ... Bowen said there is a “rapidly closing window for transformative climate action”. Bowen participated in a series of ministerial meetings in India over the weekend under the auspices of the International Energy Agency and the COP28 host UAE over getting the world on track to a 1.5°C outcome ...</p> <p>The Australia-Pacific bid to host UN climate talks in 2026 is in limbo.</p> <p>(The Conversation 25 November 2024)</p> <p>Australia and Pacific island nations had hoped to leave this year’s global climate talks in Azerbaijan having won a bid to host the 2026 summit. Instead, that decision on who will host the 31st “conference of the parties” (COP31) has been deferred until June next year – after Australia’s next federal election ...</p> <p>In Federal Parliament:</p> <p>Introduced Climate Change (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2022 to enshrine emissions targets in law (passed both Houses 8 September 2022).</p> |

2. Ambitious emissions reduction targets

| Party | Extracts from policies |
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| Chris Kearney Independent | <p>Climate policies (website):</p> <p>We must stop releasing these harmful (greenhouse) gases into the environment as soon as possible.</p> <p>Reduce carbon emissions by adding the real costs of greenhouse gases to today's energy prices through a carbon price to achieve a 75% reduction by 2030.</p> |
| Chris Parr Liberal | <p>Let's Get Australia Back on Track – Priorities of a Dutton Coalition Government</p> <p>Deliver Affordable and Reliable Energy (Page 14)</p> <p>... We are committed to achieving net zero emissions by 2050. [No reference to emissions targets for earlier years.]</p> <p>Peter Dutton says Coalition will not set 2030 climate target before next election (ABC News website, 11 June 2024)</p> <p>The Coalition will not offer a 2030 climate target ahead of the next federal election, according to Peter Dutton. On Saturday, the opposition leader said he would campaign against Labor's legislated target to reduce emissions by 43 per cent by 2030, arguing it was not achievable ... on Tuesday, Mr Dutton clarified that the Coalition would not set an alternative target from opposition. "In terms of the targets or otherwise, we'll make those decisions when we're in government," he said. "We'll look at the prevailing economic conditions after the next election and we'll make announcements in due course."</p> <p>In Federal Parliament:</p> <p>All but one Liberal MP (or Senator) voted against the Climate Change (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2022 to enshrine emissions targets (43% reduction (2005 base) by 2030 and net zero by 2050) in law (passed both Houses 8 September 2022). Liberal MP for Bass Bridget Archer crossed the floor and voted for the Bill.</p> |
| Leslie Ralph Pauline Hanson's One Nation | <p>Climate (webpage):</p> <p>One Nation believes Australia should withdraw from the United Nations Paris Agreement signed in 2016.</p> <p>Australia has committed to the deepest and most savage carbon emission cuts in the world on a per person basis. This commitment is predicted to slow the Australian economy with enormous job losses. In our view, this economic suicide cannot be justified on the evidence put forward by the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) ...</p> <p>Net Zero is Bad (webpage, 27 February 2025)</p> <p>There is no more perverse policy in Australia than the reckless pursuit of net zero emissions by the year 2050.</p> <p>At its most basic, this policy involves spending tens of billions of dollars of the taxes you pay to make your electricity much more expensive than it has to be, and less reliable ...</p> <p>One Nation Will Force Exit from Net Zero if Given Balance of Power (News, 25 March 2025) One Nation's James Ashby says the party will push to withdraw Australia from the Paris Agreement and scrap net zero targets if it holds the balance of power. Ashby slammed the soaring energy prices and warned that Australians are paying the price for a "renewable fantasy."</p> |
| Rae Rancie Family First | <p>Our Policies (website):</p> <p>Economic freedom for families</p> <p>... pause net zero policies until a proper cost benefit of the engineering and economics has been conducted ...</p> |

| Party | Extracts from policies |
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| | <p>Net Zero and the Paris climate accords are dead (dated 18 February 2025) ‘Net Zero and the Paris climate accords are dead ... hopefully Albanese, Bowen and Dutton will see the light.’</p> |
| Jy Sandford Greens | <p>Policy principles: Climate Change and Energy (website) ... The Australian Greens believe that ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australia’s climate policy must be consistent with our commitment under the Paris Agreement to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels ... • A nationwide, systematic response is required to drastically reduce emissions from all sectors, draw down greenhouse gases, and be greenhouse gas neutral or negative by 2035. <p>In Federal Parliament: Moved (unsuccessful) amendment to the <i>Climate Change (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2022</i> to strengthen emissions targets to 75% by 2030 and net zero by 2035 and supported similar amendment moved by Andrew Wilkie. Moved (unsuccessful) amendment in Senate to the <i>Climate Change (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2022</i> to strengthen emissions targets to 75% by 2030 and net zero by 2035.</p> |
| Kate Thwaites Labor | <p>Australia legislates emissions reduction targets (website, 8 September 2022): The Albanese Government’s landmark Climate Change Bills have now passed the Senate, ensuring Australia’s emissions reduction target of 43 per cent and net zero emissions by 2050 will be enshrined in legislation ...</p> <p>Albanese unlikely to detail new emissions target before next federal election (ABC News website, 17 November 2024) ... speaking with the ABC’s Insiders program, Mr Albanese refused to commit to announcing the 2035 target ahead of the election, only promising to do it "sometime next year". "Our focus is on achieving the 2030 target because 2030 comes before 2035," he said. "[Voters] do know exactly what we're doing — 43 per cent by 2030, a target of net zero by 2050, 82 per cent renewables by 2030 ...</p> <p>In Federal Parliament: Introduced Climate Change (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2022 to enshrine emissions targets (43% reduction (2005 base) by 2030 and net zero by 2050) in law (passed both Houses 8 September 2022). Voted against amendments for more ambitious targets.</p> |

3. Rapid move to fully renewable (not nuclear) electricity grid

| Party | Extracts from policies |
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| Chris Kearney Independent | Climate Policy (website) Remove barriers to building the energy networks needed to deliver affordable renewable energy to everyone. |
| Chris Parr Liberal | We will deliver cheaper energy (website): Labor's 'renewables only' policy continues to drive-up power prices ... Renewables have a role to play in our energy system. But we can't rely on weather-dependent energy alone. We need power 24/7 – especially for our hospitals, factories and freezers that need to operate around the clock. Australia has three energy goals: Cheaper power. Consistent power. Cleaner power. We won't achieve these goals under Labor's 'renewables only' policy, but we can achieve all three. By following the other top 20 economies in the world which use zero-emission nuclear power or are taking steps to put it in their mix. And by ramping-up domestic gas production for affordable and reliable energy in the more immediate term ... Let's Get Australia Back on Track – Priorities of a Dutton Coalition Government Deliver Affordable and Reliable Energy (Page 15) Our Solution Australia needs cheap, clean and consistent power and through our energy plan, a Dutton Coalition Government will deliver affordable and reliable energy. We need new baseload reliable energy generation to replace retiring coal-fired power plants, and we have a plan to address these challenges. We will deliver a balanced energy mix with renewables, gas, storage and zero-emissions nuclear. This will ensure retiring 'always on' baseload power is adequately replaced to guarantee reliability of the system, with an ongoing source of clean and 24/7 power. We will deliver zero-emissions nuclear energy in Australia, which has been proven to get electricity prices and emissions down all over the world. 31 countries, including the US, UK, Canada, France and Japan, have signed a pledge to triple nuclear capacity by 2050, highlighting the critical role that nuclear plays in cheaper, cleaner and more consistent power. Australia is the only country in the top 20 economies that is not using zero-emissions nuclear power, or taking steps to put it in the mix. We will unlock more Australian gas to drive down prices and safeguard our energy security. Affordable gas is critical to the ongoing viability of Australia's heavy industry and manufacturing sector. A Dutton Coalition Government will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver lower energy bills for families and businesses. • Deliver an energy plan that saves Australians up to \$263 billion through to 2050 compared to Labor's plan. • Establish a civil nuclear program in Australia, including operating nuclear power plants in seven locations across the country. • Unlock more Australian gas to safeguard our energy security and reliability, through streamlined approvals and by encouraging increased exploration and development. • Develop gas in key basins, like the Beetaloo, and include new gas generation in the capacity investment scheme. • Enable the responsible and sustainable growth of renewables as part of our future generation requirements. • Avoid the overbuild of transmission lines and greenfield industrial solar and wind projects that regional communities don't want. • Ensure retiring coal generation is replaced by reliable baseload energy. |

| Party | Extracts from policies |
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| | <p>These priorities will deliver affordable and reliable energy.</p> <p><u>Our Plan for Zero Emissions Nuclear</u></p> <p>Nuclear Power in Australia</p> <p>... If Australia can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have a nuclear reactor for life saving medicine; • procure nuclear propelled submarines for our defence; and • export uranium for zero-emissions nuclear energy. <p>Then Australians should be given the right to use zero-emissions nuclear energy to reduce power prices ...</p> <p>A Balanced Energy Mix</p> <p>Labor has put all its eggs in one basket with an expensive renewables-only approach to our electricity system, leaving Australians paying among the highest power bills in the world and risking the lights going out as we run out of energy ...</p> <p>It's common sense to have a balanced energy mix and our plan is to introduce zero-emissions nuclear energy which has proven to get electricity prices and emissions down all over the world. This means our energy mix today of renewables + gas + coal will shift to a future energy mix of renewables + gas + nuclear.</p> <p>Zero-emissions nuclear energy will complement renewables and gas to get prices down and keep the lights on as we decarbonise.</p> <p>How Will We Get Started?</p> <p>On coming to government, the Coalition will lift the moratorium on nuclear technology and establish a civil nuclear programme in Australia. Zero-emissions nuclear plants will be owned by the Federal Government and we will form partnerships with the most experienced nuclear companies in the world to develop and operate the plants.</p> <p>Our zero-emissions nuclear energy programme will consist of two phases: starting with two establishment projects in the mid 2030s followed by a buildout of projects through to 2050.</p> <p>A Federal Coalition Government will initially develop two establishment projects using either small modular reactors or modern larger plants such as the AP1000 or APR1400. They will start producing electricity by 2035 (with small modular reactors) or 2037 (if modern larger plants are found to be the best option) ...</p> <p>Where Will They Be Built?</p> <p>We have identified seven (7) locations. These are the only locations in scope and the Coalition has ruled out all other locations.</p> <p>Each mainland state will be granted an opportunity to benefit from cheaper energy by hosting a zero-emissions nuclear plant. These locations are sites of former or current coal plants and they have the technical attributes needed for a zero-emissions nuclear plant, including transmission infrastructure, cooling water capacity and a skilled workforce ...</p> <p>A community engagement process will allow communities to have their questions answered by experts while a community partnership consisting of experienced local representatives will negotiate a benefits package to guarantee their region's economic future.</p> <p>In parallel to the two and a half year community engagement process, a comprehensive site characterisation study will be undertaken including detailed technical assessments ...</p> <p>Community Benefits</p> <p>... Shifting to nuclear will keep an always-on source of 24/7 baseload power in the system to drive prices down and keep the lights on while we decarbonise... Zero-emissions</p> |

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| | <p>nuclear energy will re-energise the Australian economy, build our sovereign capability, and set the nation up for a new era of economic prosperity with cheaper, cleaner and consistent 24/7 power.</p> <p>At the front of this next wave of growth will be those communities which host modern zero emissions nuclear plants. Each of these communities will receive a benefits package which will be enshrined in legislation ...</p> <p>Technology</p> <p>Australia will <u>not</u> build a first-of-a-kind reactor. We will only select internationally proven technologies that are Generation III and beyond. Beyond these principles, technology selection will be performed by experts ...</p> <p>Institutional Architecture</p> <p>Establishing a civil nuclear programme in Australia will require new or expanded institutions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An expanded ARPANSA to license and regulate civilian nuclear power stations; • A Nuclear Energy Coordinating Authority; and • A government business enterprise to be called Affordable Energy Australia ... <p>Timeline</p> <p>The timeline for establishing a civil nuclear programme in Australia including building two establishment projects is 10 to 12 years from the government making a decision until zero emissions nuclear electricity first enters the grid.</p> <p>Safety</p> <p>Modern nuclear power plants with the latest technology are incredibly safe.</p> <p>The technology is safe enough for our international partners such as the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom and France. The technology is safe enough for Australian Defence Force personnel who will shortly be operating nuclear propelled submarines under the AUKUS agreement. The technology is safe enough for residents of Lucas Heights in Sydney, who have lived and worked around an operating reactor since 1958.</p> <p>Waste Management</p> <p>Zero-emissions nuclear has proven to be one of the world's safest forms of energy, due in large part to its successful management of waste. The spent fuel produced by an individual's entire life's energy use could easily fit inside a can of soft drink.</p> <p>As part of the AUKUS agreement, we will soon be managing spent fuel from the reactors used in submarines. The Government is currently looking for a permanent repository for this purpose. Similar to the United Kingdom, the Coalition will utilise the same permanent repository for managing spent fuel from our AUKUS nuclear propelled submarines to manage the spent fuel from zero-emissions nuclear plants.</p> <p>Australia is no stranger to nuclear waste. We have been successfully managing nuclear waste produced at our research reactors since 1958.</p> <p>Responsibly managing our nuclear waste is something Australia needs to do, whether we pursue zero-emissions nuclear energy or not. Australia's scientists can manage this. They already do.</p> <p>Environmental benefits</p> <p>If you are serious about meeting our net zero by 2050 emissions commitments, then you must include zero emission nuclear as part of your energy mix. Zero emission nuclear power plants produce no air pollution or carbon emissions. For example, a 1.1 GW AP-1000 reactor cuts approximately seven million metric tonnes of CO2 emissions, equivalent to removing 1.5 million cars from the road.</p> <p>Zero emission nuclear power plants also use much less land and raw materials than large scale renewable projects. For instance, a modern SMR power station, including all auxiliary buildings and the security perimeter would cover about 45 acres (roughly the size of a mid-sized shopping centre). A SMR structure takes up about five acres of land and would fit on the site of the MCG. For every MWh of electricity produced:</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wind requires 360 times more land than nuclear. • Solar requires 75 times more land than nuclear. <p>In addition, unlike a modern nuclear plant, which under the Coalition’s plan can be plugged into the existing grid, Labor’s expensive renewables only grid requires up to 28,000km of new transmission lines. By reducing impacts on our landscape, zero emissions nuclear will not only protect regional communities, but our environment and wildlife.</p> <p>Longer operating life</p> <p>Solar and wind renewable power plants need to be replaced approximately every 20 years</p> <p>whereas a modern zero emission nuclear power plant has an expected service life of up to 80-100 years.</p> <p>Expensive renewable projects also create challenges with waste materials. In Australia:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is expected to be over 1 million tonnes of end-of-life solar panels by 2035. • It costs six times as much to recycle solar panels as sending them to landfill. • 15,000 tonnes of blade composite waste will have been created by 2034. <p>Report 2 - Economic analysis of including nuclear power in the NEM (Frontier Economics)</p> <p>1 Summary (Pages 4-11)</p> <p>... 1.3.4 Scenarios modelled</p> <p>We model two of the three scenarios that AEMO model in their ISP – the so-called Step Change and Progressive scenarios. AEMO also produces a third scenario in the ISP called Green Energy Exports, which we don’t model ... AEMO consider the Step Change the most likely outcome and presents a world where there is rapid growth in electricity demand accelerated by the assumed electrification of many services currently provided by fossil fuels (mainly coal, gas and oil), and rapid development of wind, solar and energy storages to meet the associated demand growth. AEMO’s Progressive scenario, which AEMO says is just 1 percentage point less likely ... also reflects a growth in electricity demand due to electrification of services currently provided by fossil fuels ... albeit not as rapid as in the Step Change scenario ...</p> <p>the Federal Coalition confirmed that they consider the <u>demand forecast embodied in the Progressive scenario</u> is more consistent with their view of the most likely transition of the electricity market. This contrasts to the Federal Labor Government’s pursuit of the Step Change scenario ...</p> <p>To help understand the cost differences between the Federal Labor Government’s Step Change approach and the Progressive scenario, which is more consistent with the Federal Coalition’s view of the likely transition, a comparison of the modelled costs between these two scenarios shows that a Progressive future which includes nuclear power is 44% cheaper than the Step Change future as envisaged by the Federal Labor Government, which involves meeting demand with mainly renewables and energy storages ...</p> <p>1.4 Key assumptions</p> <p>Based on an extensive review of the literature, we have made the following modelling assumptions about nuclear power:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital costs are \$10,000 per kilowatt of capacity • Capital costs improve 1% per year based on conservative learning rates for repeated commissioning of a technology type • Variable costs of \$30 per megawatt hour, which covers fuel, fixed and variable (non-fuel), operating and maintenance costs, network costs and decommissioning costs. <p>The pattern of commissioning of nuclear capacity is a model input and <u>occurs from 2036 onwards</u> across the NEM regions that currently have large coal fired generators that nuclear</p> |

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| | <p>power stations progressively replace. The regions where nuclear power stations are assumed to be commissioned are NSW, Queensland and Victoria. In total, just over 13,000 MW of nuclear power capacity is assumed to be commissioned across these three jurisdictions ... for the purposes of the modelling exercise, new nuclear generation capacity was commissioned as coal generators were decommissioned.</p> <p>In the report modelling, some existing coal fired generators in the NEM are maintained beyond AEMO's early closure dates to ensure that there is sufficient generation capacity to meet the system reliability requirements. The delay to early closure of coal affects about 65% of current coal generation fleet in the NEM ... extended coal plant operations could be avoided to an extent if gas prices were lowered to allow existing gas generators to displace the highest cost large-scale generators ...</p> <p>1.5 Results and conclusions</p> <p>1.5.1 Costs</p> <p>... AEMO's preferred Step Change energy future is, by far, the most expensive scenario modelled, with the combined generation and transmission costs of \$595 billion [\$594 elsewhere in the report]. As noted above, these costs do not include Western Australia, the Northern Territory, consumer energy resources or distribution costs ...</p> <p>For AEMO's Progressive scenario, using nuclear power, the total NEM system costs can be reduced by \$106 billion from \$437 billion to \$331 billion, or about \$4 billion per annum. The inclusion of nuclear power in the NEM in the Progressive scenario is also 25% cheaper than AEMO's renewables and storage approach ...</p> <p>The cost differences between the AEMO cases and the nuclear alternative are so large that the costs of nuclear capacity assumed in the modelling could double on a sustained basis before the costs of AEMO's approach and the nuclear alternative were equivalent. It is very unlikely that the inclusion of nuclear power in the NEM would, in practice, ever be more expensive than AEMO's approach ...</p> <p>1.5.2 Capacity and energy</p> <p>... Under the nuclear-inclusive Progressive scenario, wind and solar grows from 24,000 MW to about 46,000 MW by 2051 with nuclear power included in the NEM. Under this scenario, <u>wind and solar generate about 50% of electricity and nuclear generates 38% of electricity with just 13% of total capacity.</u></p> <p>One of the effects of including nuclear power in the NEM is that only about half the amount of gas generation is required as compared to AEMO's approach under Step Change. This is because nuclear power is providing some of the back-up for the system that would otherwise be filled by gas. The effect of halving the demand for gas for gas powered generation will be that more gas is available for industrial gas users. The lower demand for gas powered generation will ease pressure on gas prices for industrial gas users ...</p> <p>1.5.4 Summary</p> <p>From an economic cost perspective, the economy is much better off in the Progressive scenario with nuclear power in the energy mix compared to AEMO's preferred Step Change solution using primarily renewables and storages.</p> <p>The cost difference over the modelling period between AEMO's preferred Step Change system of \$594 billion with a Progressive future <u>including nuclear power costing \$331 billion</u> is \$263 billion, or about \$10 billion per annum on average over the modelling period, or 44% cheaper than AEMO's preferred Step Change approach to managing Australia's energy future.</p> |

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| | <p>As well as nuclear being cheaper than a power system made up almost entirely of renewables and energy storages, it is also likely to be as economic, or even more economic, as replacing the fleet of existing coal generators that must retire between now and 2050 with new coal generators.</p> <p>Including nuclear power in the NEM could also help lower the economic costs imposed on rural and regional Australians by avoiding the loss of amenity from having so many wind and solar farms and new and augmented transmission networks on their land.</p> <p>See also: Table 8: Nuclear alternative – Progressive – generation shares and average rate of change in GWh from 2025 to 2051 (Page 34).</p> <p>4.4 Emissions (Page 34-35)</p> <p>... the modelling maintains the operation of about 65% of existing coal generators compared to AEMO's early closure assumption and instead applies an operational life much more consistent with those anticipated by the owners of the coal generators ...</p> <p><u>Clearly, if it is assumed that coal will close early and fully replaced with renewables then the modelling will estimate less emissions than if coal is closed later.</u> This is the outcome of the report modelling. In the nuclear alternative scenarios, emissions continue to fall over the modelling period and achieve lower average emissions in the last few years and maintain this lower level of emissions compared to AEMO's approach. This is mainly because less gas is required to maintain reliability and as there is sufficient nuclear power to provide reliable power supplies.</p> <p>Under both Step Change and Progressive scenarios the AEMO-preferred energy mix and the nuclear-inclusive energy mix achieve ultra-low emissions broadly consistent with the definition of 'net-zero'. However, by 2051, the nuclear-inclusive energy mix produces 0.0054 tonnes/MWh and 0.0018 tonnes/MWh less than AEMO's preferred energy mix for the Step Change and Progressive scenarios respectively.</p> <p>See also: Figure 11: Emissions intensity (tonnes per MWh) – 2025 to 2051 (Page 35)</p> <p>[OFFSHORE WIND POWER GENERATION]</p> <p>National Party leader David Littleproud promises to scrap NSW offshore wind zones (ABC News, 17 June 2024)</p> <p>National Party leader David Littleproud has made a rare visit to Wollongong in the immediate aftermath of the government's declaration of an offshore wind zone around 20 kilometres off the Illawarra coast ... Mr Littleproud said the Coalition was committed to overturning the two offshore wind zones now declared for the Illawarra and Port Stephens in the NSW Hunter.</p> <p>Leader of the Opposition – Transcript – Remarks at the Port Stephens Offshore Wind Zone (5 December 2024)</p> <p>... The decision that we've taken as a Coalition is to make sure that we rip up these contracts, to make sure that we make it very clear that we will not proceed with the offshore turbines as proposed by the Albanese Government ...</p> <p>Dutton Coalition Government to scrap Southern Ocean offshore wind zone (Media Release by Dan Tehan, 6 February 2025)</p> <p>Today we announce that a Dutton Coalition Government will rescind the Southern Ocean Offshore Wind Zone – a decision that puts the South West Victorian community first ...</p> <p>State Liberals welcome Dutton's offshore wind zone scrapping pledge but union criticises plan (South Western Times, 24 October 2024)</p> |

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| | <p>Federal Opposition Leader Peter Dutton's announcement he'll scrap the proposed Geopraphe Bay offshore wind farm zone is a win for the South West, according to WA Liberal leader and Vasse MLA Libby Mettam. Mr Dutton was in Busselton on Friday to announce that if his Government was elected in the upcoming Federal Election, it would scrap the offshore wind farm zone ...</p> <p>Illawarra wind zone uncertainty as US renewables company requests delay (ABCNews 28 February 2025)</p> <p>BlueFloat Energy lodged an application for a feasibility licence in the Illawarra offshore wind area in 2024. Federal Energy Minister Chris Bowen says he received a request from BlueFloat to pause any progress on the offering of licences until after the federal election ...</p> <p>Mr Bowen said BlueFloat had raised concerns with him about investing in the project without bipartisan support ...</p> <p>In Federal Parliament:</p> <p>Voted against the amendment to the Electricity Infrastructure Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 (moved by the Greens) to enshrine in law implementation of the Capacity Investment Scheme to meet the government's targets of 32-gigawatt-by-2030 renewables and storage, made up of 23 gigawatts of renewable generation and nine gigawatts of clean dispatchable energy.</p> <p>Budget reply (Peter Dutton Speech, 27 March 2025)</p> <p>... We will end the reckless \$20 billion Rewiring the Nation Fund ...</p> <p>.. gas is key in our country, as it is around the developed world, to manufacturing, <u>making electricity</u>, and keeping the lights on. But the Albanese Government has stalled projects from getting off the ground and created a national gas emergency due to insufficient supply... under the Coalition, energy will become affordable and reliable again. We will use a mix of technologies which includes 'always-on' power to firm up the renewable 'sometimes-on' power. And the only way to drive down power prices quickly is to ramp-up domestic gas production.</p> <p>Tonight, I announce our National Gas Plan.</p> <p>This plan will prioritise domestic gas supply, address shortfalls, and reduce energy prices for Australians ...</p> |
| Leslie Ralph Pauline Hanson's One Nation | <p>Net Zero is Bad (webpage, 27 February 2025)</p> <p>... One Nation has never supported net zero. The rest of the world has discovered they can't power their economies solely with renewables, and many countries are reinvesting in cheaper and more reliable coal, gas and nuclear energy. Many are going back on their Paris targets, which were dubious to begin with.</p> <p>Not Australia, though. Labor still thinks Australia can run on renewables alone, despite all evidence to the contrary. The Liberals and Nationals have at least woken up to the impossibility and proposed nuclear energy as a way of providing emissions-free power. In principle, One Nation has no problem with nuclear energy, but we see no immediate need when we have plenty of gas and coal. We do, however, see an immediate need to withdraw from the Paris Agreement and abolish climate change agencies and programs, saving taxpayers at least \$30 billion a year and lowering your electricity bills.</p> <p>HELE Tabled as Energy Solution (News, 4 April 2025)</p> <p>... So how are we going to provide for our energy needs when Yalburn W is closed in 2028? Supplying 20 per cent of the state's electricity? W will be a huge energy void that will be difficult to fill by using weather dependent so-called 'renewables' sources ...</p> |

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| | <p>Pauline Hanson's One Nation Party have for years promoted an alternative solution - High Efficiency Low Emissions (HELE) coal fired power stations. These can be constructed in around three years, are not as expensive to build as solar, wind and nuclear and, equally importantly, will provide much needed local mining and power station jobs.</p> |
| <p>Ray Rancie Family First</p> | <p>Our Policies (website): Economic freedom for families ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy affordability and reliability - pause net zero policies until a proper cost benefit of the engineering and economics has been conducted. • Use gas to avoid blackouts by firming electricity supply and to lower retail power prices. Unlock gas reserves by lifting restrictions on exploration. Keep coal-fired power stations open until there are viable and affordable alternatives that provide baseload electricity. • Pursue nuclear energy. • Increase gas supply to drive industry and jobs ... <p>New Family First Ad Exposes the Truth Behind Soaring Power Bills (dated 26 March 2025) ... both major parties — Labor and the Liberals — are obsessed with the globalist net zero agenda ... Tied to the Paris Agreement and committed to rolling out unreliable and expensive wind and solar projects, both sides of politics are making electricity more costly — and in turn, driving up the price of everything else ...</p> |
| <p>Jy Sandford Greens</p> | <p>Your vote can get strong climate action (website) ... The last time there was a minority government, the Greens cut climate pollution and secured world-leading climate laws and billions for clean energy. With more Greens in parliament, we can do it again.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stop new coal and gas. • Expand publicly-owned renewable energy. • End the billions in handouts to coal, oil and gas corporations ... • Lower power bills by transitioning to more reliable clean energy ... <p>Policy principles: Climate Change and Energy (website) The Australian Greens believe that ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australia is a wealthy nation with extensive renewable energy resources that should be used to benefit all Australians; it has both the opportunity and the responsibility to become a world leader in addressing the climate crisis ... • Australia has the capacity to ensure that all of our energy needs can be provided by renewable sources. • A nationwide, systematic response is required to drastically reduce emissions from all sectors, draw down greenhouse gases, and be greenhouse gas neutral or negative by 2035 ... • Energy prices should reflect the environmental, social, health and other external costs of its production and use. • Refurbishment of coal-fired power stations undermines climate action and cannot be justified ... • All energy infrastructure must be regulated by government, and large scale energy infrastructure and networks should be in public or community ownership. <p>The Australian Greens want ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A just transition to a net negative greenhouse gas economy through a range of mechanisms including a plan to replace fossil fuels with renewable energy through strong regulatory intervention and a strong effective price on carbon ... • A government-supported shift to 100% renewables. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public investment and ownership of a comprehensive system of transmission networks that can enable 100% renewable energy including community-owned microgrids. <u>100% of electricity used in Australia to come from renewable sources as soon as possible</u>, by increasing the renewable energy target (RET) as well as measures such as public investment, feed-in tariffs and regulations to support a range of renewable energy generation, storage, transmission networks, efficiency, and export technologies. The pricing of electricity and fossil fuels to reflect their true cost, including externalities such as their impacts on health, water resources, ecosystems, agricultural production, air pollution and climate crisis. Exclusion of new in-stream utility-scale hydroelectric power stations and all electricity from burning native forests from the RET. Reform of energy markets to remove the bias toward centralised fossil fuel-based generation, encourage demand management and the development of distributed generation, storage and transmission of renewable energy. Improved regulations, monitoring and compliance for all existing gas operations, particularly in relation to methane emissions, impact on water resources, agricultural land and biodiversity. Rapid rollout of smart technology, including meters, appliances, grids and energy storage, with measures to reduce the financial impact on people with low or fixed incomes. To build capacity within our communities and industries to develop and expand local renewable energy, including through increasing community and public ownership of energy production and storage. No new coal-fired power stations ... and no expansions to any existing coal- or gas-fired power stations or mines, plus the development of programs to assist fossil fuel-dependent communities to make the transition to other more sustainable sources of economic prosperity. Coal fired power stations should be decommissioned. <p>Policy principles: Nuclear and Uranium (website): No nuclear power, weapons or mining. Future generations must not be burdened with toxic nuclear waste for which there is no safe disposal ... The Australian Greens believe that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The burden of Australia's nuclear supply chain and proposed waste storage is disproportionately borne by First Nations peoples. It significantly and negatively impacts on their culture, connection to country, well-being, and their right to manage land, natural resources, and water. The world should be free of nuclear weapons and the nuclear fuel chain ... Nuclear power is not a safe, clean, timely, economic or practical solution to reducing global greenhouse gas emissions ... <p>The Australian Greens want:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A world free of nuclear power and nuclear weapons. The cessation of Australian uranium mining and export ... The prohibition of nuclear power plants and the promotion of safe, ecologically sustainable energy options ... <p>Dutton's nuclear 'plan' the latest sign both major parties are in lock-step to destroy the climate (20 June 2024, website) Quotes attributable to Leader of the Australian Greens, Adam Bandt MP:</p> |

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| | <p>“Peter Dutton’s nuclear ‘plan’ is a dangerous smokescreen for keeping coal and gas in the system for longer.</p> <p>“Peter Dutton’s plan can’t be implemented, because he can’t win government nor repeal the nuclear ban in the Senate, but Labor loves this fake fight because it distracts attention from Labor opening new coal and gas.</p> <p>“It’s becoming clearer by the day that neither Labor nor the Liberals care about taking strong climate action.</p> <p>“The battle lines for the next election are clear. Liberals are for nuclear, Labor is for more coal and gas and the Greens are for clean renewables.”</p> <p>In Federal Parliament: Moved an amendment to the Electricity Infrastructure Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 to enshrine in law implementation of the Capacity Investment Scheme to meet the government’s targets of 32-gigawatt-by-2030 renewables and storage, made up of 23 gigawatts of renewable generation and nine gigawatts of clean dispatchable energy. The amendment was supported by the Government and included in the Bill.</p> |
| Kate Thwaites Labor | <p>Government Policy: Annual Climate Change Statement 2024 (Released November 2024) (Page 25) Decarbonising the electricity sector – Australia’s largest source of emissions, representing 34.6% of Australia’s emissions in 2024 [Financial Year to June 2024] – is vital to reaching our 2030 emissions reduction target ... The Government’s current policies, particularly its expansion of the CIS [Capacity Investment Scheme], provide a pathway to meet the 82% renewable electricity target. Continued commitment will be needed to ensure we stay on course to achieve the target ...</p> <p>2024 Integrated System Plan – A roadmap for the energy transition (AEMO) Executive summary (Pages 6-18) ... Governments have set 2050 as the target for a net zero economy, with each jurisdiction having interim emissions and renewable energy targets to meet that deadline. Federal Government policy is a 43% reduction in 2005-level emissions by 2030, with 82% of electricity supplied from renewable sources. This energy transition, well underway, is by far the biggest transformation of the National Electricity Market (NEM) since it was formed 25 years ago. As well as the shift from coal to firmed renewables and low emissions sources, it will treble capacity to meet future demand, and facilitate a two-way flow of electricity across the networks. Published every two years, AEMO’s Integrated System Plan (ISP) is a roadmap for the transition of the NEM power system, with a clear plan for essential infrastructure that will meet future energy needs ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The energy transition is already well underway ... The ISP is a roadmap to complete the NEM’s transition ... • The ISP’s optimal development path sets out the needed generation, firming and transmission to transition to net zero by 2050 through current policy settings. The transmission elements would repay their investment costs, save consumers a further \$18.5 billion in avoided costs, and deliver emission reductions now valued at \$3.3 billion ... • Action needed to deliver the transition is urgent ... <p>The NEM must almost triple its capacity to supply energy by 2050 to replace retiring coal capacity and to meet increased electricity consumption as other sectors decarbonise through electrification ... Households will be more energy efficient and draw considerably from batteries and rooftop solar, and will also need more electricity for appliances and</p> |

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| | <p>especially for electric vehicles. Businesses and industry will double their grid electricity consumption to serve a growing, decarbonising economy, and for green energy products such as hydrogen.</p> <p>Renewables accounted for almost 40% of the total electricity delivered through the NEM in 2023, momentarily reaching up to a 72.1% share on 24 October 2023 ...</p> <p>The objective is to determine an ‘optimal development path’ (ODP) that will meet the NEM power system’s reliability and security needs, that is aligned with government emissions reduction and other policies, doing so at the lowest long-run cost to consumers. The ODP sets out the optimal size, place and timing for the NEM’s future assets ...</p> <p>Candidate paths were tested against three future scenarios, through to 2050:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Step Change, which fulfils Australia’s emission reduction commitments in a growing economy, • Progressive Change, which reflects slower economic growth and energy investment with economic and international factors placing industrial demands at greater risk and slower decarbonisation action beyond current commitments, and • Green Energy Exports, which sees very strong industrial decarbonisation and low-emission energy exports. <p>All three scenarios acknowledge that coal power stations will continue to retire over the coming years, and all three scenarios align with government net zero commitments ... <i>Step Change</i> ... is the ISP’s most likely scenario ...</p> <p>The optimal development path is the lowest-cost, resilient, pragmatic path to the NEM’s energy future of net zero by 2050, while also meeting government policies ...</p> <p>Ten large coal-fired power stations have closed since Munmorah ceased operations in 2012, the latest being Liddell in April 2023 ... In <i>Step Change</i>, the most likely scenario, about 90% of the current 21 gigawatts (GW) of coal capacity would retire by 2034-35, and all before 2040 ... Coal retirements are occurring faster than announced dates, and may occur even faster than these forecasts.</p> <p>With coal retiring, renewable energy connected with transmission and distribution, firmed with storage and backed up by gas-powered generation is the lowest-cost way to supply electricity to homes and businesses as Australia transitions to a net zero economy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • low-cost renewable energy will take advantage of the abundant wind, solar and hydro resources that Australia has to offer, • firming technology like pumped hydro, batteries, and gas-powered generation will smooth out the peaks and fill in the gaps from that variable renewable energy, • new transmission and modernised distribution networks will connect these new and diverse low-cost sources of generation to our towns, cities and industry, and • upgraded power systems will be capable of running, at times, entirely on renewable energy. <p>AEMO has selected an optimal development path (ODP) that sets out the capacity of new grid-scale generation, firming, storage and transmission needed in the NEM through to 2050 ... the ODP calls for investment that would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Triple grid-scale variable renewable energy (VRE) by 2030, and increase it six-fold by 2050. About 6 GW of capacity would need to be added every year, compared to the current rate of around 3 to 4 GW. Wind would dominate installations through to 2030, complementing installations of rooftop solar systems, and by 2050 grid-scale solar capacity would be 58 GW and wind 69 GW. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus grid-scale generation in REZs [Renewable Energy Zones] selected to access quality renewable resources, existing and planned transmission, and a skilled workforce. REZs will support better grid reliability and security; reduce transmission, connection and operation costs for individual assets; and promote regional expertise and employment at scale. • Almost quadruple the firming capacity from sources alternative to coal that can respond to a dispatch signal, using grid-scale batteries, pumped hydro and other hydro, coordinated consumer energy resources as VPPs [Virtual Power Plants] and gas-powered generation. This includes 49 GW/ 646 gigawatt hours (GWh) of dispatchable storage, as well as 15 GW of flexible gas. • Support a forecast four-fold increase in rooftop solar capacity reaching 72 GW by 2050, highlighting the impactful role of consumer energy resources in the energy transition. • Leverage system security services and operational approaches to ensure that the NEM stays reliable and secure even as the renewable share of generation approaches 100 ... <p>Transmission ... brings electricity where it is needed, when it is needed, and improves the power system's resilience ... Consistent with previous ISPs, close to 10,000 km of new transmission would be needed by 2050 under the <i>Step Change</i> and <i>Progressive Change</i> scenarios ...</p> <p>The selected ODP sets out the capacity of new grid-scale generation, firming, storage and transmission needed in the NEM through to 2050.</p> <p>It would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • guide \$142 billion in upfront capital investment needed for essential electricity infrastructure, to sustain and grow Australia's \$2 trillion annual economy, • reduce costs for consumers by delivering transmission that would repay its \$16 billion investment cost, save consumers a further \$18.5 billion in avoided costs, and deliver emissions reductions valued at a further \$3.3 billion, • connect emerging areas of renewable generation to regional industries and to urban businesses and households, • firm up variable renewable energy with batteries, hydro and gas-powered generation, • create new economic and job opportunities, particularly in regional areas, and • add energy self-reliance and insulation from global shocks to the price or supply of fossil fuels ... <p>AEMO has identified the ODP as the most efficient path to maintain reliable and secure electricity supply as coal retires and to deliver the energy system needed for a net zero economy. Any delay to delivery of the ODP increases the likelihood of interruptions and higher costs.</p> <p>While significant progress is being made, challenges and risks are already being experienced. Unplanned coal generator outages are becoming more common as the fleet ages. Planned projects are not progressing as expected, due to the time needed for approval processes, investment decision uncertainty, cost pressures, social licence issues, supply chain issues and workforce shortages.</p> <p>The possibility that replacement generation is not available when coal power stations retire is real and growing, and a risk that must be avoided. The sooner firmed renewables are connected, the more secure the energy transition will be ...</p> <p>1.2 Increasing electricity demand and consumption (Page 24-27)</p> <p>The shift to renewable energy is the first part of the energy transition. Another is the great increase in demand for electricity, as consumers use it for transport, heating,</p> |

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| | <p>cooling and cooking. Even more electricity will be needed as hydrogen production and other new energy industries emerge ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Demand' is the electricity needed at a point in time ... Consumers may draw 21 GW of electricity from the grid at one time, and another 2 GW from their own 'behind-the-meter' resources. • 'Consumption' is the total electricity used over a period of time ... the grid's annual operational consumption is currently about 180 TWh ... <p>Overall, allowing for continued growth in energy efficiency, electricity consumption across the NEM is forecast to continue rising to over 410 terawatt hours (TWh) in 2049-50 ... Growth in residential consumption is significantly offset by the uptake of rooftop solar and energy efficiency. Business consumption grows with the economy, its electrification, and the inclusion of hydrogen loads ...</p> <p>Taken as a whole, households are forecast to draw about as much from the grid across a year in 2050 as they do now. Their EVs and appliances will drive up underlying consumption, and be offset by their investments in rooftop solar and energy efficiency. Individual households will differ in how they rely on the grid. Many will continue to be without rooftop solar and draw electricity from the grid, while those with solar may export excess energy during the day and import from the grid overnight ...</p> <p>Business and industry total consumption is forecast to more than double from today's 145 TWh to almost 345 TWh in 2050 ... Economic growth is expected to drive a 45 TWh rise, the switch of transport and industrial processes to electricity would add another 65 TWh, and emerging hydrogen would add at least 55 TWh ... Investment in energy efficient processes and buildings will offset this increase, bringing underlying consumption to 300 TWh. On-site generation will further ease demand on the grid to 260 TWh ...</p> <p>4.3 Six times today's utility-scale wind and solar (Page 51-52)</p> <p>... As a share of annual generation, renewable energy including hydro and biomass reached 32% in 2021-22. In the <i>Step Change</i> scenario, renewables reach almost 70% of annual generation in 2027-28 and 99% by 2049-50 ... By 2034-35, the NEM is forecast to need approximately 83 GW of utility-scale wind and solar, and 127 GW by 2049-50. This would be six times the current NEM capacity of 21 GW, with another 5 GW committed or anticipated to be operational before the end of 2024.</p> <p>This means that the current rate of investment in renewables would have to accelerate. In <i>Step Change</i> around 6 GW of new capacity is needed each year until 2029-30, easing back to over 3 GW per year through the 2030s. Progressive Change also calls for around 4 GW each year this decade, before easing to under 2 GW per year next decade ...</p> <p>A. Capacity Investment Scheme (website):</p> <p>The Capacity Investment Scheme (CIS) is an Australian Government revenue underwriting scheme to accelerate investment in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • renewable energy generation (generation), such as wind and solar • clean dispatchable capacity (dispatchable), such as battery storage. <p>The scheme provides a long-term revenue safety net that decreases financial risk for investors. This ensures more renewable energy projects get built.</p> <p>CIS explained</p> <p>The Australian Government seeks competitive tender bids for underwriting contracts to support renewable generation and dispatchable projects to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • help deliver the Australian Government's <u>82% renewable electricity by 2030 target</u> • deliver an additional 32 GW of capacity by 2030 • support electricity generation growth and reliability as demand grows and ageing coal power stations retire • place downward pressure on electricity prices. |

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| | <p>The CIS aims to create jobs, reduce pressure on energy bills, and lower emissions. It supports Australia's clean energy transition and complements other programs under the Powering Australia Plan. This includes Rewiring the Nation.</p> <p>The scheme will foster and enable greater social and economic benefits for First Nations people, local communities, including greater opportunities for the use of local content and employment, to support Australian supply chains and Australian manufacturers ...</p> <p>Scope and size</p> <p>On 23 November 2023, the Australian Government announced an expansion of the Capacity Investment Scheme to target a total of 32 GW of new capacity nationally, made up of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 23 GW of renewable capacity representing \$52 billion in investment • 9 GW of clean dispatchable capacity representing \$15 billion in investment • The expanded CIS will be rolled out from 2024 to 2027. <p>Auctions for both generation and dispatchable capacity will be held about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • every 6 months in the National Electricity Market (NEM) • Every 12 months in the Western Australian's Wholesale Electricity Market (WEM). <p>This aligns with the Western Australia's Reserve Capacity Mechanism.</p> <p>Renewable Energy Transformation Agreements</p> <p>The Australian Government is negotiating bilateral Renewable Energy Transformation Agreements (RETAs) with all states and territories.</p> <p>RETAs build on the National Energy Transformation Partnership to address the unique needs of each state and territory in the energy transition.</p> <p>Governments are working together through RETAs to address barriers to delivering new renewable energy.</p> <p>RETAs will help:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • speed up renewable energy investments • drive better social and economic outcomes • deliver a coordinated approach across Australia • support an affordable, reliable and resilient energy system for all Australians. <p>Through RETAs, the Australian Government has agreed minimum allocations of capacity under the Capacity Investment Scheme ...</p> <p>Annual Climate Change Statement 2024 (Released November 2024) (Page 27)</p> <p>... The expanded CIS is expected to significantly increase the rate of investment in utility-scale renewable projects in coming years, with all tenders in the market for new projects being oversubscribed. It is supporting investment into 23 GW of new renewable generation capacity representing \$52 billion in investment, and 9 GW of clean dispatchable capacity representing \$15 billion in investment.</p> <p>The Government's first national CIS tender in May 2024, seeking 6 GW of renewable electricity generation, received bids from more than 80 projects with over 25 GW of capacity. This is a strong indication of the pipeline of renewable energy projects across the country. The next CIS tenders, due to commence in November 2024, will build momentum on the first tender and will seek an additional 4 GW of dispatchable capacity and 6 GW of renewable electricity generation capacity in the NEM. New dispatchable capacity is also being sought in Western Australia with the July 2024 launch of the CIS tender for 500 MW 4-hour equivalent (2,000 MWh) in the Wholesale Electricity Market. The CIS works in tandem with RETAs with states and territories to ensure projects can and will be delivered by 2030 ... The Australian Government has signed or is finalising RETAs with Western Australia, South Australia, New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania and the ACT.</p> <p>B. Rewiring the Nation (website):</p> |

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| | <p>Modernising our electricity grid</p> <p>Rewiring the Nation is an Australian Government program to make clean energy more accessible and affordable for Australian consumers.</p> <p>The program invests to modernise our electricity grid and deliver new and upgraded grid infrastructure. The program provides finance at concessional rates to minimise the costs of these investments. The aim is to lower the cost of this essential infrastructure to consumers.</p> <p>Many of Australia's legacy energy assets, like coal fired power stations, are increasingly unreliable. They are scheduled to close in coming years. Renewable energy is the lowest cost and lowest emission replacement for these assets.</p> <p>The Rewiring the Nation program invests in new transmission lines to deliver affordable, reliable renewable energy to cities, towns and regional communities....</p> <p>The Clean Energy Finance Corporation (CEFC) is administering \$19 billion of low-cost finance for Rewiring the Nation. The CEFC will ensure the effective management of financial resources to support this initiative ...</p> <p>The Australian Energy Market Operator's (AEMO) 2024 Integrated System Plan (ISP) provides a forecast of the National Electricity Market's infrastructure needs. The plan recommends investing in transmission to ensure the supply of reliable and secure energy. The 2024 ISP forecasts that an estimated 4,581 km of new transmission lines are needed to meet 2030 targets ...</p> <p>We're working with state and territory governments to fast-track our energy transformation. This will ensure we quickly action key projects to transport power supply across the nation ... The Australian Government has to date entered into agreements about priorities for Rewiring the Nation Support with:</p> <p>New South Wales</p> <p>We've agreed priorities for Rewiring the Nation investment of up to \$4.7 billion to support investment in New South Wales (NSW) transmission projects.</p> <p>Priority projects include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Victoria-New South Wales Interconnector West (VNI West) • HumeLink • the Sydney Ring • Renewable Energy Zones in New England and the Hunter Central Coast. <p>The CEFC is already providing finance from its Rewiring the Nation fund into four projects in NSW. The CEFC has announced :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$100 million funding ... to support renewable energy projects in NSW ... • \$490 million finance to EnergyCo for expenditure on land acquisition and biodiversity offsets for the Central West Orana Renewable Energy Zone. • \$1.92 billion finance to Transgrid for the delivery of two major energy infrastructure projects: HumeLink and the NSW element of the Victoria-NSW Interconnector (VNI West) ... <p>Tasmania</p> <p>We're working with the CEFC to provide low-cost debt and equity finance to Marinus Link. This will benefit Tasmania and the mainland by improving the reliability in the NEM, enabling utilisation of existing Tasmanian storage and generation, and providing extra security for Tasmania ...</p> <p>The CEFC is also working towards supporting the North West Transmission Developments (NWTN), This comprises 240 km of transmission lines linking Cressy, Burnie, Sheffield, Staverton, Hampshire and East Cam in Tasmania.</p> <p>Similarly, the CEFC is negotiating project debt at a deeply concessional interest rate for the Tarraleah Hydro Power Scheme Redevelopment ...</p> |

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| | <p>Victoria</p> <p>We've agreed priorities for Rewiring the Nation investment of up to \$2.25 billion to support Victorian projects. This includes Renewable Energy Zones in Victoria and the Victoria-New South Wales Interconnector (VNI West).</p> <p>Under its Rewiring the Nation fund, the CEFC has announced \$120 million finance to AEMO to undertake early works in Victoria ...</p> <p>Western Australia</p> <p>We've agreed priorities for Rewiring the Nation investment (up to \$3 billion) to modernise the electricity networks in Western Australia. This includes new builds and major upgrades to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the North West Interconnected System • the South West Interconnected System. <p>Northern Territory</p> <p>We've agreed priorities for Rewiring the Nation investment (up to \$250 million) to upgrade and expand the power grid in the Northern Territory.</p> <p>This will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • support major transmission projects • improve the reliability of the Northern Territory's electricity grid • create hundreds of new jobs. <p>Powering Net Zero Economy (CEFC)</p> <p>Rewiring the Nation</p> <p>Rebuilding our energy system is a large and complex task. Grid and transmission infrastructure projects require substantial capital, expertise and time to bring online ...</p> <p>As just one of many nations undergoing an energy transformation, Australia is in a race for capital, equipment and expertise. Through the RTN Fund the CEFC is charged with investing \$19 billion on behalf of the Australian Government in a range of projects essential to the achievement of our net zero emissions ambitions ...</p> <p>C. Renewable Energy Target scheme (website)</p> <p>The Renewable Energy Target (RET) scheme encourages renewable electricity generation. It aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the electricity sector. The RET comprises 2 schemes.</p> <p>Large-scale Renewable Energy Target</p> <p>The Large-scale Renewable Energy Target (LRET) incentivises investment in renewable energy power stations such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • wind and solar farms • hydro-electric power stations. <p>These power stations can create large-scale generation certificates (LGCs) for the eligible renewable electricity they produce. They can sell LGCs to liable entities (mainly electricity retailers) or companies who want to demonstrate renewable energy use for voluntary purposes. Liable entities must purchase a certain percentage of electricity from renewable sources each year. They comply with this by buying LGCs and surrendering them to the Clean Energy Regulator.</p> <p>The LRET aims to deliver 33,000 gigawatt hours of extra renewable electricity each year.</p> <p>Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme</p> <p>The Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme (SRES) incentivises households and businesses to install small-scale renewable energy systems ...</p> <p>Emissions-intensive trade-exposed activities under the RET</p> <p>Activities that meet emissions-intensive and trade-exposed (EITE) criteria are eligible for exemption under the RET to reduce costs and support competitiveness. Companies performing EITE activities may apply for an exemption certificate. They can give the</p> |

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| | <p>certificate to liable entities to negotiate a discounted electricity rate. This gives liable entities an exemption from surrendering LGCs or STCs for electricity used in EITE activities ...</p> <p>D. Offshore wind in Australia (website)</p> <p>We are helping to build an offshore wind industry that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensures Australians have access to reliable, secure and affordable energy • creates jobs and economic opportunities for our regions • contributes to our goal of net zero emissions by 2050. <p>We are responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • developing a legal framework to support this new industry • running public consultations on areas identified as having exceptional offshore wind potential • developing an industry growth strategy to ensure the industry is successful and sustainable. <p>Australia's offshore wind areas (website)</p> <p>... The Minister for Climate Change and Energy announced the identification of 6 priority areas in Australia for offshore wind in August 2022. These areas have been chosen as they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have strong and consistent winds • are close to areas of high electricity demand • have existing electricity transmission infrastructure • have existing transport and port infrastructure • industry is interested in developing projects in these areas. <p>The areas are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gippsland, Vic • Hunter, NSW • Southern Ocean, Vic • Illawara, NSW • Bass Strait, Tas • Indian Ocean, off Bunbury, Western Australia ... <p>The process to building offshore renewable energy infrastructure, such as offshore wind farms, takes several years.</p> <p>We begin by seeking advice from within the Australian, state and territory governments on existing infrastructure and other uses of the preliminary area.</p> <p>Once a proposed area is determined, the Minister seeks public feedback and submissions.</p> <p>The Minister considers a range of factors in the decision to declare all the area, some of the area, or not declare the area at all.</p> <p>The Minister may declare an area if they are satisfied that the area is suitable for offshore renewable energy infrastructure.</p> <p>If an area is declared, developers can apply for a feasibility licence to advance investigations to inform an individual project proposal within that area.</p> <p>The feasibility licence phase allows developers to undertake detailed environmental assessments, geotechnical surveys, obtain approvals and undertake further consultation on their proposed projects ...</p> <p>Annual Climate Change Statement 2024 (Released November 2024) (Page 28)</p> <p>... The Government declared 3 new areas as suitable for offshore wind energy in 2024 – off the coasts of Victoria, New South Wales and Western Australia. Local consultation led to a reduced footprint for these areas. The Government has also consulted on a zone off Tasmania. The Government is also providing \$182.7 million over 8 years to strengthen approval processes.</p> |

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| | <p>This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • creating a National Priority List for renewable energy-related projects to address delays in planning approvals • the permanent establishment of the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner to improve community engagement • targeted scientific studies to improve the environmental data used in decision-making. <p>E. Pumped hydro (website)</p> <p>Energy storage is an increasingly important part of our electricity system as it allows us to ensure energy is always available even when the sun and wind are not. Pumped hydro is the most common and most mature form of this energy storage ... Pumped hydro, including Snowy 2.0 and Battery of the Nation, can help us deliver a more reliable energy system, reducing the risk of blackouts and electricity price volatility ...</p> <p>Snowy 2.0</p> <p>Snowy 2.0 will expand the original Snowy Mountains Hydroelectric Scheme to add 2200 MW of electricity generation capacity and 350,000 MW hours of energy storage ... The iconic Snowy scheme ... currently provides 4100 MW of existing fast start dispatchable generation capacity. Snowy 2.0 will increase this capacity by more than 50% to 6300 MW. The target date for full commercial operation is December 2028.</p> <p>Battery of the Nation</p> <p>Battery of the Nation is a Hydro Tasmania initiative to expand Tasmania's renewable electricity generation capacity to supply mainland Australia. The project includes hydropower system improvements and new pumped hydro opportunities. The Australian Government has provided \$65 million to the upgrade of the Tarraleah hydropower scheme, a key Battery of the Nation asset, through the Bilateral Energy and Emissions Reduction Agreement.</p> <p>Marinus Link</p> <p>Marinus Link is the proposed second interconnector providing an additional 1500 MW of capacity between Tasmania and the mainland. It will take advantage of Tasmania's extensive renewable energy resources. On 19 October 2022, the Australian Government announced it would provide access to low-cost finance from Rewiring the Nation for Marinus Link and the associated North West Transmission Developments.</p> <p>When constructed, Marinus Link will provide the National Electricity Market with over 500 MW of dispatchable generation, which, due to limited BassLink capacity, is currently unavailable ...</p> <p>F. National Hydrogen Strategy 2024 (Page 5)</p> <p>... While most renewable hydrogen projects will likely be developed off-grid, on-grid projects will provide a flexible source of electricity demand and like batteries, allow electricity to be stored. Both characteristics could support Australia's transition to 82% renewable electricity by 2030, and the ongoing decarbonisation of the electricity system. In addition, having a domestic hydrogen industry will limit Australia's exposure to increases in the cost of natural gas and imported liquid fuels ...</p> <p>Growing Australia's hydrogen industry (website)</p> <p>... Hydrogen is still an emerging industry. It will become more efficient as it learns from the first wave of hydrogen projects. The Australian Government is delivering a range of policy initiatives that aim to support these early projects.</p> <p>Hydrogen Production Tax Incentive</p> <p>The government is legislating the Hydrogen Production Tax Incentive. This will encourage renewable hydrogen production by eligible Australian resident corporations ... The</p> |

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| | <p>incentive will provide \$2 for every kilogram of eligible renewable hydrogen produced for up to 10 years, between 1 July 2027 and 30 June 2040. The HPTI is a component of the \$22.7 billion Future Made in Australia plan.</p> <p>Hydrogen Headstart Program</p> <p>The \$4 billion Hydrogen Headstart Program will support large-scale renewable hydrogen production projects. These large-scale projects will ... assist industry learning and experience by successfully delivering and operating large scale clean hydrogen projects.</p> <p>Building regional hydrogen hubs</p> <p>The government has invested more than \$500 million to support and co-fund common infrastructure investments and the formation of hydrogen hubs in regional Australia. The hubs will co-host producers, users and potential exporters of hydrogen across industrial, transport, export and energy markets ...</p> <p>Concessional finance</p> <p>... Concessional finance is provided through government special investment vehicles such as the National Reconstruction Fund (\$15 billion allocated) and the Clean Energy Finance Corporation (CEFC). The CEFC invests in hydrogen through its dedicated AUD\$300 million Advancing Hydrogen Fund, as well as in hydrogen-related climate technology opportunities.</p> <p>Grant funding</p> <p>Under its own funding programs, the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) has committed over AUD\$300 million to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hydrogen R&D projects • feasibility studies • pilot and demonstration plants ... <p>ARENA administered the Australian portion of the German-Australian Hydrogen Innovation and Technology Incubator (HyGATE) initiative. Australia and Germany have respectively committed up to AUD\$50 million and €50 million to establish HyGATE ... The Australian Government has announced the establishment of a AUD\$1.7 billion Future Made in Australia Innovation Fund. This will fund the deployment of innovative technologies and facilities linked directly to priority industries, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • renewable hydrogen • hydrogen derivative industries (such as low carbon liquid fuels, low carbon metals such as green iron and green alumina). <p>G. Big batteries boosted under Albanese Government's Reliable Renewables Plan (Media release, 18 December 2024)</p> <p>The Albanese Government's Reliable Renewables Plan is gaining momentum, with a \$100 million investment to deliver two regional big batteries boosting energy security and a solar farm that will power 160,000 Australian homes ...</p> <p>Today, we are announcing the Clean Energy Finance Corporation's (CEFC) \$100 million commitment to Neoen, a world leading renewable energy developer, to support 1.3 GW of renewable energy and battery storage, including three new projects across the country.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collie Battery Stage 2 to provide critical support for the Western Australian energy grid, • Western Downs Battery Stage 1 in Queensland to support more renewable energy into the National Electricity Market (NEM), and the • Culcairn Solar Farm in southwest New South Wales. <p>H. National Energy Performance Strategy (website)</p> <p>The National Energy Performance Strategy will coordinate action to improve energy performance for all Australians. Energy performance includes:</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy efficiency – using less energy to do that same thing. • Demand flexibility – varying when and how energy is used. • Electrification or fuel switching – swapping to electricity powered technologies or other cleaner sources of energy. <p>The strategy provides a long-term framework to manage energy demand, so our community can enjoy the economic, climate and health benefits of improved energy performance ...</p> <p>The Australian Government is investing \$15.2 million until 2026 to develop, evolve and deliver the strategy.</p> <p>First National Energy Performance Strategy ready to take pressure off energy bills (Media release 5 April 2024)</p> <p>The Albanese Government has today released the National Energy Performance Strategy, to drive a high energy performance economy and help consumers take control of their energy use and save on bills. The strategy outlines action across five key focus areas: economy; households; communities, businesses and industry; energy system; and technology and innovation, and is focused on empowering Australians to improve energy performance and ensure more consumers have access to energy saving upgrades. This includes greater access to tools that deliver transparency about the performance of homes, workplaces and appliances and reforms that will reduce barriers to making upgrades ...</p> <p>When consumers choose to make energy performance upgrades, they save energy and save on bills. This can include upgrading energy efficient appliances, homes and buildings; maximising off-peak times to reduce energy costs; and harnessing renewable energy technologies like solar, batteries or electric vehicles.</p> <p>Action on the demand side of the energy system delivers cost savings to consumers and reduces emissions, while offering more control than ever before to businesses and families about how and when they use energy.</p> <p>The Government will also collate and publish more data to better track energy performance across the economy, better integrate demand-side opportunities into system planning, and establish an advisory group to better coordinate collaboration across business and governments ...</p> <p>I. New investment in Clean Energy Finance Corporation (Media Release 23 January 2025)</p> <p>The Albanese Government is building Australia's Future providing an additional \$2 billion to the Clean Energy Finance Corporation (CEFC) to support Australian households, workers and businesses capitalize on our natural resources and make the shift to cheaper, clean, reliable, renewable energy ...</p> <p>The innovation and investment supported by the CEFC helps deliver reliable, renewable, cost-saving technologies to Australian households and businesses, by unlocking an expected \$6 billion of private investment from global and local organisations keen to capitalise on Australia's future energy ambitions ...</p> <p>CEFC welcomes additional \$2 billion capital allocation (CEFC Media Release, 14 February 2025)</p> <p>The CEFC today welcomed an additional \$2 billion capital allocation from the Australian Government, to support investment commitments via the CEFC General Portfolio ...</p> <p>CEFC investment commitments through the General Portfolio include renewable energy generation and storage, property, electric vehicles, infrastructure and natural capital. They also include capital for our asset finance programs, which have already provided discounted finance to households, business and farmers across close to 80,000 smaller-scale clean energy investments ...</p> |

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| | <p data-bbox="352 188 683 217">[GAS POWER GENERATION]</p> <p data-bbox="352 257 1281 286">Annual Climate Change Statement 2024 (Released November 2024) (Page 25)</p> <p data-bbox="352 293 1406 394">... As ageing and increasingly unreliable coal generators exit, flexible gas generation will continue to play an important role maintaining reliability in the electricity system. It will support energy supply during periods of renewable drought and extreme peak demand.</p> <p data-bbox="352 439 908 468">Future Gas Strategy (May 2024) (Page 38 – 39)</p> <p data-bbox="352 474 1430 537">Forecasting future gas consumption is difficult due to a wide range of variables that affect demand for gas. Based on currently available data, the analytical report forecasts that:</p> <ul data-bbox="352 544 1422 611" style="list-style-type: none"> • gas consumption is forecast to continue beyond 2050 in its critical role for peak loads and firming in power generation ... <p data-bbox="352 656 651 685">Gas-powered generation</p> <p data-bbox="352 692 1418 754">GPG will underpin Australia’s electricity supply in the transition to a net zero economy. It is likely that gas will still play a role in electricity generation up to and beyond 2050.</p> <p data-bbox="352 761 1426 862">On the east coast and in the Northern Territory, GPG will be used to firm up the supply of electricity as coal-powered generators are retired. It will also be used to manage short, daily periods of peak demand which cannot be met by alternative sources.</p> <p data-bbox="352 869 1390 1039">Projections from the AEMO show east coast GPG will decline then stabilise as more renewable sources of generation enter the grid in the near term. While annual GPG demand is expected to fall in this period, peak daily demand is expected to increase by three times what it is today ... As coal generators retire and the need for electricity increases, both annual and peak daily demand is projected to increase after 2033 ...</p> <p data-bbox="352 1084 1430 1469">Across Australia, the future demand for natural gas for GPG to 2050 and beyond will be highly dependent on the speed and timing of technological development and commercialisation of low-carbon alternatives. These alternatives include hydrogen powered generators, pumped hydro, batteries, biomethane and other biofuels. The Australian Government, in partnership with the states and territories, is active in supporting this transition. The \$20 billion Rewiring the Nation program will modernise Australia’s electricity grids and deliver new and upgraded transmission infrastructure. The Capacity Investment Scheme will encourage new investment in new renewable capacity nationally. Building on the National Energy Transformation Partnership framework, these measures will deliver the Australian Government’s 82% renewable electricity by 2030 target.</p> <p data-bbox="352 1547 746 1576">[NUCLEAR POWER GENERATION]</p> <p data-bbox="352 1621 1281 1650">Annual Climate Change Statement 2024 (Released November 2024) (Page 10)</p> <p data-bbox="352 1657 1426 1968">CSIRO confirmed that both large-scale nuclear and small modular reactors would be significantly more expensive and subject to first-of-a-kind capital cost premiums of up to 100%, noting that ‘the first full operation would be no sooner than 2040’ ... Demand for electricity in the NEM is expected to more than double as the economy grows, transport and industrial processes become increasingly electrified, and new industries like renewable hydrogen emerge. The release of AEMO’s Integrated System Plan in June 2024 confirmed that renewable energy connected by transmission and distribution, firmed with storage and backed up by gas-fired generation is the lowest-cost pathway for Australia’s national grid to meet these challenges and maintain reliable electricity supply.</p> <p data-bbox="352 2013 1353 2042">2024 Annual Climate Change Statement to Parliament (Speech, 28 November 2024)</p> |

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| | <p>... The notion that nuclear energy in Australia is a serious solution to decarbonise by 2050, is a dangerous furphy.</p> <p>It does not survive contact with reality:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pausing policies that are currently lowering emissions, in favour of ramping up policies that increase emissions, will not deliver Net Zero. • Nuclear power generation commencing in the 2040s, less than a decade before we are due to meet the target, is not a solution or antidote to the increase in emissions from extending fossil fuels in the interim. If it were to be, it would need to be rolled out on such a scale as to replace almost all other emitting technologies. That would mean hundreds of nuclear reactors built across the country to keep the lights on, connected by thousands of kilometres of transmission lines. Instead, the current scheme proposed by those in Opposition is for just seven plants, with just one to supply all of Western Australia. <p>This energy mix, that includes nuclear as the net zero silver bullet, is incompatible with Australia's net zero ambitions; incompatible with building a Future Made in Australia; and incompatible with the direction of travel we're seeing around the rest of the world.</p> <p>It would see a return to the delay, denial and dysfunction that has already cost Australians.</p> <p>In Federal Parliament:</p> <p>Voted in favour of the amendment to the Electricity Infrastructure Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 (moved by the Greens) to enshrine in law implementation of the Capacity Investment Scheme to meet the government's targets of 32-gigawatt-by-2030 renewables and storage, made up of 23 gigawatts of renewable generation and nine gigawatts of clean dispatchable energy.</p> |

4. Generous support for household solar and electrification

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| Chris Kearney Independent | <p>Climate Policy (website) No specific reference to support for household solar and electrification. Re electrification/energy efficiency: Remove barriers to building the energy networks needed to deliver affordable renewable energy to everyone. Provide Federal funding for urban development that is less energy hungry...</p> |
| Chris Parr Liberal | <p>We will deliver cheaper energy (website): No reference to household support for solar/electrification</p> <p>Let's Get Australia Back on Track – Priorities of a Dutton Coalition Government No reference to household support for solar/electrification</p> |
| Leslie Ralph Pauline Hanson's One Nation | <p>Climate (webpage): No reference to household subsidies.</p> <p>Net Zero is Bad (webpage, 27 February 2025) ... One Nation has never supported net zero. The rest of the world has discovered they can't power their economies solely with renewables, and many countries are reinvesting in cheaper and more reliable coal, gas and nuclear energy. Many are going back on their Paris targets, which were dubious to begin with. Not Australia, though. Labor still thinks Australia can run on renewables alone, despite all evidence to the contrary. The Liberals and Nationals have at least woken up to the impossibility and proposed nuclear energy as a way of providing emissions-free power. In principle, One Nation has no problem with nuclear energy, but we see no immediate need when we have plenty of gas and coal. We do, however, see an immediate need to withdraw from the Paris Agreement and abolish climate change agencies and programs, saving taxpayers at least \$30 billion a year and lowering your electricity bills.</p> |
| Rae Rancie Family First | <p>Our Policies (website): Economic freedom for families ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy affordability and reliability - pause net zero policies until a proper cost benefit of the engineering and economics has been conducted ... <p>New Family First Ad Exposes the Truth Behind Soaring Power Bills (dated 26 March 2025) ... both major parties — Labor and the Liberals — are obsessed with the globalist net zero agenda ... Tied to the Paris Agreement and committed to rolling out unreliable and expensive wind and solar projects, both sides of politics are making electricity more costly — and in turn, driving up the price of everything else ...</p> <p>No explicit reference to household subsidies.</p> |
| Jy Sandford Greens | <p>Your vote can get strong climate action (website): ... Our plan for ambitious climate action The last time there was a minority government, the Greens cut climate pollution and secured world leading climate laws and billions for clean energy. With more Greens in parliament, we can do it again ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subsidise solar & batteries for homes & businesses ... <p>Policy principles: Climate Change and Energy (website): ... The Australian Greens want ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A national system of energy efficiency targets, subsidies to help households and businesses achieve those targets, mandatory energy management systems for businesses, and stringent Minimum Energy Performance Standards ... |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A government-supported shift to 100% renewables ... • 100% of electricity used in Australia to come from renewable sources as soon as possible, by increasing the renewable energy target (RET) as well as measures such as public investment, feed-in tariffs and regulations to support a range of renewable energy generation, storage, transmission networks, efficiency, and export technologies ... • Rapid rollout of smart technology, including meters, appliances, grids and energy storage, with measures to reduce the financial impact on people with low or fixed incomes ... • To build capacity within our communities and industries to develop and expand local renewable energy, including through increasing community and public ownership of energy production and storage ... <p>Greens secure \$500 million for social housing upgrades (Media Release 28 November 2024):</p> <p>After constructive negotiations, Australian Greens have secured life-changing upgrades to 50,000 social homes across the country, who will have their homes electrified and save approximately \$1,800 a year on power bills ...</p> <p>The deal is part of an agreement with the government on a package of amendments and reforms to secure the passage of over 20 bills through the Senate ...</p> <p>An additional \$500 million will be allocated to expand the Social Housing Energy Performance Initiative to upgrade public and community homes to lower power bills for tenants. It will be proportionally distributed to the states without requirement of co-contributions from the states, meaning 50,000 social homes will be retrofitted with energy efficient upgrades such as air conditioning, insulation and shading; electric hot water systems, cooktops and ovens; and solar panels and batteries. An estimated quarter of all social homes across the country could be retrofitted under the program ...</p> <p>Greens launch electrification plan to get homes and businesses off gas, reduce emissions and bring down energy bills (Media Release, 18 March 2025)</p> <p>... The Greens say supporting people to electrify their homes is one of the cheapest ways to reduce emissions and would bring the greatest benefits to households. Under the Parliamentary Budget Office-costed plan, households and small businesses would receive financial assistance to disconnect from gas appliances and install electric alternatives. Households would be able to access a grant of up to \$10,000 and low-interest loan of up to \$20,000 to install eligible technologies such as induction cooktops and heat pumps, while small businesses would be offered grants of up to \$25,000 and low-interest loans of up to \$100,000.</p> <p>Similar financial assistance would be offered to install battery storage as well, to maximise the benefits of rooftops solar. Households would be able to access grants of up to \$5,000 and low-interest loans of up to \$10,000 to install household storage technology, while small businesses would be offered grants of up to \$10,000 and low-interest loans of up to \$50,000.</p> <p>Over the forward estimates, helping households and small businesses get off gas would cost \$5.1b, and support for households to install batteries will cost \$2b, and support for small businesses to install batteries will cost \$1b ...</p> <p>The announcement builds on \$2.2 billion previously secured by the Greens in negotiations with the government for electrification for renters, apartments and social housing ...</p> |
| Kate Thwaites | <p>ALP National Platform 2023 (pages 47-49):</p> <p>... Labor recognises improved energy performance in homes, including in low-income</p> |

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| Labor | <p>housing, and workplaces is urgently needed to take pressure off power bills, reduce energy demand, improve indoor spaces, and meet Australia's emissions reduction targets. Labor will implement a national energy performance strategy. Labor notes the contribution of the built environment to greenhouse gas emissions, and will work with state, territory, and local government to transition towards zero-carbon-ready homes and buildings ...</p> <p>... The Federal Labor Government will ensure the gas industry plays its role in achieving net zero emissions, including through the Safeguard Mechanism. Labor will also support households and businesses that choose to switch to other energy sources, such as renewable electricity and green hydrogen ...</p> <p>Labor recognises that electrification and fuel switching are critical to meeting our emissions reduction targets, and present significant opportunities to reduce energy costs and improve household and business outcomes, including health outcomes.</p> <p>Labor's policies will support industry and households who choose to pursue fuel Substitution ...</p> <p>Labor will ensure Australian consumers are the focus of energy sector reform ...</p> <p>Government Policy:</p> <p>A. Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme</p> <p>Australia's rooftop solar revolution reaches astonishing new heights (Media release 14 November 2024)</p> <p>More and more Australians are going solar and seeing the savings in their bills, as the rooftop solar revolution hits its four millionth installation ...</p> <p>One in three Aussie homes now have rooftop solar and we are on track for a near record of 3.15 gigawatts of capacity to be added just this year.</p> <p>The average rooftop solar home saves more than \$1,500 a year on their power bills. It benefits the broader energy system too by reducing wholesale prices and demand for more expensive sources of energy during the day.</p> <p>The solar uptake has largely been driven by the former Labor Government's Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme (SRES) which <u>cuts upfront costs by about 30 per cent</u> ...</p> <p>The highly successful scheme is overseen by the Clean Energy Regulator. The former Labor Government oversaw a major expansion of the legislated Renewable Energy Target (RET) scheme including the SRES between 2009 and 2011.</p> <p>Renewable Energy Target (CER website):</p> <p>The Renewable Energy Target (RET) is an Australian Government scheme that aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the electricity sector and increase renewable electricity generation. The RET sets a target to deliver an extra 33,000 gigawatt-hours (GWh) of electricity from renewable sources every year from 2020 to 2030.</p> <p>The RET creates a market to incentivise the generation and use of renewable energy. This supports the transition towards a more sustainable and less carbon-intensive energy system.</p> <p>We administer the RET's 2 schemes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large-scale Renewable Energy Target <p>The Large-scale Renewable Energy Target (LRET) increases investment in large-scale renewable energy. It provides large-scale generation certificates to power stations, like wind farms and commercial solar plants.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme <p>Under the Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme (SRES), small-scale technology certificates are issued for the installation of eligible systems like rooftop solar panels and solar water heaters.</p> <p>Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme (CER website):</p> |

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| | <p>The Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme is an Australian Government initiative that encourages investment in small-scale renewable energy. It provides incentives to households and businesses to install small-scale renewable energy systems like rooftop solar, solar water heaters and air sourced heat pumps ...</p> <p>How it works</p> <p>Under the scheme, eligible systems can earn small-scale technology certificates (STCs) based on how much electricity they generate or displace. Each megawatt hour of renewable energy generated by the system is awarded one STC.</p> <p>System owners have the right to create and sell STCs. Most system owners assign the right to sell STCs to an agent in exchange for a discount or delayed cash payment. STCs are then issued to the registered agent based on how much power the system is expected to generate until the scheme ends in 2030.</p> <p>Energy retailers also have to buy and surrender a certain number of STCs to meet their obligations under the Renewable Energy Target. This creates a market for STCs so people who generate renewable energy can sell their certificates to retailers. The number of STCs they must submit is set by the small-scale technology percentage.</p> <p>Small-scale technology percentage</p> <p>... The 2025 small-scale technology percentage is 13.89% ...</p> <p>Setting the small-scale technology percentage</p> <p>Each year, we [CER] recommend a percentage to the Minister for Climate Change and Energy. We use data or estimates for matters the minister must consider. These matters are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • estimated STC creations for the year • estimated relevant acquisitions of electricity for the year • the cumulative adjustment • estimated exemptions. <p>The Minister may also consider other matters when determining the STP.</p> <p>The STP must be set by 31 March each year, otherwise a default percentage is used ...</p> <p>Cumulative adjustment</p> <p>The cumulative adjustment accounts for over or under supply of STCs in previous years. We subtract the sum of all STCs surrendered from the sum of all STCs created. We add this figure to the STC creations estimate.</p> <p>In 2024, STC creations were marginally lower than required surrenders. This means the 2025 STP cumulative adjustment is relatively small compared to recent years at - 1,241,657 STCs. The cumulative adjustment is based on data up to the end of October 2024 plus an estimate for the remainder of the year.</p> <p>In the cumulative adjustment, we also consider the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 659,564 STCs changed to large-scale generation certificates • 561,062 STCs flagged as voluntarily surrendered in the REC Registry ... <p>Information for householders</p> <p>... the Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme... provides incentives to households and businesses to install small-scale renewable energy systems like rooftop solar, solar water heaters and air sourced heat pumps. Under the scheme, eligible systems can claim small-scale technology certificates (STC) and you can get a discount on the purchase price of your system if you assign the right to claim STCs to a registered agent ...</p> <p>Small-scale renewable energy systems</p> <p>... There are 5 types of small-scale renewable energy systems eligible under the scheme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • solar photovoltaic (PV) • wind turbines • hydro systems • solar water heaters • air source heat pumps. |

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| | <p>Classification of a small-scale system is based on the system's capacity or how much energy the system displaces ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solar photovoltaic (PV) <p>System capacity: no more than 100 kW. Annual electricity output: less than 250 MWh.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solar water heaters <p>System capacity: up to 700 L. Models with a capacity over 700 L need further documentation to be eligible for STCs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air source heat pumps <p>System capacity: no more than 425 L.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wind turbines <p>System capacity: no more than 10 kW. Annual electricity output: less than 25 MWh.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hydro system <p>System capacity: no more than 6.4 kW. Annual electricity output: less than 25 MWh.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Battery storage systems <p>Battery storage systems <u>aren't eligible</u> under the scheme. ... To be eligible for STCs, newly installed small-scale systems must meet certain requirements ...</p> <p>If you are expanding a system, you may need to replace or upgrade components of your system to participate in the scheme. It's important to note that systems with replaced panels that previously received STCs aren't eligible for additional STCs ...</p> <p>See also: Small-scale technology certificates (CER website)</p> <p>Solar Quotes (website)</p> <p>If you buy a solar system in 2025, it is subsidised by a federal government scheme worth about \$300 per kW installed. This is based on a \$36 STC price after fees ... That's around \$2,000 off on a typical 6.6kW system that is normally applied at the point of sale i.e. any advertised prices you see almost certainly have the solar rebate already applied ...</p> <p>B. Household Energy Upgrades Fund Household Energy Upgrades Fund (website): Under the \$1 billion Household Energy Upgrades Fund, the Clean Energy Finance Corporation (CEFC) will work with lenders to provide discounted finance products to help households upgrade their homes with battery-ready solar PV, modern appliances and other improvements. The Household Energy Upgrades Fund will help more than 110,000 households lower their energy bills, ensuring homes are warmer in winter and cooler in summer. It is also helping to fast-track the retrofit of greener, more sustainable homes Australia-wide ... Finance may be used for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • renovations • energy upgrades of one or multiple technologies at the same time • knock-down rebuild properties and energy-efficient appliances. <p>Household Energy Upgrades Fund finance products to help improve the energy performance of your home may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • green home loans • green personal loans • other low-cost finance products <p>... Eligibility criteria</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Household Energy Upgrades Fund is open to households with or without a mortgage, rental property owners, and strata properties. • Upgrades are available for existing homes or knock-down/rebuild. • High value properties are excluded (speak to your lender for further details). • Products, installations and technologies must meet eligibility and evidence requirements. <p>HEUF finance at work (CEFC website):</p> <p>Through the Household Energy Upgrades Fund (HEUF), our goal is to provide low-cost finance for best practice energy performance initiatives, working with co-financiers to create tailored and discounted green finance products which are easy for households to access.</p> <p>Please note: The CEFC does not provide finance to individual borrowers and is not involved in individual financing decisions. Interested borrowers should contact financial institutions directly.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bank Australia Clean Energy Home Loan CEFC commitment: up to \$50m Program size: up to \$100m Reduced variable rate for first five years; Supporting all electric and energy efficient homes; Access to free assessment tool ... • ING Green Upgrade Loan CEFC commitment: up to \$75m Program size: up to \$150m Available to ING mortgage customers; Maximum loan \$50,000; Access to Home Energy Helper, delivered in collaboration with BOOM! Power, which can recommend appropriate clean energy technology upgrades ... • Plenti HEUF Discounted Green Loan CEFC commitment: up to \$60m Program size: up to \$60m Discounted rates off Plenti's standard green loans; Access extensive network of accredited partners and installers; Upgrades include solar battery systems and energy-efficient home assets ... • Westpac Sustainable Upgrades Home Loan CEFC commitment: up to \$160m Program size: up to \$320m Available for those with an approved Westpac home or investment loan of \$150,000 or more; Maximum loan \$50,000; Example technologies include solar battery systems, EV chargers, double-glazed windows, insulation ... <p>HEUF finance specifically targets energy improvements to existing dwellings, which may lack best practice building, energy efficiency, and heating and cooling options. A broad approach to eligible technologies provides flexibility for borrowers while creating scope for new and emerging technology solutions where these reduce household emissions. Eligible technologies may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy generation and storage: Solar PV systems and batteries, solar hot water systems • Heating and cooling: Double-glazed windows, insulation, air-conditioners, ceiling fans and heat pumps • Plus: Electric vehicle chargers, home energy monitoring systems, pool pumps and induction cooktops ... |

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| | <p>C. Community Solar Banks Community solar banks (website): The Australian Government is investing \$100 million into Community Solar Banks. The investment will provide shared solar systems and help to lower electricity costs for more than 25,000 households. This will create a fairer electricity system and reduce emissions. The Australian Government is partnering with states and territories to deliver this program. Shared community solar banks help households who can't install their own systems. This will allow more households to benefit from renewable energy, including people who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • rent their homes • live in apartments • can't afford to install their own system. <p>... The Australian Government is partnering with the Queensland Government to provide \$21.2 million. This will fund an additional 10.6MW of solar capacity ... The Australian Government is partnering with the New South Wales Government to provide \$30 million for 2 solar banks programs. The programs will support apartment residents through rebates for body corporates to install shared rooftop solar in multi-unit dwellings renters and low-income households to access the benefits of solar ... The Australian Government will provide a further \$1 million for community clean energy projects in the Far South Coast ... A \$32 million partnership will expand Victoria's Solar Homes Program. The Solar for Apartments program will fund up to 10,000 households to install shared rooftop solar on apartment buildings. The program will receive \$16 million from the Australian Government and \$16 million from the Victorian Government ... A \$19.9 million partnership will fund 2 shared-solar programs to provide energy savings to households in Western Australia. The programs will install rooftop solar to support more than 400 First Nations households in 5 remote communities in the Kimberley region, and integrate solar into town networks in regional areas and assist 1,600 renting and low-income households. The program will receive \$7.3 million from the Australian Government and \$12.6 million from the Western Australian Government ... A \$3.6 million partnership will fund the ACT's Solar for Apartments Program. The scheme will benefit apartment tenants and neighbouring residents. This will fund shared solar systems for more than 2,100 households. Body corporates can apply for up to \$100,000 for rooftop solar, with half as a grant or rebate and half as an interest free loan. This program will receive \$1.8 million from the Australian Government and \$1.8 million from the ACT Government's Sustainable Household Scheme ... The Australian Government is partnering with the Northern Territory Government to provide \$4.7 million in funding for two shared solar schemes: the Solar for Multi-Dwellings Grant Scheme and the Community Solar Share Scheme.</p> <p>D. Community Batteries for Household Solar More than 420 community batteries to lower energy costs and boost reliability (Media Release 29 June 2024) The Albanese Government is lowering household power bills and boosting reliability in the electricity grid with the roll out of more than 420 community batteries across the country. Today it was announced that the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) is set to support up to 370 community batteries as part of Round 1 of its Community Batteries Fund, an increase from the original number of 342 thanks to an overwhelming response to its Expression of Interest process.</p> |

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| | <p>The Government is on track to deliver more than 420 community batteries across every State and Territory, including 58 community batteries already in the pipeline by Department of Industry, Science and Resources, through the Business Grants Hub. This exceeds the original election commitment of the Albanese Government to deliver 400 batteries under the Community Batteries for Household Solar program.</p> <p>The program will provide shared storage for up to 100,000 households, empowering communities to all reap the benefits of the renewable energy transformation ...</p> <p>ARENA sought applications for up to \$20 million funding to deploy a minimum of five community batteries, each between 50 kW and 5 MW in size and connected to a distribution network ...</p> <p>“The demand for ARENA funds shows that that neighbourhood scale battery storage has a huge future,” Minister Bowen said.</p> <p>“With one in three homes having rooftop solar, community batteries are the next stage in ensuring all communities get the benefit of the energy transformation ...</p> <p>“Community batteries are a practical solution to ensuring an energy efficient future and give a boost to further expansion of rooftop solar for houses, apartment and community facilities.”</p> <p>ARENA has conditionally approved, subject to finalisation, funding of \$143 million to support the 370 community batteries. This is expected to unlock \$359 million of investment in renewable energy infrastructure. All battery locations will be subject to finalisation of commercial agreements, planning approvals and community engagement.</p> <p>Powering communities: Round 2 of ARENA’s community batteries program launched (ARENA Media Release, 26 February 2025)</p> <p>The Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) has today announced \$46.3 million in funding for Round 2 of the Community Batteries Funding Program. Building on the success of Round 1, this program aims to deploy community batteries across Australia to lower energy bills, cut emissions and reduce pressure on the electricity grid.</p> <p>ARENA is now seeking applications to deploy community batteries ...</p> <p>As part of the 2022-23 Federal Budget, the Australian Government allocated \$200 million for the Household Solar budget measure to deploy 400 community batteries across Australia. In total, ARENA was allocated \$171 million of this funding to deliver at least 342 community batteries across rounds 1 and 2.</p> <p>See also: Community Batteries for Household Solar program (website)</p> <p>E. Home Electrification Trial</p> <p>Electrifying more homes to bring down bills for good (Media Release 28 January 2025)</p> <p>Electrifying homes, powered by cheap, clean rooftop solar saves consumers thousands on power bills permanently, and the Albanese Government wants more communities nationwide to benefit.</p> <p>Minister for Climate Change and Energy Chris Bowen has asked the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) to consider funding for more community electrification demonstration projects across the country.</p> <p>The funding could help thousands of households, including renters, secure their homes from bill spikes with more solar, batteries, energy efficient appliances and shared community energy storage.</p> <p>In October last year, the Albanese Government announced \$5.4 million of ARENA funding for the Electrify 2515 pilot in Wollongong. It’s the latest of 49 projects in which ARENA has invested more than \$144 million over the past six years, to help homes reduce energy bills through electrification and other energy smart improvements ...</p> |

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| | <p>Electrify 2515 is delivering energy-efficient electric appliances and consumer energy resources in participating homes in the suburbs of Austinmer, Clifton, Coledale, Scarborough, Thirroul and Wombarra, along with a smart energy management device to optimise energy use.</p> <p>This builds on existing electrification projects ARENA has funded in South Australia and the Northern Territory. ARENA is now seeking more opportunities to replicate the Electrify 2515 pilot across the ACT, Western Australia, Queensland, Victoria and Tasmania.</p> <p>It is important that suburb-wide or community electrification demonstration projects are trialled in every state and territory in Australia to feed vital information and data back to ARENA, energy and electricity network companies, and governments about how best to roll out household electrification around the country.</p> <p>This is the first time Minister Bowen has used the statutory ministerial referral powers to ask the ARENA board to look at backing specific projects ...</p> <p>Decisions on funding for each demonstration project are made independently by ARENA based upon merit, consistent with their establishment legislation. At the end of 2024 the Government amended this legislation to formally make supporting electrification a statutory function for ARENA and reinstated ARENA's statutory funding, which had lapsed under the previous government.</p> <p>See also: Accelerating community electrification across Australia (website)</p> <p>F. Social Housing Energy Performance Initiative</p> <p>Social housing energy performance (website):</p> <p>The Social Housing Energy Performance Initiative is funding upgrades to help social housing residents access the benefits of the energy transition.</p> <p>The upgrades aim to reduce pressure on energy bills for social housing residents. They will also help improve residents' quality of life by keeping homes warmer in winter and cooler in summer.</p> <p>The initiative is delivering a range of upgrade types, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • thermal shell upgrades such as shading and insulation • installation of energy efficient appliances such as heating and cooling, hot water systems, ovens and cooktops • solar systems such as solar panels and batteries. <p>Through an initial Commonwealth investment of \$300 million, we are co-funding the initiative in partnership with all state and territory governments. This first phase of the Social Housing Energy Performance Initiative is funding upgrades to around 60,000 homes.</p> <p>State and territory governments have identified the types of upgrades to make to social homes. This ensures the upgrades suit the needs of residents living in different climates across Australia.</p> <p>This initiative was announced as part of the \$1.7 billion Energy Savings Package in the 2023-24 Budget.</p> <p>Initiative expansion</p> <p>On 30 November 2024, the Australian Government announced an additional \$500 million over 4 years from 2025-26 to expand the existing Social Housing Energy Performance Initiative. This brings the total Commonwealth funding to \$800 million. The Social Housing Energy Performance Initiative is now expected to reach more than 100,000 social housing properties and will run until 2029.</p> <p>Agreements with state and territory governments</p> <p>We have entered into agreements with all state and territory governments under the initial Commonwealth investment of \$300 million for the first phase of the initiative.</p> <p>Agreements with state and territory governments</p> |

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| | <p>We have entered into agreements with all state and territory governments under the initial Commonwealth investment of \$300 million for the first phase of the initiative ...</p> <p>G. Solar for Apartment Residents \$25 million to power-up apartment solar and bring down power bills (Media Release 1 March 2025)</p> <p>The Albanese Labor Government is working with the Minns NSW Government to deliver a new \$25 million program to help apartment residents save up to \$600 on their energy bills annually. The Solar for Apartment Residents incentive is the first-of-its-kind in NSW and provides co-funding to eligible owners' corporations and strata managers to install shared rooftop solar systems ...</p> <p>It will cover up to 50 per cent of the cost of installing shared solar systems on apartments or other multi-unit dwellings, up to a maximum of \$150,000 per project.</p> <p>The incentive is funded by the Albanese Labor Government's Solar Banks Scheme, which is focused on removing the barriers to accessing solar nationwide, and is a key action in the NSW Government's Consumer Energy Strategy. The program is designed and administered by the NSW Government ...</p> <p>Owner's corporations or strata managers of apartments or other multi-unit dwellings with 3-55 units that haven't had a solar PV system installed in the last 10 years are eligible to apply. Applications are now open and will close on 1 December 2025 or when funding is exhausted.</p> <p>[Budget 2025-26] The Budget did not contain new measures for household subsidies for solar, battery or electrification.</p> |

5. No new fossil fuel mining

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| Chris Kearney Independent | <p>Climate Policy (website)</p> <p>Immediately ban new licences for thermal coal and natural gas extraction, while reserving Australia's existing gas supplies for Australians use during the transition to renewable energy.</p> |
| Chris Parr Liberal | <p>We will deliver cheaper energy (website):</p> <p>... Australia has three energy goals: Cheaper power. Consistent power. Cleaner power. We won't achieve these goals under Labor's 'renewables only' policy, but we can achieve all three. By following the other top 20 economies in the world which use zero-emission nuclear power or are taking steps to put it in their mix. And by ramping-up domestic gas production for affordable and reliable energy in the more immediate term ...</p> <p>Let's Get Australia Back on Track – Priorities of a Dutton Coalition Government</p> <p>Build a Stronger Economy (Pages 8-9)</p> <p>... For decades the mining and resources sector has not only provided good jobs and bolstered our economy but sustained public investment in healthcare, schools and infrastructure. The Coalition stands unwaveringly with Australia's resources sector – when that industry is strong, our nation is strong ...</p> <p>A Dutton Coalition Government will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turbocharge our mining and resources sector by accelerating approvals and cutting red and green tape ... <p>Deliver Affordable and Reliable Energy (Pages 14-15)</p> <p>... We will unlock more Australian gas to drive down prices and safeguard our energy security. Affordable gas is critical to the ongoing viability of Australia's heavy industry and manufacturing sector.</p> <p>A Dutton Coalition Government will ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unlock more Australian gas to safeguard our energy security and reliability, through streamlined approvals and by encouraging increased exploration and development. • Develop gas in key basins, like the Beetaloo, and include new gas generation in the capacity investment scheme. <p>Grow a Stronger Regional Australia (Pages 28-29)</p> <p>... Labor has actively undermined and sometimes outright blocked economic development opportunities in regional areas, such as in mining, gas ...</p> <p>A Dutton Coalition Government will ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect jobs and businesses in traditional local industries like ... mining that are under threat from Labor and the Greens ... <p>Nature Positive (Environment Protection Australia) Bill 2024 [and related Bills] (Parliamentary Library, Bills Digest No 75 2023-24, 24 June 2024)</p> <p>... Liberal-National Coalition</p> <p>... The Opposition Leader, Peter Dutton, has described the proposed Nature Positive reforms as likely to 'have significant ramifications for the mining sector', and unbalanced. In May 2024, Mr Dutton described the Nature Positive reforms as 'an existential threat to mining' and outlined the Coalition's proposed reforms to the EPBC Act: cut assessment timeframes in half without compromising standards, restrict the use of 'stop clock' provisions, accredit states and territories to provide approvals where they meet Commonwealth standards, limit the ability of third parties to challenge decisions under the EPBC Act, and re-introduce geological bio-regional assessments.¹⁰⁶ He said the EPA,</p> |

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| | <p>'an unaccountable new green bureaucracy', 'will only create more complexity and regulation at a time when we need to simplify and de-regulate processes' ...</p> <p>Leader of the Opposition –Address to Minerals Week 2024 Conference, Canberra (Peter Dutton speech transcript, 11 September 2024)</p> <p>... a Dutton Coalition Government will be the best friend of the mining and resources sector in Australia will ever have ... Labor is hindering our resource sector with red and green tape.</p> <p>Nobody here in this country or, indeed, around the world could argue that we have inadequate environmental protections.</p> <p>The Government's changed the Safeguard Mechanism into a new carbon tax – one that is three times higher than that proposed by Julia Gillard.</p> <p>They've provided millions of taxpayers' dollars to the activist-led Environmental Defenders Office to wage lawfare.</p> <p>They've passed new mandatory climate disclosure laws – more draconian than anywhere in the world. When they come into effect, businesses will not simply have to account for their own emissions. They will also have to account for emissions produced along their supply chain – including by small business suppliers, and every small business owner across the country today who doesn't believe they will be impacted by this needs to get a better understanding of those further up the supply chain, about the cost and regulatory burden that will be imposed on those small businesses ...</p> <p>I want to turbocharge our mining sector so that we can steer through the current economic headwinds and ride a new wave of prosperity. I want to build on our strengths in major commodities like iron ore, coal, gas, gold, and copper ...</p> <p>We will defund the Environmental Defenders Office ... We will limit the ability of third parties to challenge decisions under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act. And we will cut green tape while striking the right balance between our responsibilities to the environment and the economy ...</p> <p>I want to see more excavators digging, I want to see more gas flowing, and more trucks moving. That requires removing those regulatory roadblocks which have needlessly inhibited projects ... we will ramp-up domestic gas production to get power prices down and to restore stability to our grid ...</p> <p>Dutton vows fast-track approval for Woodside's North West Shelf gas behemoth (ABC News, 18 March 2025)</p> <p>Woodside's vast plan to extend its North West Shelf gas plant until 2070 would win a federal go-ahead within 30 days of a Peter Dutton election victory, as the Coalition pledges to limit the ability of protest groups to stymie environmental approvals.</p> <p>The Coalition leader will announce a proposal for "fast tracking" of the WA project in Perth on Wednesday, which would also pave the way for a \$30 billion Browse joint venture with Woodside, BP and Japanese giant Mitsui ...</p> <p>"We would expedite consideration of the North West Shelf project as a matter of urgency because, unlike Labor, we recognise the significance of the North West Shelf to the WA economy and the importance of secure and reliable gas supplies in pushing down energy prices," Mr Dutton will say. "It is of national importance that this project not be held up any longer by a government whose prime minister and minister would rather gain Green votes in inner-city electorates than approve good economic projects for the energy security of our nation."...</p> <p>The Coalition will also pledge to legislate a "statute of limitations" on any activist groups that seek "reconsideration" of earlier federal government approvals under Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation laws. That would include "limiting the standing of third parties to challenge approval decisions", effectively ending public calls for</p> |

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| | <p>reconsideration after 12 months. The Coalition argues that current laws enable "anyone" to appeal an environmental decision, "even people with no direct stake in the project". There is no time limit on such appeals ...</p> <p>In Federal Parliament: Voted against a Greens amendment to the <i>Climate Change Bill 2022, Climate Change (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2022</i> to 'acknowledges that for the Government to reach their target of net zero by 2050, not one new coal, oil or gas project can commence'.</p> <p>Budget reply (Peter Dutton Speech, 27 March 2025) Tonight, I announce our National Gas Plan ... We will immediately audit development-ready projects with a focus on the southern states. We will fast-track a decision on Western Australia's North West Shelf project. Government has delayed a decision on that project conveniently until the 31st May, which happens to be after the election – so, good luck in WA. We will halve approval times. We will defund the activist-led Environmental Defenders Office, which has been disgraced and which has obstructed projects. We will accelerate new investment in gas projects by reinstating a \$300 million Strategic Basin Plan and include gas in the Capacity Investment Scheme. We will invest \$1 billion into a Critical Gas Infrastructure Fund to increase gas pipeline and storage capacity. We will put in place 'use it or lose it' stipulations for gas drilling companies – so offshore gas fields are not locked-up for years ...</p> |
| Leslie Ralph Pauline Hanson One Nation | <p>Climate (webpage): No reference to fossil fuel mining.</p> <p>Net Zero is Bad (webpage, 27 February 2025) ... One Nation has no problem with nuclear energy, but we see no immediate need when we have plenty of gas and coal. We do, however, see an immediate need to withdraw from the Paris Agreement and abolish climate change agencies and programs, saving taxpayers at least \$30 billion a year and lowering your electricity bills.</p> |
| Rae Rancie Family First | <p>Our Policies (website): Economic freedom for families ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy affordability and reliability - pause net zero policies until a proper cost benefit of the engineering and economics has been conducted. • Use gas to avoid blackouts by firming electricity supply and to lower retail power prices. Unlock gas reserves by lifting restrictions on exploration. Keep coal-fired power stations open until there are viable and affordable alternatives that provide baseload electricity. • Pursue nuclear energy. • Increase gas supply to drive industry and jobs ... |
| Jy Sandford Greens | <p>Your vote can get strong climate action (website): ... Labor has approved over 25 more coal and gas projects ... And Dutton wants even more ... Our Plan for Ambitious Climate Action</p> |

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| | <p>The last time there was a minority government, the Greens secured world-leading climate laws, and won billions for clean energy. With more Greens in parliament, we can do it again.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stop new coal and gas ... <p>Labor’s final emissions data shows Greens needed to stop new gas approvals (website, 28 February 2025):</p> <p>With today’s climate pollution data showing that emissions are up quarter on quarter and Australia still not on track to meet our emissions reduction goals, Adam Bandt says it is clear that the only option for avoiding catastrophic global heating is to elect more Greens at the next election to get Labor to act in minority government by stopping new coal and gas mines ... Labor has thus far approved 32 new coal and gas projects ... Labor is continuing to open massive new gas projects, and is considering approving a Woodside mega-project for another 50 years. Labor’s continued approvals of new coal and gas means the country can’t cut emissions fast enough, and Peter Dutton would make pollution even worse ... The only chance of a safer climate is voting Greens to keep Peter Dutton out and get Labor to act by stopping new coal and gas mines.</p> <p>Plibersek must reject Woodside’s gas greed in North West Shelf (Media Release, 13 December 2024):</p> <p>The Greens are calling on Federal Environment Minister Tanya Plibersek to reject Woodside’s mammoth North West Shelf gas expansion scheme following an environmental approval yesterday from the WA Government. Woodside's gas expansion threatens the environment, climate and First Nations cultural heritage.</p> <p>Quotes attributable to Leader of the Australian Greens, Adam Bandt MP:</p> <p>“This extension is disgraceful in the midst of a climate crisis. It will allow billions of tonnes of toxic gas to be drilled and burned until 2070, the equivalent of 24 new coal-fired power stations.</p> <p>“Tanya Plibersek needs to step in and stop WA Labor from burning the house down for all of us. Climate emissions are higher under Anthony Albanese than under Scott Morrison. Since coming into power, Labor has already approved 28 new coal and gas projects. To have any chance of a safer climate, Labor must stop approving new coal and gas projects and start rapidly cutting emissions.”</p> <p>Policy principles: Climate Change and Energy (website):</p> <p>... The Australian Greens believe that ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australia urgently needs to phase out fossil fuels for export and domestic use ... • A just transition for communities and workers affected by closure of fossil fuel based mining and electricity generation industries is essential ... <p>The Australian Greens want ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An immediate end to the exploration of fossil fuels, and an orderly phase out of the extraction, consumption and export of fossil fuels to zero ... • No new coal-fired power stations, gas mines or oil wells, and no expansions to any existing coal- or gas-fired power stations or mines, plus the development of programs to assist fossil fuel-dependent communities to make the transition to other more sustainable sources of economic prosperity ... • Thermal coal exports to be phased out by 2030 and all other fossil fuel exports to cease by 2040 ... <p>Policy principles: Natural Resources: Forests and Mining (website)</p> <p>... The Australian Greens believe that:</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australia's natural resources must be managed in accordance with the principles of intergenerational equity, the precautionary principle, biodiversity conservation ... • Climate change must be a central consideration in the management of Australia's natural resources, including forests and mining. • Decisions about resource extraction projects must be guided by rigorous and independent assessments of their impacts on social and community values, First Nations cultural heritage, water, soils, climate, biodiversity, and detail post-extraction rehabilitation. This includes minerals necessary for the transition to a decarbonised economy. • Just transition assistance should be provided to communities and workers affected by job transitions towards sustainable industries ... <p>The Australian Greens want ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A ban on new thermal coal mines or thermal coal mine expansions and an orderly, planned phase out of thermal coal exports with a just transition for affected communities. • The prohibition of mineral exploration and mining including the extraction of petroleum and gas in: residential areas; highly valued agricultural land; terrestrial and marine nature conservation reserves; national parks; designated wilderness areas, sacred or culturally significant sites; and other areas of nature conservation value. • No new, and a planned, orderly, phase-out of existing fracking and unconventional gas developments including coal seam gas, shale and tight gas due to the short and long-term risks to our water, land, communities, the climate, food production and marine areas ... <p>In Federal Parliament: Moved an amendment to the <i>Climate Change Bill 2022, Climate Change (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2022</i> to 'acknowledge(s) that for the Government to reach their target of net zero by 2050, not one new coal, oil or gas project can commence'. See here for further detail.</p> |
| Kate Thwaites Labor | <p>ALP National Platform 2023</p> <p>Resources for the nation (Page 23-24)</p> <p>Labor highly values the vast contribution mining and resources industries make to Australia's prosperity. We equally value the working people employed in these industries. Labor recognises the important role that existing and emerging resources will play in the expansion of existing industries as well as in the development of new Australian renewable energy manufacturing industries. Labor recognises the essential role that Australia's resource sector, including our emerging critical minerals industries, will play supporting Australia and the world to transition to net zero ...</p> <p>Labor will ensure that current and future mining regions benefit fairly from the economic activity they generate by supporting investment back into these regions.</p> <p>Labor will develop Australia's natural resources by fostering competitive minerals, resources and energy industries, backed by quality infrastructure, and which grow export-oriented jobs. Labor will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promote the ecologically sustainable development of Australia's energy resources, taking into account domestic industrial, residential and community needs and the need to ensure the security of domestic electricity and gas supply ... <p>A national energy policy (Page 47-48)</p> <p>... Labor recognises the critical role that gas plays in the Australian economy, for electricity, industrial energy use, households, and as a feedstock to crucial strategic manufacturing. Labor's policies will support Australian workers and communities in the gas extraction industry, including policy settings that ensure sufficient gas supply to meet</p> |

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| | <p>domestic needs and international obligations. The Federal Labor Government will ensure that Australian gas is available at affordable prices to Australian households and industry, including by implementing an east coast gas mandatory code of conduct, supporting the Western Australian Government's Domestic Gas Reservation Policy, reforms to the Australian Domestic Gas Security Mechanism (ADGSM), and reforms around gas supply, pipelines and storage. This will deliver a better functioning domestic gas market, lower domestic gas prices, and support sufficient gas supply.</p> <p>Labor recognises that gas and methane are powerful greenhouse gases and the gas industry must contribute its share of emissions reductions to achieve net zero emissions by 2050. The Federal Labor Government will ensure the gas industry plays its role in achieving net zero emissions, including through the Safeguard Mechanism ...</p> <p>Australia's international environmental obligations (Page 51)</p> <p>Labor will ensure Australia meets its responsibilities under international environmental treaties including the World Heritage Convention, the Convention on Biodiversity and the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. Labor commits to active participation in international environmental forums.</p> <p>Labor will ensure the Australian Government leads ambitious international efforts for global agreements on ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a moratorium on deep sea mining in international waters <p>[GOVERNMENT POLICY]</p> <p>Future Gas Strategy (May 2024)</p> <p>Minister's Foreword (Page 4)</p> <p>... Under all credible net zero scenarios, natural gas is needed through to 2050 and beyond, though its production and use will change over this period. Gas will be essential to the transition because our energy system needs gas to achieve net zero. Gas will be a transition fuel that firms renewable power generation and is required for manufacturing and minerals processing until such time as alternatives are viable. Gas can support our future made in Australia. However, the greenhouse gas emissions associated with gas must sharply decline and where gas use cannot be reduced, emissions must be increasingly abated and offset ...</p> <p>We cannot rely on past investments in gas to get us through the next decades. We need continued investment in, and development of, gas supply and transport infrastructure to get us through the energy transition with thriving industries. To secure the clean, affordable and reliable energy Australia needs to compete in the global race for jobs and opportunities, and we need to capitalise on our natural resource endowment.</p> <p>I want to make a point I have made many times before and will continue to make: Australia is and will remain a reliable and trusted trade and investment partner, including for liquified natural gas (LNG). Our trade partners have made large investments over decades in Australia's resources industry. They are relying on Australian gas to transition their economies to net zero. Australia is broadening and deepening our existing energy partnerships into emerging industries like critical minerals, hydrogen, carbon capture and storage, and other clean energy exports ...</p> <p>Guiding principles for Australia's gas (page 6)</p> <p>... Continued gas development and more flexible gas infrastructure is needed to increase the resilience of Australia's energy system and keep costs down as we transition. Government decisions on gas development rights should prioritise timely development and discourage repeated delays to ensure supply and affordability.</p> |

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| | <p>New sources of gas supply are needed to meet demand during the economy-wide transition. Government policies to enable natural gas exploration and development should focus on optimising existing discoveries and infrastructure in producing basins. This includes applying technology-neutral approaches to exploration data acquisition (to minimise seismic surveying where possible), prioritise energy security, and align with our net zero emissions targets. Robust environmental approval processes are key to the social license of the gas industry ...</p> <p>Australia is, and will remain, a reliable trading partner for energy, including Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) and low emission gases ...</p> <p>Immediate actions arising from these principles include ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • clarifying consultation requirements for offshore petroleum and greenhouse gas storage activities as part of a broader three year review of the offshore environmental management regime. <p>How gas can help get us to net zero (Page 15)</p> <p>... Australian gas will continue to be required, not only by us, but by our trading partners. International investment in Australia's LNG industry exceeded \$398 billion between 2010 and 2022. The associated long-term offtake agreements mean that we export around 73% of Australian gas production as LNG. The level of investment required to create the large-scale projects that underpin Australia's LNG industry is far greater than our domestic gas demand can support. Australia's export percentage is likely to stay relatively consistent until 2035 due to long-term contracts. The ratio of exports to domestic consumption may change, based on changes in technology and the scaling up of alternatives. However, we will need further investment to support both domestic and export consumption. Arguments that Australia could divert gas developed for export fail to recognise the domestic gas market's reliance on supply from gas export projects, the nature of Australia's trade and investment relationships and the role of Australian gas in our trade partners decarbonisation pathways ...</p> <p>Carbon management and geological storage (Page 22)</p> <p>... Australia has significant onshore and offshore storage reservoirs potentially suitable for CCS projects ... This includes storage in depleted petroleum fields. Successful deployment of CCS and negative emissions technologies can help decarbonise oil and gas operations and other hard-to-abate industries, such as cement production ...</p> <p>Ensuring the wellbeing of Australians in changing times (Pages 27-28)</p> <p>... The Gas Market Code, which will be reviewed in 2025, ensures that east coast gas users can contract for gas at reasonable prices and on reasonable terms. It is designed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • secure additional supply commitments to anchor domestic prices at \$12/GJ • provide certainty to investors and <u>incentivise new domestic supply</u> to avoid projected shortfalls • sustain reasonable domestic gas prices over the medium term ... <p>Finding new sources of gas to meet demand (Pages 29-30)</p> <p>... In the near term, there is concern around the potential for demand to outstrip supply over coming years. This annual supply gap is forecast to emerge in 2028 on the east coast and by 2030 on the west coast if there is insufficient new supply developed. Meeting these supply challenges will need location-specific solutions, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • maximising production from existing resources and developing adjacent new gas fields supplying the domestic market, provided environmental impacts can be managed • demand reduction through the net zero sectoral plans • gas substitution through expanding the supply of low emission gases |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LNG producers making more gas available to domestic users • expanding gas infrastructure, including pipelines and LNG import terminals. <p>We will likely need to explore all of these solutions to meet our gas demand needs through to 2050.</p> <p>Developing new gas supply is technically challenging, expensive, and a lengthy process. Gas fields deplete as gas is extracted. Exploring for gas requires advanced technology and techniques, such as seismic surveys which, as with any other human activity, have the potential for some level of impact on the environment and must be managed accordingly. We need new and continued investment to develop and sustain supply to meet demand. This investment is facilitated by a strong regulatory framework that aims to balance environmental and social impacts while encouraging new supply. There is always room to improve our regulatory settings. They must remain fit for purpose to achieve Australia's goals ...</p> <p>In the near term, potential shortfalls in gas supply could increase volatility in gas markets and drive up prices. Without further investment in new gas supply and gas infrastructure, these shortfalls will negatively affect Australian households and businesses, and the reliability of our electricity system ...</p> <p>Future gas gaps (Page 31-37)</p> <p>Without further gas projects or development of gas currently under retention lease, an annual gas supply gap is forecast to emerge by 2028 on Australia's east coast and grow over time ... On the west coast, a gas supply gap is expected to emerge around 2030 ... and grow substantially from 2030 due to a forecast increase in GPG demand from coal-fired stations closing ...</p> <p>Possible sources of additional domestic supply</p> <p>The east coast gas market could have sufficient gas supply to meet domestic and export demand at least out to 2035. According to estimates prepared by the ACCC, supply could be met if discovered resources and reserves are developed. The potential locations of gas supply in the east coast gas market could include the Bowen, Surat, Galilee, Cooper, Gippsland, Bass, Otway, McArthur (Beetaloo) and Gunnedah basins ...</p> <p>Over the medium and long-term, a combination of supply from undeveloped gas fields and reductions in gas demand may reduce shortfall pressures. For instance, on 9 January 2024, WA's largest gas user, Alcoa, announced the closure of its Kwinana refinery ...</p> <p>The Western Australian Government has continued to release onshore gas acreage in the Canning, Northern Carnarvon, Amadeus and Perth Basins, which, if developed, would improve the state's supply outlook through its Domestic Gas Policy. Developments in the Perth Basin are the most likely, near-term solutions to Western Australia's forecast gas shortfalls ...</p> <p>We need new sources of gas supply to meet demand during the economy-wide transition to net zero and beyond. As discussed, gas consumption is not uniform across Australia, and new sources of supply are likely to be most economic when production is close to existing infrastructure. Gas development and depletion of existing gas fields impact the surrounding regional economies. This needs to be managed to maximise the benefit of gas production, while minimising emissions and the impact on First Nations people and local communities. Robust approval processes are key to the social license for new gas supplies ...</p> <p>Remaining a reliable trading partner for gas and low-emissions gases (Pages 47-53)</p> <p>Australian gas, exported as LNG, plays a central role in energy security and supports living standards in our region. It supports a reliable electricity supply and provides gas for cooking and cooling or heating homes in cities like Tokyo, Beijing, Seoul, Singapore, and</p> |

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| | <p>Taipei. It will also support regional electricity grids as they transition from coal-fired power generation towards renewables ...</p> <p>In all the scenarios considered in this strategy, Australia's LNG exports decline by 2050 (note this is not a policy setting). However, LNG still has a clear role to play in 2050 and beyond. By remaining a reliable LNG supplier and responsible climate actor, Australia can build new partnerships in emerging energy industries like hydrogen and clean energy exports. These relationships are important to Australia's national prosperity and to our domestic energy transformation ...</p> <p>Demand for Australian LNG beyond 2050 could vary widely. The modelling indicates demand in 2050 could vary as much as 80 billion cubic meters, or about 58 million tonnes between scenarios. The actual amount of LNG needed will depend on a complex combination of choices made by governments, industry, consumers, and investors ...</p> <p>Many Asian economies, including Japan, the ROK and southeast Asian nations, view gas as a crucial component of their pathway towards net zero and their energy security. Even in the most ambitious decarbonisation scenario gas will continue to play a role in economic activity all the way to 2050 and beyond. Demand for LNG is also growing in several Asian countries that have historically produced enough domestic gas to meet their own demand ...</p> <p>Maintaining trading relationships through continued, reliable exports of LNG may prove valuable in securing incoming investment from these trading partners in the new industries that Australia has ambitions to develop. This could use the expertise and core skills of Australia's gas industry. For example, several critical minerals and green metals facilities may need gas in the medium term, while renewable hydrogen and direct electrification of processes reach technological maturity or become affordable ...</p> <p>Finalisation of offshore exploration rounds (Media Release, 23 July 2024)</p> <p>The Albanese Government will finalise new offshore exploration permits for gas supply to firm renewables and support the economy ... The Minister for Resources and Northern Australia Madeleine King will finalise permits for Esso and Beach Energy in the Otway and Sorrell Basins, with any discovered gas to support the domestic east coast market. Exploration permits will also be finalised for Chevron, INPEX, Melbana and Woodside Energy on Australia's west coast, supporting energy security in Western Australia. In addition, 10 permits will be finalised for carbon capture and storage exploration ...</p> <p>As Australia's economy transitions to clean energy, gas is required to firm renewables ... The most recent ACCC Gas Inquiry Interim Report makes clear that the domestic east coast market may experience gas supply shortfalls as early as 2027. Supply challenges could persist into the mid-2030s unless new sources of gas supply are developed ...</p> <p>[APPROVALS UNDER THE EPBC Act]</p> <p>There have been numerous fossil fuel mining related projects approved during this term of government under the EPBC Act. Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coal: Narrabri Underground Mine Stage 3 Extension, Ashton Coal Operations, Ravensworth Underground Mine, Lake Vermont Meadowbrook Coal Mine Project, Vulcan South Coal Mine • Gas: Towrie Gas Development, Darwin Pipeline Duplication, Atlas Stage 3 Gas Project <p>EPBC Act reform (website):</p> <p>The Australian Government is committed to reforming Australia's national environmental law – the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act). This includes strengthening and streamlining our national environmental law to deliver better environmental protections and faster, clearer decisions for business ...</p> <p>The Nature Positive law reforms include:</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • establishing Environment Protection Australia (EPA) and the Head of Environment Information Australia (EIA) • strengthening powers to ensure effective compliance and enforcement of national environmental laws • investing nearly \$100 million towards faster environmental approvals ... <p>Environment Protection Australia: the national environment protection agency The government is establishing an independent national environment protection agency. —to be known as Environment Protection Australia (EPA). EPA will restore public trust in our national environmental law. It will be resourced and empowered to ensure compliance with our environmental laws. EPA will be responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • issuing permits and licenses • project assessments, decisions and post-approvals • regulation including compliance and enforcement ... <p>Environment Information Australia: improving environmental data and information The Australian Government has established Environment Information Australia (EIA) within the Department. Originally introduced in the Nature Positive Plan as the Data Division, EIA will improve access to, and the quality of, national environmental data and information ...</p> <p>National Environmental Standards National Environmental Standards are the centrepiece of our reforms. Standards will improve environmental protections and guide decision making. They will set clear, demonstrable outcomes for regulated activities under the new Act ... See also: National Environmental Standards</p> <p>Updated water trigger in our environmental law (Media Release, 20 December 2023) The Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act) regulates impacts to matters of national environmental significance, these include consideration of significant impacts from actions on water resources, in relation to a coal seam gas or large coal mining development (the water trigger). On 15 December 2023, the EPBC Act Water Trigger was amended to include consideration of likely significant impacts on water resources in relation to all types of unconventional gas, for example, shale and tight gas related developments. This means actions relating to all types of unconventional gas developments with potential significant impacts on water resources may need to be referred to us for assessment under the EPBC Act ...</p> <p>Australian nature: if our laws don't radically change, environmental degradation will continue (Guardian, 4 February 2025) ... the prime minister confirmed on Saturday that he had dropped plans to pass “nature positive” legislation to create a national Environment Protection Agency before the election. The failure to establish an EPA breaks a commitment made before the 2022 federal election ...</p> <p>Safeguard Mechanism (website): The Safeguard Mechanism is the Australian Government’s policy for reducing emissions at Australia’s largest industrial facilities. It sets legislated limits—known as baselines—on the greenhouse gas emissions of these facilities. These emissions limits will decline, predictably and gradually. These limits will help achieve Australia’s emission reduction targets of 43% below 2005 levels by 2030 and net zero by 2050. The Safeguard Mechanism commenced in 2016. It was reformed in 2023 to ensure that covered facilities contribute to meeting these targets ...</p> |

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| | <p>The Safeguard Mechanism applies to industrial facilities emitting more than 100,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂-e) per year. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mining • oil and gas production ... <p>Safeguard Mechanism facilities have an annual emissions limit known as a baseline. In general, baselines will fall by 4.9% each year to 2030. This will enable industrial facilities to contribute to Australia's emissions reduction targets. This baseline decline rate applies to all Safeguard facilities, including existing and new facilities. Different rates may be approved for facilities classed as a trade-exposed baseline-adjusted facility.</p> <p>The business with operational control of the facility must ensure its <u>net emissions</u> do not exceed the baseline determined by the Clean Energy Regulator ...</p> <p>Baselines are set each year. They are based on a facility's production multiplied by an emissions-intensity value ...</p> <p>For existing facilities, the emissions-intensity value is set at the average of Australian industry emissions performance (with transitional arrangements until 2030).</p> <p>For new facilities and new products at existing facilities, the emissions-intensity value is set at international best practice emissions performance (benchmarks) ...</p> <p>Trade-Exposed, Baseline-Adjusted arrangements</p> <p>There are two types of categories of trade-exposed facilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trade-exposed facilities, which includes all facilities whose main production variable is trade exposed ... • Trade-exposed baseline adjusted (TEBA) facilities, which are a subset of trade-exposed facilities facing an elevated risk of carbon leakage. Trade-exposed facilities are eligible to apply to the CER for TEBA status, which provides the facility a reduced decline rate for 3 years based on a prescribed scheme impact metric ... <p>The Clean Energy Regulator administers the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting scheme and the Safeguard Mechanism. It publishes information like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • names of facilities • each facility's: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Safeguard baseline ○ amount of covered emissions ○ net emissions after compliance ○ proportion of emissions from the major greenhouse gases ○ quantity of Safeguard Mechanism Credits earned ○ number and type of <u>Australian Carbon Credit Units</u> surrendered for compliance purposes, including the method under which they were created <p>...</p> <p>Plibersek defends coal mine approvals amid blockades of Newcastle port (Renew Economy, 25 November 2024)</p> <p>The federal government has defended the continued approval of fossil fuel projects after nearly 200 people were arrested for blocking the world's largest coal ...</p> <p>The Rising Tide-led protest drew attention to federal Labor's approval of seven coal mine expansions since 2022, including three in a week by Environment Minister Tanya Plibersek.</p> <p>Ms Plibersek suggested that paled in significance to 65 green-power approvals.</p> <p>"I've approved 10 times more renewable energy projects than coal projects because the Australian economy and the global economy (are) changing," she told Seven's Sunrise program. "I'm the first environment minister to stop a coal mine because of the impact it could have had on water going on to the Great Barrier Reef." ...</p> <p>In Federal Parliament:</p> |

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| | <p data-bbox="347 188 1420 327">Voted against a Greens amendment to the <i>Climate Change Bill 2022, Climate Change (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2022</i> to 'acknowledge(s) that for the Government to reach their target of net zero by 2050, not one new coal, oil or gas project can commence'.</p> <p data-bbox="347 365 660 394">[INDEPENDENT REPORTS]</p> <p data-bbox="347 439 1420 611">Federal Government fossil fuel mine approvals during the current term: According to the Australia Institute, since May 2022, the Federal Environment Minister has approved 10 new coal mines or expansions with 2,449 million tonnes of lifetime emissions ... There are 22 additional proposals for new or expanded coal mines currently waiting for Federal Government approval.</p> <p data-bbox="347 651 1342 719">According to the Energy Institute, in 2023 Australia was the world's second-largest exporter of coal and third-largest exporter of liquefied natural gas (LNG).</p> |

6. Abolition of all fossil fuel subsidies

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| Chris Kearney Independent | Climate Policy (website) Immediately ban new licences for thermal coal and natural gas extraction and remove government subsidies, while reserving Australia’s existing gas supplies for Australians use during the transition to renewable energy. |
| Chris Parr Liberal | <p>Let’s Get Australia Back on Track – Priorities of a Dutton Coalition Government (Page 15):</p> <p>... A Dutton Coalition Government will ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unlock more Australian gas to safeguard our energy security and reliability, through streamlined approvals and by encouraging increased exploration and development. • Develop gas in key basins, like the Beetaloo, and include new gas generation in the capacity investment scheme ... <p>The Senate - Environment and Communications References Committee - Middle Arm Industrial Precinct (August 2024):</p> <p>Coalition Senators' Additional Comments (Pages 127-128)</p> <p>Northern Territory Economy</p> <p>1.1 The Coalition recognises the importance of economic development in the Northern Territory and therefore supports the development of the Middle Arm Industrial Precinct.</p> <p>1.2 The Coalition notes that the Middle Arm Industrial Precinct project is essential to protect and promote the Northern Territory economy.</p> <p>1.3 The contribution of the Middle Arm Industrial Precinct project to the future of the Northern Territory and Australian economies must be considered and has not been in this inquiry.</p> <p>1.4 It is important to recognise and note the bipartisan support of the project within the Northern Territory, and that both Coalition and Labor Governments federally have committed funding.</p> <p>Inquiry Focus</p> <p>1.5 The Middle Arm Industrial Precinct hearings were largely focussed on Liquefied Natural Gas at the expense of including other industries that would benefit from the development of the project.</p> <p>1.6 The Inquiry significantly downplayed Indigenous groups in the Northern Territory who are in favour and see the potential of the Middle Arm Industrial Precinct ...</p> <p>In Federal Parliament:</p> <p>Voted against the Climate Change (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2022 (including clarifying amendment by David Pocock) to require Federal bodies (including the Australian Renewable Energy Agency, Clean Energy Finance Corporation, Clean Energy Regulator, Export Finance Investment Corporation, Infrastructure Australia, and the Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility) to consider legislated emissions reduction targets when exercising their statutory responsibilities, making it difficult for them to financially support fossil fuel projects. Bridget Archer (Liberal) crossed the floor to support the legislation.</p> <p>Budget reply (Peter Dutton Speech, 27 March 2025)</p> <p>... A Coalition Government will halve the fuel excise for 12 months, and then we’ll review it, and we’ll make sure that that comes in on the first day that our Parliament sits. For a household with one car filling-up once a week, that’s a saving of \$14 a week on average – or around \$700 over 12 months. For a household with two cars filling-up once a week, that is a saving of \$28 a week on average – or around \$1,500 over 12 months ... Working with industry, we will ensure that heavy vehicle road users also benefit from this</p> |

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| | <p>measure. The ACCC will ensure that the fuel excise cut will be passed on in full to consumers. The policy will cost \$6 billion ...</p> <p>Tonight, I announce our National Gas Plan ...</p> <p>We will accelerate new investment in gas projects by reinstating a \$300 million Strategic Basin Plan and include gas in the Capacity Investment Scheme.</p> <p>We will invest \$1 billion into a Critical Gas Infrastructure Fund to increase gas pipeline and storage capacity ...</p> |
| Leslie Ralph Pauline Hanson One Nation | <p>Climate and Net Zero is Bad (webpages):</p> <p>No reference to fossil fuel subsidies.</p> |
| Rae Rancie Family First | <p>Our Policies (website):</p> <p>No explicit reference to fossil fuel subsidies.</p> |
| Jy Sandford Greens | <p>This is our chance to get strong climate action (website):</p> <p>... Our Plan for Ambitious Climate Action</p> <p>The last time there was a minority government, the Greens secured world-leading climate laws, and won billions for clean energy. With more Greens in parliament, we can do it again ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • End the billions in handouts to coal, oil and gas corporations ... • End fossil fuel subsidies for all industries except agriculture ... <p>... Labor and the Liberals want to continue giving over \$1 billion in tax handouts every month to coal, oil & gas corporations ...</p> <p>Policy principles: Climate Change and Energy (website):</p> <p>... The Australian Greens want ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fossil fuel subsidies to be removed, and investment in relevant climate change mitigation sectors should be increased ... <p>Redirect fossil fuel subsidies to accelerate community-led energy transition (Media release, 15 January 2024)</p> <p>The Greens say \$11 billion in annual federal subsidies to polluting fossil fuel companies should be phased out and the money redirected to accelerating a community-led transition to renewable energy ...</p> <p>The Senate - Environment and Communications References Committee - Middle Arm Industrial Precinct (August 2024):</p> <p>Australian Greens' Additional Comments (Pages 129-139)</p> <p>1.1 In April 2022 during the federal election campaign, the Albanese Government committed \$1.5 billion to the Middle Arm Industrial Precinct despite the lack of health or environmental assessment, business case and Larrakia consent, and without any transparency as to how this decision was made ... it seems the decision was based purely on pork-barrelling and dodgy deals and not the best interests of the local community or the planet.</p> <p>1.2 If this industrial precinct proceeds as currently proposed it will significantly expand the fossil fuel and fracking industries at a time when Australia's economy requires rapid and dedicated efforts to decarbonise.</p> <p>1.3 The creation of a gas and petrochemical hub would have serious and widespread health and environmental impacts on Northern Territory (NT) communities and ecosystems that are already on the frontline of climate change ...</p> |

| Party | <i>Extracts from policies</i> |
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| | <p>1.4 The Albanese Government is using public money to create this future. They are propping up new fossil fuels and delivering the so-called Gas Fired Recovery that the Morrison Government didn't have the public support to complete ...</p> <p>1.13 In short, as the climate crisis is unfolding, the Albanese Government is contributing \$1.5 billion of taxpayer money to unlock Australia's biggest gas export terminal so that it can be connected to Australia's biggest ever onshore gas field ...</p> <p>1.15 If the Federal Government wishes to brand Middle Arm as a sustainable precinct, it should follow through by ruling out fossil fuels at the precinct, and commit instead to investing \$1.5 billion of taxpayer money in the development of future renewable industries that truly benefit NT communities and the economy in the long-term ...</p> <p>Recommendation 1</p> <p>1.53 That the proposed Middle Arm Industrial Precinct and its \$1.5 billion federal subsidy be redirected to support clean technology industries, and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fossil fuel based industries including gas and petrochemicals are not directly or indirectly funded ... <p>In Federal Parliament: Voted in favour of the Climate Change (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2022 (including clarifying amendment by David Pocock) to require Federal bodies (including the Australian Renewable Energy Agency, Clean Energy Finance Corporation, Clean Energy Regulator, Export Finance Investment Corporation, Infrastructure Australia, and the Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility) to consider legislated emissions reduction targets when exercising their statutory responsibilities, making it very difficult for them to financially support fossil fuel projects.</p> |
| Kate Thwaites Labor | <p>ALP National Platform 2023</p> <p>No reference to fossil fuel subsidies.</p> <p>Building Australia's Future (website): No reference to fossil fuel subsidies.</p> <p>[INDEPENDENT REPORT]</p> <p>Fossil fuel subsidies in Australia 2025 (Australia Institute, March 2025): Methodology (Page 7)</p> <p>Our estimates of the subsidies and other forms of assistance given to the fossil fuels industry for the 2024–25 budget year are based on items included in state and federal budget papers, as well as the annual reports of relevant departments and agencies. In the small number of cases where 2024–25 data was unavailable for an ongoing subsidy, estimates were based on data taken from the relevant 2023–24 documents. Where appropriate, subsidy or assistance estimates were projected over the forward estimates by compiling multi-year funding packages for non-ongoing projects and the capital value of long-term physical assets. The analysis does not include funding for fossil fuel projects or programs announced after the publication of 2024–25 Federal, State and Territory Budget Papers.</p> <p>The value of industry assistance from ongoing programs—such as long-running tax breaks and established government departments—is taken as the sum of values estimated over the forward estimates. This includes the current budget year and three years of forward estimates, also known as outyears ...</p> |

| Party | Extracts from policies | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| | <p>Our estimates include tax concessions that advantage major fossil fuel producers, and that are calculated in budget documents. This approach means the Federal Fuel Tax Credits Scheme is included (it applies only to certain fossil fuel users, and is calculated in budget documents) ...</p> <p>Our estimates do not include the cost of environmental pollution or damage caused by the extraction and use of fossil fuels. This omission is not because these costs are unimportant, but because they are difficult to calculate, and are often contested ... By concentrating on the official figures published in budget papers and similar documents, we have derived an estimate of how government subsidises the major producers and consumers of fossil fuels. This allows us to show how much revenue could be raised or saved if these decisions were reversed.</p> <p>Federal Government (Pages 16-17)</p> <p>In 2024–25, the Federal Government provided \$12.5 billion worth of subsidies to fossil fuel producers and major consumers. The largest component of this assistance was tax concessions for major fossil fuel users through the Fuel Tax Credits Scheme. This subsidy was valued at \$10.2 billion. Other tax breaks on fuel excise and the Petroleum Resources Rent Tax (PRRT) account for a further \$2.1 billion. The Federal Government also provided a total of \$195 million of non tax-based subsidies in 2024–25 ...</p> <p>Table 3: Federal Government fossil fuel subsidies 2023–24 and 2024–25</p> <table><tr><th>Dedication to fossil fuels</th><th>2024/25 Budget spending (\$)</th><th>2024/25 tax concessions (\$)</th><th>Total 2024/25 assistance (\$)</th><th>2023/24 assistance (\$)</th></tr><tr><td>Wholly</td><td>183,814,000</td><td>12,229,000,00</td><td>12,412,814,000</td><td>11,641,075,000</td></tr><tr><td>Primarily</td><td>11,194,000</td><td>55,000,000</td><td>166,194,000</td><td>161,879,000</td></tr><tr><td>Partly</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td>195,008,000</td><td>12,284,000,000</td><td>12,479,008,000</td><td>11,802,954,000</td></tr></table> <p>Table 3 shows that Federal Government assistance to the fossil fuel sector in 2024–25 is \$676 million more than it was in 2023–24, driven by the increase in the cost of the Fuel Tax Credits Scheme.</p> <p>Over the longer term, the total estimated value of fossil fuel subsidies for 2024–25 Federal projects and programs—including capital value and budget paper forward estimates—is \$55.5 billion. This is an increase of \$1.2 billion from last year’s total of \$54.3 billion, as shown in Table 4 below:</p> <p>Table 4: Federal Government fossil fuel subsidies—total project/program funding</p> <table><tr><th>Dedication to fossil fuels</th><th>Total value 2024–25 (\$)</th><th>Total value 2023–24 (\$)</th></tr><tr><td>Wholly</td><td>54,948,008,000</td><td>51,460,400,000</td></tr><tr><td>Primarily</td><td>281,576,000</td><td>2,562,886,500</td></tr><tr><td>Partly</td><td>300,000,000</td><td>300,000,000</td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td>55,529,584,000</td><td>54,323,286,500</td></tr></table> <p>... these totals include the Albanese government’s subsidy for gas export infrastructure at Middle Arm in Darwin, as well as projects such as Snowy Hydro’s gas-fired Hunter Power station. Other government bodies such as the Northern Australia Infrastructure Fund and the Australian Rail Track Corporation continue to fund and invest in fossil fuel expansion.</p> | Dedication to fossil fuels | 2024/25 Budget spending (\$) | 2024/25 tax concessions (\$) | Total 2024/25 assistance (\$) | 2023/24 assistance (\$) | Wholly | 183,814,000 | 12,229,000,00 | 12,412,814,000 | 11,641,075,000 | Primarily | 11,194,000 | 55,000,000 | 166,194,000 | 161,879,000 | Partly | - | - | - | - | Total | 195,008,000 | 12,284,000,000 | 12,479,008,000 | 11,802,954,000 | Dedication to fossil fuels | Total value 2024–25 (\$) | Total value 2023–24 (\$) | Wholly | 54,948,008,000 | 51,460,400,000 | Primarily | 281,576,000 | 2,562,886,500 | Partly | 300,000,000 | 300,000,000 | Total | 55,529,584,000 | 54,323,286,500 |
| Dedication to fossil fuels | 2024/25 Budget spending (\$) | 2024/25 tax concessions (\$) | Total 2024/25 assistance (\$) | 2023/24 assistance (\$) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Wholly | 183,814,000 | 12,229,000,00 | 12,412,814,000 | 11,641,075,000 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Primarily | 11,194,000 | 55,000,000 | 166,194,000 | 161,879,000 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Partly | - | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 195,008,000 | 12,284,000,000 | 12,479,008,000 | 11,802,954,000 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dedication to fossil fuels | Total value 2024–25 (\$) | Total value 2023–24 (\$) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Wholly | 54,948,008,000 | 51,460,400,000 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Primarily | 281,576,000 | 2,562,886,500 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Partly | 300,000,000 | 300,000,000 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 55,529,584,000 | 54,323,286,500 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| Party | <i>Extracts from policies</i> |
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| | <p>[NOTE: the following subsidies are included in the totals in the Tables above]</p> <p>TAX CONCESSIONS (Pages 18-20)</p> <p>Fuel Tax Credits Scheme</p> <p>The biggest Federal Government fossil fuel subsidy is the Fuel Tax Credits Scheme. The scheme allows businesses to claim a tax credit on fuel used in machinery, vehicles over 4.5 tonnes, and vehicles not used on public roads.¹³ This tax break works to make fossil fuel use cheaper for energy-intensive businesses such as coal mines. It is not available to other businesses and individuals that use machinery and vehicles that run on different fuels. Fuel tax is not linked to road funding ... The Fuel Tax Credits Scheme does not only subsidise the consumption of fossil fuels; fossil fuel producers themselves are key beneficiaries. The total benefit provided by the Scheme to the coal industry between 2006–07 and 2022–23 is \$14.3 billion ... as of 2022–23, the Fuel Tax Credits Scheme was worth over \$3.5 billion per year to the mining industry, with over \$1 billion going to the coal industry alone ...</p> <p>Other tax concessions</p> <p>Fossil fuel producers and users receive exemptions from various taxes and excises. Such exemptions serve to reduce government revenue, and also to reduce incentives to minimise fossil fuel use and/or production ...</p> <p>The largest concession ... relates to aviation gasoline and turbine fuel. Civil aviation companies pay a lower rate of excise than other fuel users. Other discounts apply to “alternative fuels”, a category that includes liquified petroleum gas (LPG) and liquefied natural gas (LNG). As with the Fuel Tax Credits Scheme discussed above, these discounts involve lowering the price of fossil fuels for selected users, and in doing so, they reduce government revenue, transfer costs onto other parties, and reduce incentives to minimise fossil fuel use and related pollution.</p> <p>The concession for aviation fuels has increased from \$1.59 billion in 2023–24 to \$1.7 billion in 2024–25. The forward estimates expect the concession to be worth more than \$2 billion by 2027–28 ...</p> <p>The Petroleum Resource Rent Tax (PRRT) is levied on super profits generated from the sale of oil and gas. However, a range of concessions reduce the amount of PRRT paid by the industry, including credits for any tax losses, the use of a pricing method that undervalues gas, and deductions based on the value of project assets that can be carried forward and uplifted.</p> <p>BUDGETED SUBSIDIES AND COSTS (Pages 21-23)</p> <p>Regional cooperation initiative on carbon sequestration</p> <p>In 2023, the Federal Government and Opposition passed controversial legislation to allow for international shipment of carbon dioxide (CO₂). The legislation was widely seen as being designed for gas company Santos ... The new laws facilitated not only Santos’ project but the possibility of international trade in waste CO₂. The Japanese and Korean Governments have enthusiastically embraced the opportunity to claim that future emissions will be stored underground in Australian territory, despite the idea being entirely unproven.</p> <p>The Australian Government will spend \$32.6 million over four years to establish a regulatory framework to allow Australia to import carbon emissions from other countries and store them underground in geological storage sites.</p> <p>Northern Endeavour decommissioning</p> <p>An undisclosed amount will be spent by the federal government on decommissioning the Northern Endeavour offshore oil and gas facility, which was abandoned by its former</p> |

| Party | <i>Extracts from policies</i> |
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| | <p>owners. No estimate is included in our totals ... [it] is expected to be covered by a decommissioning levy charged on the offshore gas industry.</p> <p>Geoscience Australia Geoscience Australia's Building Australia's resources wealth program aims to "build Australia's resource wealth by unlocking new exploration frontiers, securing a pipeline of future mineral and energy resource discoveries." The funding for this program was \$11.2 million in 2023–24 ...</p> <p>Gas Industry Social and Environmental Research Alliance (GISERA) GISERA is a controversial research collaboration between state and federal governments, the gas industry, and the CSIRO ... The publicly-funded proportion of GISERA's budget in 2023–24 was \$11.2 million, and another \$13 million is allocated over the forward estimates. ... the Federal Government has supplied the majority of funding ...</p> <p>Snowy Hydro—Kurri Kurri Hunter Power Project The Federal Government owns 100% of Snowy Hydro, which is building the gas-fired Kurri Kurri Hunter Power Project. The most recent cost estimate for the project is \$950 million, and the project may not include a hydrogen component as previously promised. The project is expected to enter the testing and commissioning phase in December 2024. We have used \$950 million as the figure for the project's total capital value.</p> <p>Hunter Valley rail network—coal The Federal Government-owned Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC) is responsible for the Hunter Valley Coal Rail Network ... The ARTC 2023–24 Annual Report ... states that the group has capital commitments of \$1,169.8 million, of which \$140.8 million (14.6%) is to be invested in coal infrastructure.</p> <p>CONCESSIONAL FINANCE (Page 23-24) Export Finance Australia EFA ... is Australia's export credit agency ... EFA has previously reported LNG projects separately but in its most recent annual report it has combined these figures with its figures for other mining projects, effectively hiding them from public scrutiny. Because of this last year's figures have been used, giving EFA an overall exposure to the LNG industry of \$378 million.</p> <p>Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility The Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility (NAIF) is a \$5 billion fund that issues loans to infrastructure projects across northern Australia, including those in Queensland, Northern Territory and Western Australia ... it continues to issue subsidised loans to fossil fuel projects. NAIF's 2023–24 annual report includes funding to support the Perdaman Urea Project, which will be a major consumer of gas from nearby projects, including Woodside's Scarborough field. This also helps support the Burrup Hub.³¹ NAIF will assist with \$220 million in subsidised loans for related water and port infrastructure. We consider all of this to be wholly dedicated to fossil fuels. NAIFs assistance to other fossil fuel projects ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A \$168 million loan to the new Olive Downs Coal Mine; • \$300 million in finance for the Darwin Ship Lift, which will partly assist the offshore oil and gas industry ... • A \$16.8 million loan that was "integral" to the Onslow Marine Support Base, which services the offshore oil and gas industry; and |

| Party | Extracts from policies |
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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A \$37 million loan to the owners of the gas-fired Hudson Creek Power Station in the NT. <p>\$2.5 billion infrastructure boost for the Northern Territory (Media Release 16 October , 2022): In the 2022-23 Federal Budget, the Australian Government is delivering on almost \$2.5 billion of election commitments for vital infrastructure projects in the Northern Territory. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$1.5 billion in planned equity to support the construction of common user marine infrastructure within the Middle Arm Sustainable Development Precinct, providing a pathway to a decarbonised economy by helping emerging clean energy industries ... <p>Developing marine infrastructure at Middle Arm will open new export opportunities in Northern Australia for commodities such as green hydrogen and critical minerals, with associated downstream opportunities for onshore processing and low-emission manufacturing ...</p> <p>See also: Middle Arm Sustainable Development Precinct Strategic Assessment</p> <p>The Senate - Environment and Communications References Committee - Middle Arm Industrial Precinct (August 2024): Chapter 2 - Current and proposed uses (Pages 15-23) Purpose of the proposed development of the precinct 2.8 The Northern Territory (NT) Government’s stated aim for the proposed development of the Middle Arm Industrial Precinct is to ‘capitalise on the Territory’s access to natural gas and renewable energies to grow manufacturing and value-adding jobs while supporting economic growth’. Its planned focus would be on low emissions hydrocarbons, green hydrogen, advanced manufacturing, CCS and minerals processing ... 2.11 Since 2020, the purpose of the proposed development has changed to highlight elements of environmental sustainability rather than its earlier focus on growing and supporting the gas industry. In evidence to the inquiry, the NT Government described the proposed precinct as ‘a future-focused eco-industrial precinct that provides certainty for investment and safeguards environmental, cultural and social values’. According to the NT Government, central to the planning of the site is the protection of the environment and human health. 2.12 Similarly, the Australian Energy Producers (AEP) emphasised the sustainability aspect of the proposed precinct, arguing that ‘while gas will be a key industry in the precinct, it is expected to host a wide range of low-emission industries that will support economic diversification and growth in the Territory’. 2.13 Natural gas, however, remains central to arguments in favour of the precinct. According to one of the proponents of the proposed development, Tamboran Resources (Tamboran), it is intended that shale gas from the Beetaloo will be processed at and exported from the proposed Middle Arm Industrial Precinct. 2.14 Indeed, the Australia Institute submitted that, at full capacity, this proposed LNG facility would be the largest in Australia, exporting up to 20 million tonnes per annum (Mtpa) from an initial capacity of 6.6 Mtpa. 2.15 Evidence provided by Climate Analytics noted that the NT Government’s Stage 2 submission committed 75 per cent of the Middle Arm Industrial Precinct land area to fossil fuel related facilities ... 2.17 ... the August 2020 Stage 1 submission made by the NT Government to Infrastructure Australia flagged petrochemical processing as a potential use of the proposed development ... 2.18 When questioned by the committee, Chief Minister Lawler did not rule out the</p> |

| Party | <i>Extracts from policies</i> |
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| | <p>possibility of petrochemical processing at the proposed Middle Arm precinct ...</p> <p>Known proponents and their intended uses for the site</p> <p>2.19 Current proponents for the site have plans for facilities relating to LNG export, green hydrogen production and export, and critical minerals-led manufacturing ...</p> <p>Additional planning stage uses</p> <p>2.28 The remaining industries, which would presumably cover the residual 20 per cent of the proposed precinct, were unknown at the time of writing. However, other uses were identified in the planning stage These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a CCS hub ... • an ammonia export plant, produced with hydrogen, zinc oxide and nitrogen inputs and ammonia and zinc sulphide outputs ... • blue hydrogen, produced with natural gas and water inputs and hydrogen and carbon dioxide outputs. The resulting blue hydrogen would be a feedstock to methanol and ammonia export plants and the carbon dioxide would be captured and sequestered ... • ethylene (ethane cracker) plant, with ethane and propane inputs and an ethylene output • a methanol export plant, with hydrogen, carbon dioxide or synthesis gas inputs and methanol and water outputs • a condensate refinery ... • urea, produced with ammonia and carbon dioxide inputs and urea outputs, with feedstock from the ammonia export plant and CCS hub ... <p>Plans for common user infrastructure</p> <p>2.33 In addition to individual proponent's projects, common user infrastructure has also been flagged for development at Middle Arm.</p> <p>2.34 According to the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts (DITRDCA), Commonwealth equity funding would include \$1.5 billion to support common user marine infrastructure (such as wharves, modular offloading facilities and dredging), and another \$440 million to support 'Regional Logistics Hubs' ...</p> <p>2.35 The committee heard that the proposed common user marine infrastructure would be able to be used by project proponents and third parties (such as existing operators at Middle Arm) ...</p> <p>Labor Senators' Additional Comments (Pages 123-125)</p> <p>1.1 Labor Senators seek to highlight that in the 2022-23 Budget, the Australian Government committed to invest \$1.5 billion in planned equity to support the construction of common user marine infrastructure at Middle Arm Sustainable Development Precinct (Middle Arm), and \$440 million to support the development of Regional Logistics Hubs in the Northern Territory (NT) including at Katherine, Tennant Creek and Alice Springs.</p> <p>1.2 ... the Australian Government investment will provide common use marine infrastructure that can support a range of users of the site ...</p> <p>1.3 This may include industries such as renewable energy, green hydrogen, critical minerals processing, and the manufacture and export of lithium batteries—all of which are critical to global decarbonisation and our commitment to net zero ...</p> <p>1.7 As the project proponent, the NT Government is responsible for progressing Middle Arm to be 'investment ready', including the progression of business cases through the IA assessment framework, securing environmental approvals and community engagement ...</p> |

| Party | Extracts from policies |
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| | <p>1.10 The Australian Government is not party to negotiations with any proponents that may seek to access Middle Arm, as this is an NT Government project and the Australian Government's role is in provision of common infrastructure funding ...</p> <p>1.12 ... the final make-up of the precinct is not confirmed and is subject to significant and legislated assessment.</p> <p>1.17 The Labor Senators are of the view that investing in projects such as the Middle Arm is an important way of diversifying industry in the Northern Territory and setting up our economy for a sustainable future.</p> <p>Darwin's planned Middle Arm industrial hub could face lengthy delays after Infrastructure Australia rejects business case (ABC News, 11 November 2024):</p> <p>The Northern Territory government has admitted that the timelines for its controversial planned Middle Arm gas and industrial precinct on Darwin Harbour have slipped considerably ... the project, which the NT government planned to have under construction by 2026, and finished by 2029, could potentially be delayed by at least two years ...</p> <p>Infrastructure Australia has revealed that it has knocked back the business case put forward by the NT government and required further work to be done on it ...</p> <p>Assessments of the environmental impacts of Middle Arm will also be crucial to whether the project can gain final approval from both NT and federal regulators ... The NT Environment Protection Authority (NT EPA) has recently extended its deadline for the NT government to submit an environment impact statement proposal by two years, from October 2024 to October 2026, to give it more time to draw up ...</p> <p>... federal Infrastructure Minister Catherine King said: "Questions about the project's time frames are best directed to the NT government". She said her government remained committed to providing the \$1.5 billion to the Middle Arm development, which should include a range of industries ...</p> <p>In Federal Parliament:</p> <p>Introduced the Climate Change (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2022 (accepting a clarifying amendment by David Pocock) to require Federal bodies (including the Australian Renewable Energy Agency, Clean Energy Finance Corporation, Clean Energy Regulator, Export Finance Investment Corporation, Infrastructure Australia, and the Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility) to consider legislated emissions reduction targets when exercising their statutory responsibilities, making it very difficult for them to financially support fossil fuel projects.</p> |

7. End native forest logging nationally and support replacement industries

| Party | Extracts from policies |
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| Chris Kearney Independent | Climate policy An immediate end to the logging of native forests with support for plantation replacements. |
| Chris Parr Liberal | Let's Get Australia Back on Track – Priorities of a Dutton Coalition Government Grow a Stronger Regional Australia (Page 28-29) ... Labor has actively undermined and sometimes outright blocked economic development opportunities in regional areas, such as in mining, gas, forestry, fishing, farming and manufacturing. Regional Australia – and our nation more broadly – are missing out on billions of dollars due to Labor's hostile regional policies ... A Dutton Coalition Government will ... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect jobs and businesses in traditional local industries like timber ... that are under threat from Labor and the Greens. In Federal Parliament: Coalition members present voted against the Greens' Ending Native Forest Logging Bill 2023 to repeal Regional Forest Agreements (RFAs) between the Federal Government and the States; RFAs enable logging of Australian native forests to continue with exemptions from environmental protection laws. Coalition members present voted against the Sophie Scamps amendment to the <i>Nature Positive (Environment Law Amendments and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2024</i> to require assessment and approval under the EPBC Act of logging under Regional Forestry Agreements and any area greater than 20 ha where a threatened species may exist. |
| Leslie Ralph Pauline Hanson One Nation | One Nation unveils policy to boost Tasmania's \$1.2 billion forestry industry (News, 10 April 2025) One Nation has unveiled a new policy aimed at boosting Tasmania's \$1.2 billion forestry industry, as part of a broader push to make Australia self-sufficient in timber production. Lee Hanson, the party's lead Senate candidate for Tasmania, met with the Australian Forest Products Association in Hobart this week to outline the policy that would protect 5,700 jobs while addressing what the party describes as "Labor's national housing crisis". "Tasmanian forestry sets the world benchmark in terms of responsible stewardship and I'm keen for that to continue," Hanson said. "Only about 14 out of every 10,000 native trees in Tasmania are harvested every year from public forests, which are then regenerated." The policy would keep old-growth forests and sensitive areas off-limits while allowing limited native tree harvesting. Other key measures include government procurement that prioritises Aussie-grown timber, mandatory country-of-origin labelling and cracking down on illegal timber imports ... Australia currently faces a \$2 billion trade deficit in wood products despite being the sixth largest country globally. "We don't even make standard office paper in Australia anymore," Hanson said. The party plans to extend plantation establishment grants to help meet the industry's target of an additional 18,000 hectares of forestry plantation annually. "Trees are the ultimate renewable resource and forestry is a renewable industry One Nation is more than happy to support," Hanson said. "Improving our timber resources is critical to our efforts to increase housing supply." "We must plant more trees and become self-sufficient in timber so we don't have to rely on imports from countries with poorer stewardship credentials and exotic pests, and we must also explore innovation in value-adding." |

| Party | Extracts from policies |
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| | The policy also includes support for forestry tertiary education and a national fire response plan for Australia's forests. |
| Rae Rancie Family First | Our Policies (website): No reference to native forest logging. |
| Jy Sandford Greens | <p>Your vote can get strong climate action (website):</p> <p>... Our Plan for Ambitious Climate Action</p> <p>The last time there was a minority government, the Greens secured world-leading climate laws, and won billions for clean energy. With more Greens in parliament, we can do it again ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • End native forest logging ... <p>Forests (website):</p> <p>Australia's native forests are among Earth's most biodiverse and ecologically significant ecosystems. They provide critical habitat for threatened wildlife, support clean air and water, and store enormous amounts of carbon, making them essential in the fight against climate change ...</p> <p>Labor and Liberal governments have failed to act, permitting logging operations that destroy intact forests, pollute waterways, and fuel worsening bushfires. Greens advocacy and community campaigns have led to the end of native forest logging in Victoria and Western Australia, while other states—like Tasmania and New South Wales—continue to exploit loopholes.</p> <p>The Greens are committed to decisive action to end native forest logging nationwide, close legal loopholes that allow destruction to continue, and invest in restoring forests and supporting workers in a just transition to sustainable industries.</p> <p>End Native Forest Logging by Closing Legal Loopholes</p> <p>For decades, outdated agreements between federal and state governments have allowed native forest logging to continue, bypassing key environmental protections. The Greens will abolish these legal loopholes to permanently protect forests, wildlife, and carbon stores.</p> <p>The Greens' plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • End the destruction of native forests by repealing the Regional Forest Agreements (RFAs) that allow logging to bypass national environmental laws. <p>Fund Ecological Restoration and a Just Transition for Workers</p> <p>Native forest logging is an unsustainable and declining industry. Yet, governments continue to prop it up with public subsidies while failing to support affected workers. The Greens will invest in ecological restoration and create long-term, sustainable jobs to help forest communities thrive.</p> <p>The Greens' plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restore logged forests and protect biodiversity with a <u>\$10 billion investment</u> over 20 years to rehabilitate ecosystems and support sustainable industries. • Support workers and communities by funding transition programs, retraining opportunities, and green job creation to replace native forest logging ... <p>Bob Brown & Greens make forest bid for minority government (website, 1 March 2025):</p> <p>The Greens will make ending native forest logging a key demand of minority government after the upcoming Federal Election. Former Greens Leader Bob Brown joined the Greens candidates for their Victorian target seats of Macnamara and Wills at Toolangi State Forest yesterday, together with Greens Leader Adam Bandt, to help launch the push ...</p> <p>The Greens' plan would see the Federal government <u>pay State and Territory governments \$500 million a year over 20 years to end native timber logging</u>. The funding would be distributed to States and Territories based on their most recent volume of native timber</p> |

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| | <p>logging and would go towards restoring forests and supporting a just transition for workers with new, sustainable green jobs.</p> <p>The plan would abolish existing Regional Forest Agreements and close loopholes in environmental protection laws that enable native forest logging. It would also ensure the carbon value of ending logging isn't traded away to benefit fossil fuel corporations.</p> <p>A national end to native timber logging and land clearing could save up to 37.5 million tonnes of CO2 equivalent per year, the same amount of climate pollution prevented as the lifetime impact of putting new rooftop solar on over 400,000 homes. 37.5m tonnes is the equivalent of approximately 8.5% of Australia's annual emissions.</p> <p>Policy principles: Natural Resources: Forests and Mining (website)</p> <p>... The Australian Greens believe that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australia's natural resources must be managed in accordance with the principles of intergenerational equity, the precautionary principle, biodiversity conservation ... • Native forest logging must end to ensure the immediate protection of forest ecosystems. • Abolition of the Regional Forest Agreements and the same treatment of forestry operations as other activities under environmental law ... • Climate change must be a central consideration in the management of Australia's natural resources, including forests and mining. • Decisions about resource extraction projects must be guided by rigorous and independent assessments of their impacts on social and community values, First Nations cultural heritage, water, soils, climate, biodiversity, and detail post-extraction rehabilitation. This includes minerals necessary for the transition to a decarbonised economy. • Native forests have immense natural, cultural and economic values which must be protected. Logging seriously damages or destroys these values. • Just transition assistance should be provided to communities and workers affected by job transitions towards sustainable industries. <p>Policy principles: Climate Change and Energy (website)</p> <p>... The Australian Greens want ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stronger environmental laws and systems that prohibit further land clearing or logging native forests, or activities that reduce carbon storage or pose a threat to kelp forests and seagrass beds in order to protect natural carbon drawdown mechanisms ... <p>Policy principles: Biodiversity (website)</p> <p>... The Australian Greens want ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The introduction of national measures to end broad scale clearing and incremental loss of native vegetation including the degradation of native forests ... <p>In Federal Parliament:</p> <p>Introduced (in the Senate) the Ending Native Forest Logging Bill 2023 to repeal Regional Forest Agreements (RFAs) between the Federal Government and the States; RFAs enable logging of Australian native forests to continue with exemptions from environmental protection laws.</p> <p>The Greens voted for the Sophie Scamps amendment to the <i>Nature Positive (Environment Law Amendments and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2024</i> to require assessment and approval under the EPBC Act of logging under Regional Forestry Agreements and any area greater than 20 ha where a threatened species may exist.</p> |

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| Kate Thwaites Labor | <p data-bbox="347 185 687 217"><u>ALP National Platform 2023</u></p> <p data-bbox="347 221 1182 253">A better future for farmers, fishers and forestry industry (Pages 22-3)</p> <p data-bbox="347 257 1430 394">Labor will assist Australian agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries to capitalize on their economic and employment potential by adapting to climate change and consumer demand for high-quality, healthy food and sustainable fibre and forest products. Labor continues to work with the states, territories, industries, unions and other voices to ...</p> <ul data-bbox="347 398 1430 577" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="347 398 1430 472">• work with the sector to improve climate adaptation, harness opportunities for carbon farming and renewable energy, reduce emissions and promote sustainable practices ... <li data-bbox="347 506 1430 577">• develop sustainable forestry, recognising carbon and biodiversity values and the demand for purpose-grown timber products ... <p data-bbox="347 618 975 649">A new approach to forests and forestry (Pages 52-3)</p> <p data-bbox="347 654 1430 898">... Labor is committed to delivering the Glasgow Leaders Declaration on forests and land use which commits Australia to halt and reverse forest loss and land degradation by 2030. Labor recognises that deforestation increases greenhouse gas emissions. Labor will deploy a variety of policy responses to deliver on our emissions reduction and deforestation commitments including robust and additional nature-based solutions to prevent forest loss and degradation. Labor will work with the states and territories on national vegetation mapping and monitoring programs.</p> <p data-bbox="347 902 1430 1039">Labor supports the sustainable future of Australia's forests and forest products industry and recognises the value and role of our forests in storing carbon and protecting biodiversity. Labor will work with states and territories to update the 1992 National Forest Policy Statement to ensure it is contemporary and fit for purpose. We will:</p> <ul data-bbox="347 1043 1430 1368" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="347 1043 1430 1117">• expand Australia's plantation estate to meet domestic and international demand for high-value, sustainably sourced wood products ... <li data-bbox="347 1122 1430 1223">• deliver the management and restoration of native forests, recognising and rewarding carbon and biodiversity values and the need for their active and ongoing management <li data-bbox="347 1227 1430 1301">• consistent with current government policy, ensure the application of National Environmental Standards to Australia's native forests <li data-bbox="347 1305 1430 1368">• harness the social, environmental, and economic benefits that our forests can provide ... <p data-bbox="347 1373 1430 1473">Labor will support internationally recognised forest certification with robust governance arrangements. We will set best practice, transparent, consistent and objective standards in sustainable forest management, chain of custody and labelling ...</p> <p data-bbox="347 1514 1289 1545"><u>Glasgow Leaders Declaration on Fair Forests and Land Use</u> (2 November 2021)</p> <p data-bbox="347 1550 871 1581">... We will strengthen our shared efforts to:</p> <ul data-bbox="347 1585 1430 2051" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="347 1585 1430 1617">• Conserve forests and other terrestrial ecosystems and accelerate their restoration; <li data-bbox="347 1621 1430 1724">• Facilitate trade and development policies, internationally and domestically, that promote sustainable development ... and that do not drive deforestation and land degradation ... <li data-bbox="347 1729 1430 1908">• Reaffirm international financial commitments and significantly increase finance and investment from a wide variety of public and private sources, while also improving its effectiveness and accessibility, to enable sustainable agriculture, sustainable forest management, forest conservation and restoration, and support for Indigenous Peoples and local communities; <li data-bbox="347 1912 1430 2051">• Facilitate the alignment of financial flows with international goals to reverse forest loss and degradation, while ensuring robust policies and systems are in place to accelerate the transition to an economy that is resilient and advances forest, sustainable land use, biodiversity and climate goals ... |

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| | <p>Government Policy: Nature Positive Plan Regional Forest Agreements (page 18-19) Regional Forest Agreements (RFAs) are in place between the Australian Government and some state governments and will continue to operate. RFAs are already subject to a requirement to have regard to environmental values such as old growth, wilderness, endangered species, national estate values and World Heritage values. However, they are exempt from assessment under the current EPBC Act and are unique in that respect. The government will work with stakeholders and relevant jurisdictions towards applying National Environmental Standards to Regional Forest Agreements to support their ongoing operation together with stronger environmental protection. The timing and form of this requirement will be subject to further consultation with stakeholders. Consultation will consider future management and funding opportunities under voluntary environmental markets.</p> <p>Appendix A (Page 36- 40) Government action to address recommendations of the Independent Review of the EPBC Act (Samuel, 2020) [Recommendation 15 in the <i>Review</i>] Increase the level of environmental protection afforded in Regional Forest Agreements (RFAs). a. The Commonwealth should immediately require, as a condition of any accredited arrangement, states to ensure that RFAs are consistent with the National Environmental Standards. b. In the second tranche of reform, the EPBC Act should be amended to replace the RFA 'exemption' with a requirement for accreditation against the National Environmental Standards, with the mandatory oversight of the Environment Assurance Commissioner.</p> <p>[Government response] The government will work with stakeholders and relevant jurisdictions towards applying National Environmental Standards to Regional Forest Agreements to support their ongoing operation together with stronger environmental protection.</p> <p>Labor shelves contentious 'nature positive' laws after West Australian backlash (ABC News 2 February 2025) Prime Minister Anthony Albanese says Labor has shelved plans to pass its contentious nature positive environmental laws before the election. The decision comes after fierce resistance from West Australian Premier Roger Cook and sections of the mining industry. Mr Albanese added that Labor would continue discussing the issue in the next term of parliament ...</p> <p>Albanese Labor government delivering green shoots for Aussie plantations (Media release, 24 February 2025) The Albanese Labor Government is today announcing over \$10.4 million for 14 new plantation projects through round 3 of the Support Plantation Establishment program. The 14 projects will establish hardwood and softwood plantations ranging in size from 21 to 1928 hectares, to a total of approximately 5,500 hectares, in New South Wales, Victoria, Western Australia, South Australia and Tasmania.</p> |

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| | <p>The projects will bolster Australia’s future timber supply while contributing to meeting Australia’s carbon emission targets ...</p> <p>The Government is delivering the most significant forest industry support package in Australia's history, including more than \$300 million to help improve the capacity and capability of the sector.</p> <p>These new projects are in addition to 27 existing plantation projects, with the program now providing \$26.2 million in grant funding to support the establishment of over 13,750 hectares of new hardwood and softwood plantations across Australia ...</p> <p>This is the first batch of funding through round 3, further funding is still open for applications until 5 November 2025 for private industry, First Nations businesses, farm foresters and state and territory government forestry bodies to establish new plantations. New projects must be delivered by June 2027 ...</p> <p>In Federal Parliament:</p> <p>Labor voted against the Greens’ Ending Native Forest Logging Bill 2023 to repeal Regional Forest Agreements (RFAs) between the Federal Government and the States; RFAs enable logging of Australian native forests to continue with exemptions from environmental protection laws.</p> <p>Labor voted against the Sophie Scamps amendment to the <i>Nature Positive (Environment Law Amendments and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2024</i> to require assessment and approval under the EPBC Act of logging under Regional Forestry Agreements and any area greater than 20 ha where a threatened species may exist.</p> |