Policy Extracts – Nillumbik Districts + Minor Parties

Policies as at 23 October 2026

1. Strong Leadership on the Climate Emergency

Party	Policies
Greens	End Coal and Gas (Platform, website accessed 12 October 2026) The major parties have failed us on climate change … The Greens are the only ones taking climate change seriously, because we're the only ones not funded by the fossil fuel companies causing climate collapse. We'll replace Labor's coal and gas with cheaper, publicly-owned renewables to permanently cut your energy bills and climate pollution, end logging for good, ban gas drilling in Victoria's oceans, and invest in protecting our wildlife and nature … Climate Change Policy (website, dated 4 October 2025) Principles • Human-induced climate change poses one of the greatest threats to our world in human history and requires urgent local, national and global action. • We are already experiencing dangerous impacts of climate change; urgent, deep, and broad action is required to avoid catastrophic impacts. • The amount of greenhouse gases already in the atmosphere necessitates urgent emission reduction and drawdown of greenhouse gases as well as prompt adaptation to climate change. • Early action to reduce greenhouse emissions is cheaper and fairer than delayed action … • Climate change policy should be based on the best available science. • Climate change policy should inform and frame all other policies. • Victoria must take responsibility for the greenhouse gas emissions resulting from the goods and resources it consumes and exports. • Victoria is one of the world's largest per-capita emitters of greenhouse gases with a large percentage due to the burning of brown coal. • The lack of effective global (or Australian) climate action must not prevent Victoria from taking immediate and comprehensive measures … Aims … Mitigation • To achieve net zero or negative total greenhouse gas emissions across all areas of human activity – including via the removal of greenhouse gases already in the atmosphere, in a way that is environmentally responsible and socially fair. • Development and implementation of a detailed plan to end Victoria's reliance on fossil fuels by shifting to, and beyond, a zero greenhouse gas emission economy … Energy Policy (website, dated 4 October 2025) … Targets • Binding Victorian greenhouse gas emission targets from the stationary energy sector in line with a reduction to zero or net negative greenhouse gas emissions as quickly as possible, and no later than 2030. Climate Change and Energy Legislation Amendment (Renewable Energy and Storage

Party	Policies
	Targets) Bill 2023 (Legislative Council Hansard, 7 March 2024) This Bill sets the Government greenhouse gas emissions targets (see Labor candidate for details) Page 854 (Sarah Mansfield): … we are moving to change the target to 100 per cent renewables by 2030. This is consistent with what we have been calling for a long time. This is possible. There is emerging research that has shown that Victoria can achieve coal-free electric power generation and possibly 100 per cent renewables by 2028. We acknowledge that, given decades of delay, 100 per cent by 2030 is very ambitious. It will require significant investment, but we believe we must be ambitious when setting these targets. That is why we are moving these amendments to this piece of legislation today, and I would encourage all members to support them … (Amendment not passed)
Labor	Our Plan - Labor is fighting for working people (website, accessed 28 September 2026) Climate not included in election policy priorities. *Victoria's Climate Change Strategy 2026-30* (released January 2026) … Net zero: A prosperous, fair and strong Victoria (page 3) Climate action and prosperity go hand in hand We're building a net zero economy that keeps Victoria growing – creating new jobs, attracting investment and supporting industries to stay competitive and resilient. A fair and people-first transition will benefit all Victorians We're prioritising equity and inclusion on the path to net zero emissions, to ensure all workers and communities can benefit from new opportunities. Preparing for climate impacts protects our future We're acting now to safeguard our communities, environment and livelihoods from climate impacts – building a stronger future for generations to come. Victoria's Climate Change Strategy 2026–30 is focused on what matters. It is backed by over $8.5 billion announced since the last Climate Change Strategy in 2021, building on the $2 billion that backed it then. Victoria is a global leader (page 5) Victoria is playing its part in limiting global temperature increase to 1.5°C … Climate change is impacting Victoria now (page 8) As of 2024: • Average temperature has increased 1.2 °C since 1910 • The number of very hot days per decade has more than doubled since 1986–2005 • More intense, frequent and longer heatwaves since the 1950s • Average annual rainfall has decreased, but extreme rainfall events have almost doubled since 1958–1985 • Snow depth and cover have decreased in alpine regions since the late 1950s If global emissions continue to increase, by the 2050s* Victoria can expect: • Average temperature to increase by around 1.5 °C (1.1–1.9 °C) • Hot days warmer by around 2 °C • Around 40 heatwave days each year

Party	Policies
	• Increasingly intense extreme rainfall events, including thunderstorms • Sea level rise between 0.13 m and 0.32 m * CMIP6-based projections, under high emissions scenario (SSP3-7.0), compared to 1986–2005 baseline for temperature statistics and 1995–2014 baseline for sea level rise Achieving our ambitious targets (page 9) Targets refer to % below Victoria's 2005 greenhouse gas emission levels Targets: • 2025: 28-33%; We've reduced emissions by 31.4% and are within range of our 2025 target • 2030: 45-50%; Our current actions will see emissions fall by 42% in 2030 • 2035: 75-80% • 2045: Net Zero These targets were legislated in March 2026; see Climate Change and Energy Legislation Amendment (Renewable Energy and Storage Targets) Act 2024
Liberals	State Platform (website) The Party's Platform sets out our fundamental values as Party … • We believe in conserving, protecting and sustaining our natural environment and national heritage … *Our Plan to Deliver for Victorians* (2026) … restore energy choice by scrapping Labor's ban on gas appliances in new homes … throw open the door for gas exploration, ensuring reliable gas supply for Victoria … establish new Urban Solar Parks to encourage solar and battery installations on commercial and industrial rooftops … No explicit reference to climate change, global warming or emissions targets in the plan (or elsewhere). Jess Wilson faces climate change grilling on first day as Victorian Liberal leader (ABC News, 19 November 2025) Jess Wilson has started her first full day as Victorian Liberal leader by refusing to distance her party's climate change policies from its federal counterpart, which was criticised last week for dumping the commitment to net zero emissions … Ms Wilson declined to commit to a net zero policy in Victoria but said her party had supported emissions reduction legislation in the parliament. "There's no plans to change what legislation has gone through the parliament but what we are doing is we are saying we have to focus on the fact that power bills keep increasing and that we have a gas shortfall in future years and that's why we have been very clear that we want gas to be part of that transition," she told ABC Radio Melbourne. After the federal Liberal Party ditched its net zero commitment, then-Victorian Liberal leader Brad Battin said he was "comfortable" retaining Victoria's goal of net zero emissions by 2045. But on Wednesday Ms Wilson would not repeat that commitment …

Party	Policies
	Climate Change and Energy Legislation Amendment (Renewable Energy and Storage Targets) Bill 2023 (Legislative Assembly Hansard, 20 February 2024) This Bill sets the Government greenhouse gas emissions targets (see Labor candidate for details) Page 338 (James Newbury): … the coalition will not be opposing this bill. What this bill does at its core is set climate targets and put those in legislation. On principle at the last election the coalition put a policy forward to legislate targets, because if you are doing 30 years of transformational change in your economy, it is only right that you understand what you are doing, that you track what you are doing and that you also transparently make it clear to the community what you are doing. So at the last election the coalition put forward a commitment to legislate targets. I recall in this very place having an argument across the chamber in question time with the Premier, who said something like it will be a cold day in hell before he listens to the advice of legislating targets. We stand here today with the government committing to legislating targets, and I note their acceptance of that policy position that the coalition took to the last election … Page 360 (Jess Wilson): … From the outset can I say that the coalition does not oppose this bill. I think the talking points were drafted for the government before they realised that we were not going to oppose this bill, because from the contributions from the other side you would not know that the coalition is not opposing the bill before us today. In fact we took to the last election a commitment to legislate targets. We are committed to a net zero economy. It is understandable therefore that you would track along that progress how you are going to achieve that ultimate target of net zero emissions in our economy … Climate Change and Energy Legislation Amendment (Renewable Energy and Storage Targets) Bill 2023 (Legislative Council Hansard, 7 March 2024) Page 856: Liberal Councillors voted in favour of the third reading motion (i.e. the final vote to pass the Bill).
One Nation	*The Real Deal for Victoria* (Policy Platform, October 2026) Cheaper Energy (page 36) Power Bills Victoria is an energy-rich state sitting on coal, gas and uranium, yet too many families cannot afford to turn the heater on. That is a policy failure, not a resource problem: net-zero ideology and the decision to send Victorian gas interstate and overseas while households here pay the price. What we will do: • Scrap all net-zero targets and subsidies. Energy policy will be judged on price, reliability and what is best for Victorian families and industry, not on ideology …
Animal Justice	*Climate Policies* (website accessed 27 October 2026) **The Climate Emergency** The Animal Justice Party (AJP) is the only political party with policies that comprehensively take into account all sources of emissions, including the impact

Party	Policies
	of animal agriculture and land clearing on the global climate, and the need to urgently transition to a plant-based diet in order to address the climate crisis. The AJP will take urgent action to address the climate emergency. In addition to phasing out fossil fuels, we will transition from animal agriculture towards more sustainable plant-based farming, and transform other climate-threatening industries and practices. This is essential not only to reduce harmful emissions, but also to protect nature, and human and other animal life. **Key Objectives** 1. Declare a climate emergency and biodiversity emergency at every level of government as the first step towards systemic change and climate justice. 2. Rapidly transition from animal agriculture to plant-based agriculture and promote plant-based diets. 3. Protect, regenerate, expand, rewild and enhance all ecological systems including forests, grasslands, freshwater and marine habitats, in part by reserving at least 50% of the planet for nature (see our Policies on Human Population, Land Clearing and Marine Animals). 4. Develop water management policies that are responsive to climate change and that prioritise animals, the environment and people over commercial interests (see our Water Management Policy). 5. Develop and fund comprehensive plans and actions to assist all animal species and vulnerable human populations to adapt to a changing climate. 6. Rapidly phase out fossil fuels and transition to clean energy infrastructure (see our Energy Policy). 7. Commit to ambitious emission reduction targets which do not encourage dead end 'solutions', such as natural gas (see our latest Election Platform). 8. Remove subsidies from the fossil fuel and animal agriculture industries in the interim and redirect funding into clean energy solutions and sustainable plant-based agriculture. 9. Shift away from road transport toward more environmentally-friendly modes, including rail and mass transit, together with walking and cycling (see our Land Transport Policy). 10. Reimagine urban design to be climate-friendly and climate-resilient, and incentivise research and development into net zero carbon building materials and practices.
Tom Ward Independent for Eildon	No specific policy on climate action or commitment to a net zero emissions target.
End Mass Immigration	
Family First	Energy Policy (website, accessed 28 September 2026) … The current Net Zero targets are destroying our country's economy. Australians are paying higher bills, losing industry, and watching regional communities suffer under the spread of industrial wind and solar. Family First believes in a common sense approach to our energy mix utilising coal, gas and nuclear to ensure affordable, secure and reliable power … Family First will ensure Australia's energy needs are met by … • Ending the Net Zero targets … • Withdrawing Australia from the Paris Climate Accord …

Party	Policies
Freedom	
Legalise Cannabis	
Libertarians	Energy Policy (website, accessed 27 October 2026) • **Establish – as far as is possible under the current national system – a true free market in energy**. Eliminate all government intervention into and ownership of energy sources. Such measures only serve to distort the market, undermine supply, and reduce business confidence. The Libertarian Party of Victoria supports market competition between all sources of energy on their merits. Under such a system, consumer choice will improve, investment in the energy sector will grow, energy prices will fall, and the cost of living will be reduced. • **Make Victorian net-zero initiatives voluntary**. Net-zero initiatives have proven extremely divisive in Australia. Some feel that all Australians (businesses, families and individuals alike) must be forced to drive down their carbon emissions to a net-zero level. Others feel that the government must aggressively eliminate such initiatives. Both these approaches are flawed. In the first place, Australia is responsible for less than 2% of human-driven carbon emissions. Thus, coercive initiatives to achieve net-zero are simply not justified. Nonetheless, many businesses and families do seek to reduce their carbon emissions, and there is genuine overlap between reduced carbon emissions and the cutting edge of free-market energy technology innovation. As such, the Libertarian Party of Victoria supports the following measures: a. Eliminate Victorian legislation that prevents the development of efficient low-carbon energy technologies; b. Allow Victorian businesses to publish their carbon emissions if they so wish; and c. Allow Victorian businesses to engage in voluntary carbon-trading schemes. • **Eliminate Victoria's ban on nuclear power by repealing the Nuclear Activities (Prohibitions) Act 1983 (Vic).** This ban – along with the nuclear power bans at the Commonwealth-level – are anachronistic relics that prevent Australia from using a cost-effective and highly safe source of power. 3 5 The Libertarian Party of Victoria supports the repeal of the Commonwealth bans on nuclear power, after which Victoria must permit the licensing of modern nuclear power plants in accordance with international best practice. This will open up new opportunities for the expansion and diversification of Victoria's energy sector for all Victorians, all whilst preserving the safety of Victorian communities and the Victorian environment. • **Recalibrate the regulatory environment for coal, oil, uranium, and natural gas.** The exploration for and extraction of coal, oil, uranium, and natural gas is currently stalled – if not outright banned – by various Victorian statutes and regulations. Overall, Victoria's approach to these forms of energy may be described as overzealous. The societal value of these forms of the energy – whether they are used domestically or exported – is significant, and a balance must be struck between environmental protection and maximising the use of Victoria's natural bounty. To this end, the Libertarian Party of Victoria supports allowing all coal, oil, uranium, and natural gas projects, with the caveat that all such projects be subject to the tort of nuisance, such that any unreasonable interference in the reasonable use and enjoyment of another's property creates a requirement to cease the offending activity, pay damages, or both.

Party	Policies
	• **Eliminate energy-sector subsidies**. Currently, over $1 billion of Victorian tax dollars are spent every year on subsidising certain patterns of government-favored energy consumption, including the State Electricity Commission (SEC) for the construction and operation of politically initiated energy-sector infrastructure projects. However, this is an inefficient approach to expanding Victoria's energy sector. Taxpayer-funded subsidies quickly become politically compromised by changing governments and do too much to prop up inefficient enterprises at the expense of the broader economy, such as solar PV mandated feed-in tariffs, which caused misallocation of capital and were eventually scrapped. As such, the Libertarian Party of Victoria supports discontinuing all subsidy programs, whether they are for renewable or non-renewable forms of energy. Only by doing this can the energy sector be made responsive to consumer (as opposed to government) priorities and genuinely efficient projects obtain the resources they need to expand, flourish, and create a firm and sustainable foundation for the future. • **Streamline the process by which energy infrastructure projects can be approved.** Energy infrastructure projects, such as interstate energy interconnectors, create opportunities to improve grid stability and productivity. Private investors' appetite to invest in Victorian energy infrastructure is currently undermined by an inefficient regulatory environment overseen by the Australian Energy Market Operator and the National Engineering Register. As such, The Libertarian Party of Victoria supports the following reforms: a. encouraging the Australian Energy Market Operator and the National Engineering Register to streamline their technical and environmental approval system; b. encouraging the Australian Energy Market Operator and energy service providers to work with investors to establish more reasonable (and binding) turn-around times on all responses to investors and other stakeholders; and c. encouraging the National Engineering Register to establish a separate workstream for non-controversial Victorian projects. These measures will make investing in Victorian energy infrastructure more attractive and will enable Victoria's grid to become stronger and more efficient, thus translating into cheaper and more consistent power for all Victorians. • **Rationalise the obligations imposed on energy producers**. Currently, the regulations in force with respect to the Victorian energy sector are complicated and inefficient. The Libertarian Party of Victoria supports abolishing both Victoria's current ad hoc regulatory regime in favour of the national regime (the National Energy Customer Framework) and Victoria's unique energy certificates scheme (the Victorian Energy Efficiency Certificates scheme). This will reduce the licensing and energy efficiency requirements for participants in Victoria's energy market, will allow current suppliers to improve their efficiency, and will increase the number of suppliers who can compete in the energy market, therefore making the Victorian energy sector more competitive. Libertarian Energy Policy Briefing (website, accessed 28 October 2026) • The real climate truth politicians won't tell you: Australia produces less than 2% of global carbon emissions. Victoria's share is a fraction of that 2%. Even if Victoria went to zero emissions tomorrow, it would make ZERO difference to global climate while destroying your living standards. Meanwhile: China opens

Party	Policies
	new coal plants every week, producing more emissions in a month than Victoria produces in a year. The climate extremists want to destroy your lifestyle for virtue-signalling that accomplishes nothing for the planet. • Why government 'green energy' is a scam. Wind and solar are expensive and unreliable. They only work when the wind blows and sun shines. Require massive backup systems (usually gas plants). Cover huge areas of land with industrial machinery. Kill millions of birds and create toxic waste from batteries Plus: They're only "cheap" because of massive government subsidies paid for with your taxes.
Shooters Fishers Farmers	
Socialist Alliance	
Sustainable Australia	
Victorian Socialists	Addressing Climate Change and Protecting our Environment (Policies webpage, 2026) The climate emergency is a dire threat to our natural environment and the liveability of our cities. Victoria's Climate Science Report 2024 projects hotter summers, more frequent and severe bushfire weather, reduced water availability, rising sea levels, and intensified short-duration flooding … Victorian Socialists acknowledge that climate change is an existential risk with the potential to impact all other aspects of our policy platform and believe the climate emergency demands a response that matches the scale of the threat. The cost of the transition must fall on those who created the crisis and have profited from it … The concentration of greenhouse gases already in the atmosphere means that net-zero emissions will not be sufficient to curtail dangerous warming. Net-negative emissions — actively drawing down atmospheric carbon — will be required … … Emissions targets • Reduce emissions by 75 percent below 2005 levels by 2030, achieve a zero-carbon economy by 2035 and a permanent net-negative emissions economy by 2040 …

2. Rapid transition to fully renewable electricity grid

Party	Policies
Greens	End Coal and Gas (Platform, website accessed 21 September 2026) … End coal & gas, build renewables The Greens will … • Ensure Yallourn's four coal-burning units close as planned in 2028, and switch off individual units at Loy Yang A earlier than planned, as more renewables come online, before its scheduled closure in 2035. • Undertake a massive build of publicly owned renewable energy, with an extra $2 billion for the State Electricity Commission, including putting solar panels on schools, public housing estates and government buildings, ensuring the savings go back to the public, not into corporate profits. And we'll include a publicly-owned energy retailer in the SEC, cutting out corporate profit so ordinary Victorians can access cheaper energy. • Get more renewable energy online faster by fast-tracking planning approvals for wind farms and transmission lines, in contrast to the Liberals, Nationals and One Nation who want to rip up renewable energy infrastructure, and Labor who wants to delay it. • Ban donations from fossil fuel corporations to politicians. We'll make coal and gas corporations pay their fair share by doubling royalties, as well as ending subsidies and tax exemptions for fossil fuel projects, so that money can be spent on our communities … Stop rip-off energy bills, bring energy back into public hands … Our energy system was publicly-owned until it was sold off in the 1990s. Since then, power bills have skyrocketed while fossil fuel companies rake in profits and lobby to block climate action. The Greens will bring down bills by cutting out corporate profit and returning our energy system to public hands, where it belongs. The Greens will … • Legislate to stop essential services ever being sold off again … We'll pay for our plans by doubling royalties on coal and gas companies, and making big banks and gambling corporations pay their fair share of tax. Stop AI Data Centres (Platform, website accessed 12 October 2026) … AI data centres have a massive environmental footprint. They're noisy, energy-guzzling industrial monsters that use huge amounts of water. And they'll keep Victoria hooked on coal and gas for longer … The Greens want to stop new AI data centres, until we have laws that protect our communities and environment … The Greens are calling for a moratorium on all new AI data centres until communities have actually had an opportunity to consider the risks and benefits, and create strong laws to protect people and the planet over big tech profit … Data centres shouldn't get free access to our power or slow our transition to renewables. The Greens will make all data centres run off 100% newly built renewable energy, including banning gas turbines and diesel back up generators, and requiring them to make an additional contribution to help the transition to renewables …

Party	Policies
	Rural & Regional Victoria (Platform, website accessed 12 October 2026) … Make renewables and transmission lines fairer for regional Victorians Regional Victoria is playing a key role in helping get Victoria off dirty, expensive coal and gas, but the transition has to be a just one. Renewable energy projects and transmission lines need genuine local engagement, community benefits programs which flow straight to local communities, and community ownership models … Labor Bungles Western Renewables Link. Kicks Transparency Past Election (Media release 16 September 2026) The Victorian Greens have slammed Premier Ben Carroll's announcement of yet another review into the Western Renewables Link, saying it will create further uncertainty and delays to critical renewable energy infrastructure. The Greens say Labor should immediately release the latest project costings and provide certainty to communities in Victoria's west … Labor has bungled the Western Renewables Link from the get-go. We need this infrastructure to support the rollout of renewables, but it has to be done properly … Climate Change Policy (website, dated 4 October 2025) … Mitigation … • Regulation of the phasing out of existing coal-fired power stations and the banning of new fossil-fuel based power stations … • Implement low-cost, high-impact emissions reductions in Victoria's stationary energy sector, and reduce emissions across other sectors including transport, industrial processes, agriculture and forestry. Energy Policy (website, dated 4 October 2025) … Targets • Binding Victorian greenhouse gas emission targets from the stationary energy sector in line with a reduction to zero or net negative greenhouse gas emissions as quickly as possible, and no later than 2030. • Phasing out the Victorian use of fossil fuels using a combination of energy efficiency, energy storage, energy conservation and renewable energy. Supply • Rapid transition to 100% renewable energy, while ensuring a reliable and stable electricity grid through sound engineering and planning. • Prioritise the rapid rollout of new publicly and community-owned solar, wind and other renewable generation projects across Victoria to ensure the state achieves and maintains 100% renewable electricity, with capacity to meet rising demand from electrification of transport, heating and industry. • Boosting small scale renewable energy generation, including the introduction of a fair feed-in tariff and removing barriers to grid connection. • Installing new or upgraded publicly owned transmission infrastructure to ensure full and proper network connections for all approved and installed renewable energy facilities, avoiding wasted generation. • Government buildout of widespread non-proprietary electric vehicle recharging infrastructure. • Supporting and assisting the development of markets for alternative sustainable fuels.

Party	Policies
	• Significant investment in new, publicly owned pumped hydro energy storage, big batteries and other storage technologies in suitable locations to ensure grid stability. • Public investment in, and ownership of, a comprehensive system of storage and transmission networks – including community-owned microgrids – to achieve energy security and reliability from 100% renewable energy. • Cease the burning of wood chips from native forests and from waste for power generation. • Developing and implementing complementary policy measures in collaboration with other governments where possible. Demand • An emphasis in Victoria on demand reduction through energy conservation and efficiency measures across all sectors … Climate Change and Energy Legislation Amendment (Renewable Energy and Storage Targets) Bill 2023 (Legislative Council Hansard, 7 March 2024) This Bill sets the Government's renewable energy targets (see Labor candidate for details) Page 854 (Sarah Mansfield): … we are moving to change the target to 100 per cent renewables by 2030. This is consistent with what we have been calling for for a long time. This is possible. There is emerging research that has shown that Victoria can achieve coal-free electric power generation and possibly 100 per cent renewables by 2028. We acknowledge that, given decades of delay, 100 per cent by 2030 is very ambitious. It will require significant investment, but we believe we must be ambitious when setting these targets. That is why we are moving these amendments to this piece of legislation today, and I would encourage all members to support them … (Amendment not passed) Page 854 (Sarah Mansfield, moving alternative amendment after loss of first amendment): … We are disappointed we have not agreed to change the 2030 target to 100 per cent, but we feel that 82 per cent by 2030 is a reasonable compromise. It aligns with the federal government's targets. This amendment would also lift the 2035 target from 95 per cent to 100 per cent, which again we feel is quite reasonable and aligns well with other goals that are being set in other jurisdictions. (Amendment not passed)
Labor	*Energy sector emissions reduction pledge* (released January 2026; see also *Victoria's Climate Change Strategy 2026-30*) Overview of energy sector emissions (page 2) … Emissions from the energy sector have decreased by 35% since 2005, from 84 Mt CO2-e down to 55 Mt CO2-e in 2023 (million tonnes of carbon dioxide-equivalent). This was driven by strong renewable electricity growth, more energy-efficient manufacturing and lower fossil gas use. Reflecting our focus to move away from fossil fuels, energy emissions will continue to fall over the next five years as Victoria advances its transition to renewable electricity, accelerates the switch from gas to electric heating and appliances, and

Party	Policies
	further improves the energy efficiency of homes and businesses … Emissions reduction pledge 2026–30 (page 4) … As we move away from ageing coal-fired power to a diverse mix of renewable energy, we're optimising policy and legislative settings to provide investment certainty, drive innovation and facilitate an inclusive and fair transition. We're planning and coordinating the generation, storage and transmission infrastructure we need to deliver reliable, affordable and safe renewable energy … We're growing an inclusive and diverse energy workforce, ensuring Victoria has the skills and capability to deliver the energy transition. We're identifying the skills and training needed to support Victoria's growing renewable energy workforce and ensuring Victorians benefit from the education, training and job opportunities. Together, the actions in this pledge will drive a significant reduction in emissions across our state over the next five years. With the strong Victorian Government leadership set out in this pledge, it's estimated that these actions will **reduce emissions by 19 Mt CO2-e in 2030**. But our work doesn't end here. Building on our progress and momentum, we'll continue to lead an ambitious and necessary agenda for Victoria's clean energy future. Emissions reduction actions 2026–30 (pages 5-7) Enabling the renewables big build We're leading a historic transition in our energy system – designing one that's fit for the future, resilient and ready to support a thriving low emissions economy and the needs of many generations to come. To keep the lights on and reach our 95% renewable energy target, we're unlocking around 25 GW of new rooftop solar, offshore wind, onshore renewables and energy storage over the next decade. We're powering ahead with our big renewable energy build and creating and maintaining the right conditions for renewables investment. Victoria's renewable energy targets Approximately 25 GW of additional large and small-scale generation and storage capacity is required over the next 10 years. This is estimated to attract $35 billion of private investment and add about $9.5 billion to annual Gross State Product. We've legislated nation-leading targets: • **renewable electricity targets** of 65% by 2030 and 95% by 2035 • **energy storage targets** of at least 2.6 GW of capacity by 2030 and at least 6.3 GW by 2035 • **offshore wind energy targets** of at least 2 GW by 2032, 4 GW by 2035 and 9 GW by 2040. Achieving our ambitious renewable energy targets will drive economic activity across the state through the establishment of new energy industries and more local jobs. Victoria has met every renewable energy target it has set so far. Secure new renewable generation and energy storage capacity The **Victorian Renewable Energy Target (VRET) auctions** – VRET1 in 2017 and VRET2 in 2022, and Bulgana Green Power Hub project – announced in 2017 – were instrumental in achieving investment certainty by granting long-term contracts for

Party	Policies
	new renewable generation projects, including wind, solar and storage projects across Victoria. We are driving new investment in renewable energy and storage projects through the **Victoria-Australian Government Renewable Energy Transformation Agreement (RETA).** The RETA secures at least 11 terawatt-hours (TWh) (or approximately 5 GW) of renewable generation capacity and 1.7 GW of 4-hour equivalent storage to Victoria under the Australian Government's Capacity Investment Scheme. Similarly, the **Renewable Certificate Purchasing Initiative** brought forward investment in two new wind and two new solar farms in Victoria by providing long-term contracts for the purchase of large-scale generation certificates (LGCs). LGCs are tradable products created by eligible large-scale renewable energy power stations in Australia and represent the amount of renewable electricity generated by these facilities. The certificates surrendered to the Clean Energy Regulator have offset 100% of Melbourne's Tram Network electricity use since 2018. VRET projects VRET projects significantly contribute to Victoria's renewable energy targets and lowering grid emissions intensity. VRET1 auction brought forward over $1 billion in investment resulting in over 800 megawatts (MW) of new renewable capacity. VRET2 projects will collectively bring online a further 623 MW of new renewable capacity and deliver up to 365 MW/600MWh of storage, when fully operational. SEC Victoria The Victorian Government has taken the historic step of bringing back the SEC, to put power in the hands of the people. The SEC is a government-owned renewable energy company to accelerate investment in renewables. It has been allocated an initial $1 billion investment towards delivering 4.5 GW of new renewable generation and storage projects by 2035. The SEC will continue to develop options for future investment in long-duration energy storage projects to help maintain renewable energy supply and allow greater uptake of renewables into our energy system. In 2025, we announced that the SEC will now retail to government, supplying 100% renewable electricity to power government sites including schools, hospitals, offices, trains, trams and water corporations since July 2025. The SEC will expand its retail offer to provide competitive, 100% renewable electricity retail solutions for medium and large businesses. It will also offer demand management and behind-the-meter solutions to reduce reliance on the grid and help businesses meet their emissions-reduction goals. SEC projects To date, the SEC has invested in 819 MW of new generation and storage capacity – almost 20% of its 2035 target – including the Melbourne Renewable Energy Hub and SEC Renewable Energy Park in Horsham. Together, these projects will deliver enough energy to power around 250,000 homes and create more than 400 jobs during peak construction. A planned and orderly transmission network The **Victorian Transmission Plan** is a long-term strategy for modernising the electricity grid. It ensures we build energy infrastructure where it's needed –

Party	Policies
	delivering reliable and affordable energy – and that the benefits are shared among landholders and local communities. We've established **VicGrid** to facilitate the timely delivery of new transmission and optimise existing grid infrastructure via the $480 million **Renewable Energy Zone Fund**. Improve planning and approval processes for renewable energy projects We're streamlining planning and approval processes for timely outcomes and investment certainty, with robust community engagement and consideration of social, environmental and economic impacts in renewable energy projects. We have enhanced planning and accelerated approval processes in several ways: • The **Biodiversity Planning Guidelines** and a **Renewable Energy Development Handbook** in May 2025. • The **Development Facilitation Program** (DFP) in March 2024 to give renewable energy projects an accelerated planning pathway. Since then, 17 projects have been approved, totalling $4.6 billion in investment and securing 1.3 GW of new generation capacity and 3.2 GW of new storage capacity. • Making the **Environmental Effects Statement** (EES) process more efficient and transparent, providing investors with an outcome in 18 months or less. Support the self-determination of Traditional Owners and First Peoples As we transition to net zero, we remain committed to a fair and inclusive transition that supports the self-determining rights of Traditional Owners and First Peoples. We're putting Traditional Owners and First Peoples at the centre of decision-making processes for issues and opportunities that directly affect them, and ensuring there are opportunities to benefit from renewable energy development. The **First Peoples' Adoption of Renewable Energy Program** provided $960,000 to build greater capacity and capability in Traditional Owner Corporations and their communities to engage the renewable energy sector in an empowered and self-determined way. To date, 11 formally-recognised Traditional Owner Corporations have been awarded funding for projects including developing a renewable energy statement and dedicated staff to lead on renewable energy initiatives. Managing the transition away from fossil fuels (page 11) … Close coal-fired generation We're providing market certainty for new renewable investment with agreed closure timelines for coal assets. Under a transition agreement, **Yallourn Power Station** will close in 2028, four years earlier than originally scheduled. We have also made a transition agreement with **Loy Yang A Power Station**, to close in 2035. This certainty will help secure investment for replacement renewables and energy storage … Transition heavy industry to renewable alternatives The **Energy Innovation Fund** (EIF) supports commercialising innovative, emerging and transformational renewable energy technologies and projects. The first EIF round of grants was dedicated to offshore wind and the second round to renewable technology supporting Victoria's net zero transition. The third EIF round was launched on 25 June 2025 with $10 million for industrial electrification projects focused on food and beverage processing and manufacturing.

Party	Policies
	We know electrification isn't commercially or technically feasible for all industrial uses. For the heavy industry and gas-powered generation sectors, which account for around 40% of our gas consumption, cost-competitive renewable gases like biomethane and renewable hydrogen will be critical to transition away from fossil gas. In addition to energy efficiency and electrification the Gas Substitution Roadmap highlights the need for a **thriving gas sector** to meet legislated emissions reduction targets. That's why we're supporting renewable gas. We have led public consultation on the **Industrial Renewable Gas Guarantee** and are engaging with the Commonwealth and states and territories to drive investment and scale-up renewable gas production. A new renewable gas industry will reduce emissions and offer new job opportunities across Victoria, particularly in regional areas. We continue to collaborate with the Australian Government and other states and territories to implement the **2024 National Hydrogen Strategy**. Victoria is leading the National Hydrogen First Responders training project which will be critical for the safe operation of hydrogen technology at scale. NB See also sections on Electrifying government operations (page 11) and Creating and supporting new energy jobs (page 12) [NOTE: The renewable energy targets were legislated in March 2026; see Climate Change and Energy Legislation Amendment (Renewable Energy and Storage Targets) Act 2024] *2025 Victorian Transmission Plan* (August 2025) Message from the Minister (page 9) … We recognise the strength of feeling in some sections of the community who remain concerned about the development of renewable energy projects and transmission infrastructure, and we are committed to understanding and addressing impacts on host communities and ensuring the benefits and opportunities of the energy transition are shared more fairly. The plan attempts to minimise the area of Victoria required for renewable energy zones and the new transmission infrastructure needed, while also providing project developers and investors with sufficient opportunity to generate the energy we need to power homes, farms, schools, businesses, hospitals and other essential services. Without the plan, we couldn't connect new renewables to the grid, pushing up energy bills, leaving our industry, businesses and homes without secure power, and ultimately costing our economy $9.6 billion … Executive summary (pages 10 – 23) This is our first Victorian Transmission Plan (VTP) – a long-term plan for renewable energy zones (REZs) and transmission to ensure we have the right infrastructure in the right place at the right time to support the transition to renewables … The VTP is a new approach to planning that considers important factors, including land use, environmental impacts, and community views, much earlier in the process. This aims to minimise negative impacts to regional communities, landholders and rights holders, keep costs low for consumers and give industry the certainty it needs to invest in the renewable energy Victoria requires for the future …

Party	Policies
	The VTP sets out the plan for Victoria's renewable energy zones and the transmission infrastructure required to enable an orderly energy transition. The 2025 VTP is a long-term plan based on a future energy mix that responds to changing needs as coal-fired power stations close, meets growing demand from new sources such as data centres, clean fuel production and electric vehicles and meets Victoria's targets for renewable generation, storage and offshore wind … Since the draft 2025 VTP, we have … estimated a range of energy we need across different technology types. VicGrid has considered different scenarios for future energy use, including where demand for energy increases at anticipated levels in line with AEMO's national step change trends (scenario 1), and also a future where energy-intensive industries, such as data centres, hydrogen production or green aluminium, are developed in Victoria and demand is significantly higher (scenario 2). The draft VTP presented modelled estimates aligned to scenario 1. The actual generation in each renewable energy zone determined by an allocation process could be different to the modelled generation in scenario 1. Therefore, we have provided a range from scenario 1 and scenario 2 in the final VTP to reflect that there are many plausible and different possible futures for Victoria's energy landscape. Additional renewable generation capacity in our plan By 2040, we are planning for: • 5.7 - 9.6 GW of new onshore wind • 9 GW of new offshore wind • 2.3 - 8.9 GW of new utility-scale solar • 4.8- 7.7 GW of new short and long duration (utility) storage capacity These figures include new capacity from already committed projects across Victoria and the additional new generation capacity that we are planning for by 2040. The ranges shown represent the differences between the generation modelled under different planning scenarios. These modelled figures are not caps on the generation that will actually be built. VicGrid's proposed new access regime will set caps for generation in each renewable energy zone … The VTP sets out: • Proposed renewable energy zones, which are areas identified as most suitable to host new onshore renewable generation and storage … • Proposed new transmission investments required in the next 15 years to support renewable energy zone development and deliver network security and reliability … • A proposed renewable energy zone on Gippsland's shoreline, which is needed to support offshore wind connection assets … Our plan for renewable energy zones … We have identified 6 proposed renewable energy zones for Victoria: Central Highlands, Central North, Gippsland, the North West, the South West and the Western. In total, the proposed renewable energy zones cover 7.9% of Victoria's land area. There is a tradeoff between smaller zones with more concentrated infrastructure development, and larger zones that affect a wider area but result in

Party	Policies
	less concentrated development within each zone. Based on feedback received and our assessment of different land use considerations, we have kept the area covered by the proposed renewable energy zones as small as possible … Long and short duration storage is also a key part of Victoria's energy future and the VTP has planned for 5.1 GW under scenario 1, 4.8 GW under scenario 2 and 7.7 GW under scenario 3, comprising in service, committed and new entrant capacity. Rooftop solar, consumer energy resources and gas powered generation will continue to play important roles under all scenarios … What will the renewable energy zones mean for me? Regional communities, landholders and Traditional Owners Introducing renewable energy zones will shape how renewable energy development occurs in Victoria. This will have different impacts for regional communities and landholders, Traditional Owners and First Peoples and industry … Project proponents will need to negotiate with landholders for rights to develop projects on their land and a landholder has a right to say no to having new renewable generation on their property … Traditional Owners are distinct rights holders to Country and Sea Country and these rights must be upheld. We are committed to working together with Traditional Owners and First Peoples in a way that is grounded in respect and enables self-determination and shared benefits … Industry, generation and storage project developers Responsible project developers will be critical to the success of the renewable energy zones. VicGrid is introducing reforms that will give generators within renewable energy zones greater certainty over their ability to get their energy to market … Our plan for transmission infrastructure investments The VTP sets out 7 programs of transmission infrastructure investments to be implemented by 2040 to enable the development of renewable energy zones and offshore wind … Our proposed plan for transmission has been carefully chosen to deliver a path forward that keeps costs as low as possible for Victorians while providing flexibility to adapt to changing energy needs in the future. Transmission programs may be altered, added or removed as the energy transition and demand evolves over time. We have prioritised rebuilding and upgrading existing transmission lines where possible, while recognising the impact that these rebuilds have on local communities. In this VTP, we are proposing 4 new transmission projects across 3 programs: • a second radial line and tie in loop in Gippsland to facilitate offshore wind, • a new line between Sydenham and Tarrone, • a new line between Truganina and Deer Park, and • an additional short line between Hazelwood and Yallourn. The remaining projects across the 7 programs range from augmentations within existing terminal stations to significant reconstruction of existing transmission lines. The 7 priority programs below describe what is needed over and above existing transmission projects that are already under development across Victoria. Marinus

Party	Policies
	Link Stage 1, Victoria to New South Wales Interconnector West, Western Renewables Link, and the transmission infrastructure required for the first 2 GW of offshore wind in Gippsland have all been factored in as inputs to the 2025 VTP. • Western Victoria reinforcement program - A collection of network augmentations and upgrades of existing infrastructure … • Eastern Victoria reinforcement program - A suite of network augmentations and upgrades of existing infrastructure, as well as an additional line between Hazelwood and Yallourn … • North West strengthening program - Replacement of sections of the existing single circuit transmission with a new high capacity double circuit line … • South West expansion program - A new double circuit 500 kV line and associated works in South West Victoria … • Gippsland offshore wind transmission stage 2 program - A new transmission loop to support offshore wind … • Latrobe Valley strengthening program - New power flow controllers and dynamic load rating devices in the Latrobe Valley … • Offshore wind upgrade - Uprating of existing lines from Heywood to Portland. Benefits of the VTP … Our analysis has considered what would happen if the 7 programs are delivered and compared this to a future they are not delivered … This analysis shows that the economic benefits of delivering the priority transmission programs exceed the costs by a considerable margin. Replacing Victoria's ageing, emissions-intensive power stations is complex and requires significant investment. Delivering the VTP's priority transmission projects provides Victorian communities, landholders, industry and infrastructure investors with a clear pathway that delivers more affordable, reliable, secure and sustainable outcomes for all Victorians. Next steps for VTP transmission projects With the release of the 2025 VTP, VicGrid will begin detailed planning for the transmission projects under each priority program. There will be further opportunities for consultation as these transmission projects are planned and developed … Planning for offshore wind connections The 2025 VTP process takes into account the planning that is already under way to develop offshore wind in Victoria. The Australian Government has declared 2 offshore wind areas in Victoria, off the coast of Gippsland and in the Southern Ocean off the coast of South West Victoria. Planning is most advanced in Gippsland, and the next step is to set out suitable shoreline locations for offshore wind developers to connect their infrastructure to the grid … The proposed Gippsland Shoreline Renewable Energy Zone … is different to the 6 proposed renewable energy zones we have identified to host onshore wind and solar generation. It sets out a designated area for offshore wind developers to site their onshore connection infrastructure. It is not designed to host new onshore generation such as wind turbines and solar farms. The offshore wind turbines themselves will be hosted in Commonwealth waters off the coast of Victoria. The boundaries of the proposed shoreline renewable energy zone reflect a range of factors. This includes technical considerations around shore crossings for offshore wind cables to support the first 2 GW of offshore wind energy, underground cable routes to the Giffard connection hub, as well as the exclusion of towns,

Party	Policies
	environmentally and culturally sensitive areas such as waterways and wetlands, and minimising crossings of major roads such as the South Gippsland Highway … Next steps for the proposed Gippsland Shoreline Renewable Energy Zone After the release of this 2025 VTP, the Victorian Minister for Energy and Resources can proceed with the renewable energy zone declaration process, culminating in a formal declaration of the proposed Gippsland Shoreline Renewable Energy Zone. The declaration process will include opportunity for further consultation … The role of other technologies in supporting wind and solar generation (page 60) Several other technologies will be needed over the next 15 years to complement renewables and ensure we maintain a reliable and secure energy mix: Energy firming technologies Batteries and long duration storage such as pumped hydro will have an important role in helping balance variable renewable output from wind and solar to meet demand – known as firming. By 2035, our projected energy mix under scenario 1 includes a total of 7.5 GW of storage capacity, including 5.0 GW of utility short and long-duration storage and 2.5 GW of distributed storage. By 2040, storage capacity increases to 9.8 GW, including 5.1 GW of utility short and long duration storage and 4.7 GW of distributed storage, supported by 3.1 GW of gas-fired power generation to meet periods of peak demand or low renewables output. Interconnectors Under our plan, interconnectors such as Victoria to New South Wales Interconnector West (VNI West) and Marinus Link will provide Victoria access to additional diverse renewables and firming capacity from other National Electricity Market (NEM) regions. Consumer energy resources Household uptake of technologies such as rooftop solar and batteries will help limit the amount of new grid scale generation and storage that's needed. Our projected generation mix for Victoria's grid factors in growth in consumer energy resources in line with the Australian Energy Market Operator's scenarios, which sees up to 16 GW in distributed solar by 2040 … 2027 Victorian Transmission Plan (website, 2 September 2026) … We have started planning for the 2027 Victorian Transmission Plan (VTP) which takes a 25-year view of the state's transmission, renewable energy generation and storage needs. The Victorian Transmission Plan will guide future renewable energy, storage and transmission infrastructure development to help ensure Victorians have reliable and affordable electricity as we transition away from coal. The recently declared renewable energy zones will serve as a basis for the 2027 plan. As part of the proposed methodology, we will look at whether they can meet Victoria's future energy needs and, if required, identify potential locations for further zones. Each time VicGrid updates the Victorian Transmission Plan, we will prepare and consult on new a new set of guidelines for the plan. These are known as the Victorian Transmission Plan Guidelines. They outline the methodology for developing the plan, including different generation, transmission and energy need scenarios …

Party	Policies
	What's different in the 2026 guidelines? The methodology for developing the 2025 Victorian Transmission Plan, as detailed in the 2024 Victorian Transmission Plan guidelines, has been refined in the draft 2026 guidelines. Updates have been made to reflect the following: • Extended planning period – The 2025 Victorian Transmission Plan took a 15-year outlook, while the 2027 plan will take a 25-year outlook. • Declared renewable energy zones – Since the 2025 plan, six renewable energy zones have been declared. Rather than starting with a broader study area assessment, the declared zones will serve as the basis for determining whether new areas are needed for generation and storage. • Changes in the energy market – The constantly evolving energy market means we need updated assumptions about how our energy needs are changing, which includes further consideration of future data centre development. • Feedback and inputs gathered from ongoing engagement with community, industry and Traditional Owners – Our engagement approach will build on these insights and ensure continued engagement throughout the development of the plan. The approach to developing the 2027 plan remains scenario-based and probabilistic, meaning we will consider a range of possible future energy needs and test different outcomes and uncertainties using energy market modelling, power system analysis and strategic land-use analysis … Statement from the Premier on the Western Renewables Link (Media Release, 15 September 2026) … I have ordered an immediate, independent assessment into the costs of the Western Renewables Link. I respect the public's money. This project was planned almost 10 years ago and Victorian consumers deserve updated, transparent costings. If we can save money on the costs of building, we can help reduce the cost of living. The assessment of the Planning Minister and the conclusion of the EES process is one of several steps to go, including State and Commonwealth agency approvals, and Parliament. As it moves along this considered process, Minister Jaclyn Symes has spoken with VicGrid and can reassure the community that no compulsory acquisitions will occur during this time. The assessment will be complete by the end of the year, and its findings will be made public …. "It is not a pause:" Victoria insists transmission plan on track as network denies forced land buys being used (Renew Economy, 17 September 2026) The Victorian government has denied claims that it is backing away from plans to build the Western Renewables Link, saying this week's announcement of a cost reassessment is neither a pause nor a review of the project … in a statement emailed to Renew Economy on Wednesday, a Victorian government spokesperson said "the costs assessment is not a pause and review," and that "the Western Renewables Link is moving ahead and we are delivering it." "[The cost reassessment] is about providing transparency on the value of the project to Victorians," the spokesperson said. "Victoria needs more renewables and transmission to keep the lights on and bills down – and Labor is getting on with delivering both …

Party	Policies
	In a separate statement to Renew Economy, a spokesperson from the WRL said that the project is "focused on supporting landowners and working to reach voluntary agreements wherever possible." The project is also offering farmers and landowners boosted payments for hosting towers and lines, that for some could represent an invaluable second income to support their family businesses and operations … See also: *Final 2026 Victorian Transmission Plan Guidelines* (August 2026) Renewable energy zones (website 5 June 2026) … Where are Victoria's renewable energy zones? The 2025 Victorian Transmission Plan proposed six renewable energy zones and a shoreline zone to connect offshore wind projects in Gippsland. The Victorian Government has now declared five of these zones, along with a shoreline zone, with some changes to proposed boundaries …each of Victoria's renewable energy zones below: • South West Renewable Energy Zone • Central Highlands Renewable Energy Zone • Western Renewable Energy Zone • North West Renewable Energy Zone • Gippsland Renewable Energy Zone • Gippsland Shoreline Renewable Energy Zone The Gippsland Shoreline Renewable Energy Zone is different from other renewable energy zones. It is different from other renewable energy zones. It is a defined planning area where offshore wind developers will run underground cables from the shoreline to the electricity grid. The 2025 Victorian Transmission Plan also included a proposed Central North Renewable Energy Zone. This zone has not been declared and there will be another formal round of consultation before it is … Victorian renewable energy target auctions (website 20 April 2026) Victorian Renewable Energy Target auctions - VRET1 and VRET2 The Victorian Renewable Energy Target (VRET) auctions, comprising the VRET1 and VRET2 auctions, have supported over 1.1 gigawatts of new renewable generation and storage capacity, bringing forward over $2 billion in capital investment. The VRET auctions were established to support the achievement of the legislated renewable energy targets of 25% by 2020 and 40% by 2025, respectively. The 2020 and 2025 targets have been achieved, with Victoria successfully achieving a renewable energy generation share of 44.6% in 2025. Under the VRET auction scheme, six projects have been delivered so far, enough to power more than 615,000 Victorian households, with a further two projects currently under construction. Delivered: • Berrybank Wind Farm (180 MW) by Global Power Generation, west of Geelong • Cohuna Solar Farm (34 MW) by Potentia Energy, east of Kerang • Dundonnell Wind Farm (336 MW) by Tilt Renewables, north-east of Warrnambool • Mortlake South Wind Farm (158 MW) by Acciona, south of Mortlake • Winton Solar Farm (99 MW) by Fotowatio Renewable Ventures, east of Benalla • Glenrowan Solar Farm (102 MW) by Pacific Partnerships, south of Wangaratta.

Party	Policies

	Under construction:
	• Horsham Solar Farm (100 MW) and battery (100 MW/200 MWh storage) project
	  ○ Under construction and subsequently acquired by the State Electricity Commission (SEC) and renamed the SEC Renewable Energy Park – Horsham , east of Horsham.
	• Fulham Solar Farm (80 MW) and battery (64 MW/128 MWh storage) project
	  ○ Under construction by Octopus Investments, west of Fulham.
	
	From 1 July 2025, the SEC has been leveraging the operational VRET1 and VRET2 contracts to retail 100% renewable electricity for schools, hospitals and other Victorian Government operations.
	
	Labor Approves Southern Hemisphere's Biggest Wind Farm (Media release 15 October 2026)
	The Carroll Labor Government has approved the largest wind farm in the southern hemisphere. The Warracknabeal Energy Park is set to power up to 1.2 million homes – driving energy bills down. Once complete, the 219-turbine wind farm would deliver more than 1.5 gigawatts of renewable energy – delivering around 11.8 per cent of Victoria's future energy needs.
	The project is expected to create almost 950 jobs during construction, with ongoing local jobs once operational.
	The site will also host a two 300 megawatt battery energy storage system (BESS) to help power homes. The BESS will soak up and store cheap renewable energy during the day that can be pumped back into the grid at times of peak demand – delivering cheaper energy bills and reliable electricity to Victorian homes and businesses.
	The Warracknabeal Energy Park has gone through Victoria's rigorous EES process, including technical studies, community consultation and a public inquiry.
	Victoria has the cheapest power in Australia because Labor has invested in renewables – the cheapest form of energy.
	Projects like this are critical to delivering Victoria's nation-leading renewable energy targets of 65 per cent by 2030 and 95 per cent by 2035 …
	
	Developing offshore wind in Victoria (website 3 July 2026)
	… Offshore wind energy is a new and valuable addition to our energy mix and renewable energy transition. It will help us achieve our renewable energy targets, and be an important part of Victoria's electricity future.
	The first 2 gigawatts of electricity generated by offshore wind could power 1.5 million homes.
	The Victorian Government has a legislated offshore wind energy generation target of 9 GW by 2040 …
	Steps to establishing an offshore wind farm
	Before a wind farm can be built, extensive planning and assessments must be done. While all offshore wind farms will be built in Commonwealth waters, both Australian and Victorian government regulatory approvals are needed to develop an offshore wind project in Victoria.
	1. Declaring areas suitable
	An offshore wind farm can only be built in areas approved by the Australian Government. These are called 'declared areas'.

Party	Policies
	In Victoria, declared areas are in: • Bass Strait off Gippsland • Southern Ocean off western Victoria … 2. The licence process A series of licences is required for the different stages of developing an offshore wind farm … 3. Assessments and approvals All offshore wind farm proposals must undergo a range of assessments and approvals processes under Australian and Victorian Government regulations … Enabling infrastructure To deliver offshore wind energy to Victorian homes we also need to make sure we have the right supporting infrastructure in place … Ports The Victorian Government has chosen the Port of Hastings as the main location for the construction and assembly of offshore wind infrastructure. The proposed Victorian Renewable Energy Terminal (VRET) will be a dedicated facility to receive, assemble, and deliver offshore wind components to offshore wind farms off the Victorian coastline … Transmission VicGrid is responsible for coordinating how offshore wind farms connect to the electricity grid. This includes building the shared transmission line to connect 2 gigawatts (GW) of offshore wind energy to the grid … Offshore Wind Powering Ahead (Media release 26 August 2026) … Australia's first offshore wind auction is now live, creating thousands of new jobs. Minister for Energy and Resources Jaclyn Symes today opened the Request for Proposal process for Victoria's first two gigawatts (GW) of offshore wind. This will provide enough energy to power around 1.5 million homes each year … The auction will close in August 2027, with contracts expected to be awarded in 2028 … Path takes shape for Victoria's off-shore wind (Media release 21 September 2026) Victoria is another step closer to harnessing some of the best offshore wind resources in the world, with the preferred transmission route now identified. The route will connect the first offshore wind projects off the Gippsland coast to Victoria's electricity grid … The milestone follows the launch of Australia's first offshore wind auction last month – which will deliver the first 2 gigawatts of offshore wind, enough to power around 1.5 million homes. Offshore wind is expected to drive more than $20 billion of investment into Victoria, with the first auction alone delivering a $3.1 billion boost to Gippsland communities. The preferred route runs around 60 kilometres between the Loy Yang Power Station switchyard and a proposed new terminal station at Giffard. Around 200 metres wide, it will provide the corridor for shared transmission infrastructure … Offshore Wind Makes Power Cheaper And More Reliable (Media release 4 May 2026)

Party	Policies
	Victoria has some of the best offshore wind conditions in the world, making it the ideal home to the nation's first offshore wind energy industry. To prepare, the Victorian Budget 2026/27 invests $124.5 million to progress activities for the Victorian Renewable Energy Terminal at the Port of Hastings. This funding will progress the Environmental Effects Statement (EES) process for the first heavy-duty port of its kind in Australia. This would allow companies to be able to assemble turbines before taking them offshore to install. The Victorian Renewable Energy Terminal is going through a full EES process, including community consultation. Following planning approvals and environmental assessments, works can then proceed … Batteries and energy storage projects (website 2 September 2025) … By 2035, at least 6.3 GW of new short and long-duration storage will be in place, supported by targeted gas-fired power generation to ensure electricity supply in periods of peak demand and when there is low or no wind and solar generation. Around 7.6 GW of additional rooftop solar and 4.3 GW of distributed storage will be installed, including behind-the-meter batteries, demand-side participation and smaller front-of-meter assets such as neighbourhood batteries … Big batteries Victoria has 12 commissioned large-scale storage systems and 3 in commissioning – with a total output capacity of 1028 MW and storage capacity of more than 1.7 GWh … A further 13 batteries are under construction and 46 batteries have been granted development approval … Neighbourhood batteries Smaller than a big (or utility-scale) battery, but larger than a household battery, neighbourhood batteries can soak up cheap, renewable energy from rooftop solar during the day and feed it back into the community or the organisations they are connected to, when power usage is high. The Victorian Government has supported neighbourhood batteries through the 100 Neighbourhood Batteries program and Neighbourhood Battery Initiative … Victorian Government support for energy storage Victorian Big Battery Opened in 2021, the 300 MW/450 MWh Victorian Big Battery is one of the largest batteries in Australia … Terang Battery Energy Storage System As a part of the Victorian Government's Energy Innovation Fund, a 100 MW/200 MWh battery with grid forming inverters is being constructed at Terang … Wooreen Battery Through the Victorian Government's agreement to support EnergyAustralia in the transition of the Yallourn Power Station, EnergyAustralia is constructing the 350 MW, four-hour Wooreen Battery, to be delivered in 2027 ahead of the closure of Yallourn. Bulgana Green Power Hub In December 2017, the Victorian Government signed a 15-year support agreement with Neoen Australia to deliver the Bulgana Green Power Hub - a 20 MW battery paired with a 200 MW wind farm. Energy Storage Initiative In 2017, the Victorian Government announced a $25 million Energy Storage Initiative … In March 2018, 2 projects in Western Victoria were chosen to be part of The Energy Storage Initiative – one in Ballarat and one in Gannawarra.

Party	Policies
	Construction for the Ballarat and Gannawarra Energy Storage Systems was completed in late 2018. Both batteries began operating over the summer of 2018 and 2019. Ballarat Energy Storage System The Ballarat Energy Storage System is located at the Ballarat Terminal Station in Warrenheip, Victoria. Spotless Sustainability Services lead the construction of the 30 MW/30 MWh battery … Gannawarra Energy Storage System The Gannawarra Energy Storage System is located at the Gannawarra Solar Farm in Wandella, Victoria. The 25 MW/50 MWh battery is a Tesla Powerpack system. It's jointly owned by Edify Energy and Wirsol Energy and operated by Energy Australia … SEC The Victorian Government has brought back the SEC to co-invest with the private sector and speed up the transition to renewables … by investing an initial $1 billion towards building 4.5 GW of new renewable energy generation and storage projects by 2035. This includes the 600 MW/1.6 GwH Melbourne Renewable Energy Hub, and the SEC Renewable Energy Park – Horsham, a 100 MW battery and 119 MW co-located solar farm, which is one of Australia's first 100% publicly owned utility-scale energy projects. Partnership on the Capacity Investment Scheme The Victorian Government has a bilateral Renewable Energy Transformation Agreement (RETA) that sets out allocations under the Commonwealth Capacity Investment Scheme (CIS) for Victorian renewable energy and storage projects. Through the RETA, Victoria has secured support for a minimum 1.7 GW of 4-hour equivalent storage capacity to be awarded via national CIS tenders between 2024 and 2026. Structured Transition Agreements Victoria has Structured Transition Agreements (STAs) in place with the owners of Victoria's largest the coal-fired power stations, Yallourn and Loy Yang A, that will see these assets close in 2028 and 2035, respectively. As part of the Yallourn STA, EnergyAustralia is constructing the 350 MW, four-hour Woorreen Battery to be delivered in 2027, ahead of the closure of the power station … Australian-First Battery In Gippsland (Media release 10 July 2026) Labor is delivering an Australian-first battery in the Latrobe Valley to drive down power prices. The SEC's fourth project, SEC Energy Works near Morwell is a 143-hectare site that will host multiple renewable energy technologies. These technologies will stabilise the grid and help lower power bills for Victorians. The first project is the SEC Compressed Air Battery (SEC CAB), a 20-megawatt closed-loop, compressed CO2 battery. This Australian first technology will be able to hold three times the electricity of a large-scale lithium-ion battery. It will store cheap renewable electricity generated during the day, and release it back into the grid overnight, putting downward pressure on energy prices … The SEC will continue to add projects to the site, expanding renewable energy and storage in the Latrobe Valley … SEC Horsham Powers up for Lower Bills (Media release 11 September 2026)

Party	Policies
	The Carroll Labor Government's SEC Renewable Energy Park in Horsham has connected to Victoria's electricity grid for the first time … The project is now being progressively powered up and tested ahead of full operations in 2027. More than 212,000 solar panels have been installed, alongside new substations, transformers and high-voltage infrastructure. A 100-megawatt, two-hour battery will be installed later this year, storing cheap renewable energy so it can be used when Victorians need it most. Once operational, the solar farm and battery will generate and store enough renewable energy to power more than 51,000 Victorian homes each year … The SEC is publicly owned by Victorians and is investing in the renewable energy and storage needed to replace ageing coal-fired power stations … Victoria-First Big Battery to Power 200,000 Homes (Media Release 17 September 2026) The Victorian Government is backing another big battery to strengthen Victoria's energy grid … as ageing coal-fired power stations retire. The Baranduda Electrical Energy Reserve near Wodonga will deliver 400 megawatts of capacity and store 1.86 gigawatt-hours of energy – enough to power more than 200,000 Victorian homes through the evening peak. The 4.65 hour battery will have the longest storage in the state, consisting of four independent 100-megawatt units, giving it the capacity to supply electricity for longer periods when demand is high … Construction is expected to begin in November and … starts operating in late 2028. State-owned SEC is investing up to $43 million for a stake in the project and has secured 50 per cent of its output through a 15-year agreement. This investment enabled partners Aware Super and Birdwood to deliver the project … Hazelwood Battery Expansion Boosts Gippsland Energy Jobs (Media release 16 October 2026) … Minister for Energy and Resources Jaclyn Symes today announced a key step towards ENGIE's Hazelwood Battery expansion reaching financial close. The Government has declared Hazelwood BESS Line Co Pty Ltd a Declared Transmission System Operator, allowing the project to use existing transmission infrastructure. The expansion will add a 150-megawatt battery with 300 megawatt-hours of storage to the existing battery commissioned in 2023. This will double the site's power capacity to 300 megawatts, with enough combined storage to power 500,000 homes for up to 90 minutes … Neighbourhood batteries (website 22 February 2026) … What is a neighbourhood battery? • A neighbourhood battery is an electricity storage system. It is also known as a community battery or mid-scale battery. • Neighbourhood batteries enable you to generate, store and consume your own renewable energy. • Larger than household solar batteries, and smaller than utility scale battery … 100 Neighbourhood Batteries Program Grants (website 22 February 2026) … Successful projects under the third round of the 100 Neighbourhood Batteries were announced on 20 February 2026. The 10 neighbourhood batteries funded under round 3 brings the program total to 139 neighbourhood batteries.

Party	Policies
	This signals the end of the program with no further funding rounds currently planned … Backing Regional Communities With Battery Power (Media release 23 October 2026) … Minister for Energy and Resources Jaclyn Symes visited Marysville Community Centre to open a new neighbourhood battery and expanded rooftop solar system … Marysville is one of 11 communities benefiting from the Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance's Powering Resilience in the Regions project, backed by the 100 Neighbourhood Batteries program. The project has also installed batteries at council-owned facilities in Pomonal, Trentham, Newborough, Churchill, Bonnie Doon, Castlemaine, Korumburra, Benalla, Bright and Wendouree. These facilities will provide places for residents to access power and support when power supply is disrupted. At Marysville, the 59-kilowatt battery can store 224 kilowatt-hours of electricity. Combined with the centre's solar system, it is expected to save around $3,762 a year over its estimated 10-year life – freeing up money for local services and activities. On Phillip Island, Mondo Power has partnered with Bass Coast Shire Council and Totally Renewable Phillip Island to install seven neighbourhood batteries on council-managed land. A share of the batteries' annual operating income will support local community initiatives. Labor is delivering 139 neighbourhood batteries across 60 council areas, with 80 already installed. Together, they will provide more than 23,000 kilowatt-hours of storage – capturing cheap renewable energy and making it available when it's needed most … Nation-Leading Project Strengthens Grid For Renewables (Media release 2 July 2026) The largest synchronous condenser in Australia has now started operating in Elmhurst. The Ararat Synchronous Condenser will allow an additional 600 megawatts of renewable energy generation to connect to the grid and deliver more reliable power for the west of Victoria. The large spinning machine supports system stability and allows the electricity network to host more renewable energy. It maintains a balance between power generation and consumption, quickly responding to sudden changes in power demand to stabilise the grid … Distributed energy resources (website 12 November 2024) What are distributed energy resources? Many Victorians use distributed energy resources to generate, store, manage and sell their energy. This includes solar panels, home batteries, electric vehicles and controllable air conditioners. The use of distributed energy resources is increasing. It is expected that: • by 2025, solar panels on homes and businesses will deliver up to 60% of our energy demand at times • within the next decade, the energy in small-scale batteries will increase 8-fold • by the mid-2030s, electric vehicle use will increase by more than 1600%.

Party	Policies
	How to access distributed energy resources Renters, community housing tenants, homeowners and rental providers can access subsidies to generate, store, manage and sell their energy. Current subsidies include: • Victorian Energy Upgrades • Solar panels (PV) • Solar hot water • Solar battery • Solar panels for rentals … Opportunities By integrating distributed energy resources into our electricity grid, we can: • lower our emissions and electricity price • have greater energy security and consumer participation. Challenges We are addressing the challenges of connecting distributed energy resources to our old electricity system. This system was designed for a few coal generators, rather than a vast network of small-scale renewables and strong consumer participation. Our vision is to deliver reliable, sustainable and affordable energy services, and a zero emissions, climate ready economy and community … A vision for tomorrow: • Production: Many small power producers • Market: Distributed energy system • Transmission: Modernised infrastructure • Distribution: In both directions • Consumers: Active, participating in the system To achieve our vision, we will focus on: • helping all householders access the benefits of distributed energy resources • driving innovations through place-based initiatives • future-proofing consumer protections for our transforming energy system • supporting business and jobs to harness the opportunities of distributed energy resources • transforming our public and private buildings • preparing our grid for distributed energy resources integration and consumer access to markets. … Consultation - protections for users of distributed energy resources We're looking at whether further consumer protections are needed for distributed energy resource users. We want to understand the potential risks to users and areas for possible reform to ensure users have sufficient protections … Emerging energy technologies (website 5 January 2023) … The department supports emerging energy industries so that Victoria is at the forefront of the transition to clean energy. Marine

Party	Policies
	Marine energy captures energy from ocean waves, tides or currents to generate electricity … Geothermal Heated rocks and underground water bodies generate geothermal energy … Bioenergy … Bioenergy covers a variety of fuels that can be used in power generation, heating systems and/or transport … Bioenergy is likely to expand as a sector in Victoria in the future. Bioenergy is expected to utilise several different feed stocks … Hydroelectricity … Much of Victoria's hydroelectricity potential has been developed. The potential for further growth is thus limited. But there is some potential for small hydro generators on streams and other sites. Pumped Hydro … The Victorian Government has co-funded a pre-feasibility study into renewable energy pumped hydro. The project proposed using the existing mining infrastructure in Bendigo. The final report found the project could be workable and economically viable. Microgrids (website 20 May 2026) … The Victorian Government is supporting and developing microgrids. A microgrid can be thought of as a small 'subset' of the electricity grid that provides energy generation and storage to properties at a local level. They can incorporate renewable energy generation from solar panels or wind turbines as well as battery energy storage. Some microgrids can operate independently of the grid during power outages (also referred to as islanding), which can be particularly helpful for communities in regional and rural settings … The Community Microgrid and Sustainable Energy Program was announced in May 2021 with $9.85 million allocated by the Victorian Government and a further $7.5 million from AusNet Services. It has supported the installation of a mix of solar, batteries and other distributed energy resources for a range of buildings. These include essential service buildings, commercial and industrial buildings and households. The energy back-up systems provide a reliable power supply and build energy-resilient rural communities … In June 2024 $28.6 million was allocated to the construction of the Corryong Islandable Microgrid. Once complete the microgrid will be able to power more than 900 local households and businesses for up to five days … In response to the June and October 2021 major storm events and prolonged power outages, DEECA funded energy resilience design studies in affected towns across Victoria … $7.5 million was allocated for the delivery of energy backup systems across towns … Microgrid demonstration initiative The $10 million microgrid demonstration initiative (MDI) supports the development and implementation of microgrid demonstration projects. These projects address key microgrid sector challenges. They also contribute to the unlocking of the microgrid sector in Victoria. The MDI grant program funding supports statewide microgrid projects. These total over $27 million in value … We Need Data Centres But We Set the Rules (Media release 22 September 2026)

Party	Policies
	… The Carroll Labor Government will require new data centres to: • Power themselves – with their own renewable energy supply • Protect homes and roads – by staying away from residential areas • Pay their way – by giving back to the community These are the strongest, clearest data centre rules in the country … Under our rules: data centres will bring their own renewable energy supply and storage. They'll be required to match new demand with new generation, plus meet connection costs and network upgrades … Our plan is released today, and it supports the Commonwealth's framework for data centres … See also: *Harnessing Victoria's distributed energy resources* (2022) Benefits To Flow From Renewable Projects (Media release 12 June 2026) Labor is setting clear expectations for how renewable energy developers engage and deliver benefits for communities. Minister D'Ambrosio today released the **Community Engagement and Social Value Guidelines** which sets out expectations of renewable energy project developers to engage early and meaningfully with landholders, neighbours and communities and demonstrate how feedback is incorporated into the final project design. The guidelines also set out expectations on how developers support local economic investment, deliver community benefits and put in place clear processes for complaints and dispute resolution …
Liberals	*Our Plan to Deliver for Victorians* (2026) Securing Victoria's economic future (page 13) … Our Ten Year Economic Plan at a glance … • Restore energy security and reduce costs… Affordable and reliable energy (pages 20 – 21) Affordable and reliable energy is fundamental to Victoria's future. From business to households, Victorians need and deserve an energy system that works. As our energy system continues towards renewable sources we must ensure we maintain reliability for households and businesses. Our Plan will manage the transition responsibly. A Liberal and Nationals Government will: • Strengthen the energy network • Establish an Energy Security Requirement for Victoria • Improve grid reliability • Deliver Victorian gas for Victorians An Energy Security Requirement for Victoria We will establish an Energy Security Requirement for Victoria to address the forecast energy shortfall and ensure reliable and affordable power. The Requirement will identify commercial proposals for projects that can deliver energy security, without preferencing or excluding particular sources of energy – it will be technology agnostic. We will support the most efficient, affordable and reliable energy sources to meet our Energy Security Requirement, focusing on delivering low cost outcomes for

Party	Policies
	Victorian households and businesses, especially through more firming capacity for our energy grid. Energy choice for Victorians We will ease cost of living pressure and restore energy choice by scrapping Labor's ban on gas appliances in new homes, addressing concerns about consumer choice and system capacity. Because Victorians should be the ones who choose which appliances best meet their needs in their homes, not government. Victorian gas for Victorians Natural gas has been demonised by Labor for a decade. Only the Liberals and Nationals will back Victorian gas for Victorians. Our Plan will throw open the door for gas exploration, ensuring reliable gas supply for Victoria. And it will support manufacturing, while helping our gas industry to create more local jobs and grow our economy. Urban Solar Parks The Liberals and Nationals will establish new Urban Solar Parks to encourage solar and battery installations on commercial and industrial rooftops in urban areas, to generate renewable power closer to where it is needed. Energy experts say this could supply as much as 25% of demand and reduce the need for transmission lines on our productive farmland. Our Plan is for a balanced, reliable and affordable energy system. Listening to regional communities (page 26) … Repeal Labor's compulsory land acquisition laws We will repeal Labor's new laws that allow farmland to be compulsorily acquired for transmission line projects before environmental and planning approvals, including Environmental Effects Statements (EES), are complete. This will protect farmers' rights, restore fairness, and ensure regional Victorians have a proper voice in decisions affecting their land and livelihoods. A transmission review [**NB See Media release below; policy has changed from review of VNI West to cancellation**] The Policy Institute of Australia estimates that VNI West and other proposed transmission lines could add $600 per year to Victorian's power bills. VNI West was originally supposed to cost $2 billion, has grown to at least $7.6 billion and could blow out as high as $11 billion or more. Under Our Plan, VNI West and Western Renewables Link will be halted while a transmission review is undertaken and alternative options, such as the Victorian Energy Policy Centre's "Plan B" option, are properly considered. The review will also consider Renewable Energy Zones and will ensure sharp cost benefit analysis to guarantee bill payers' money is not wasted. Reinstate VCAT appeals

Party	Policies
	We will restore the right of affected landholders to appeal major planning and infrastructure decisions to VCAT. Labor's laws have stripped landholders of this right, and we will overturn that decision. This will ensure landholders and regional communities are not shut out of decisions that directly impact their land and livelihoods, restoring a fair, independent avenue of review – an effective "third umpire" – when major projects are imposed on them. Bring back 2km buffer zones for wind turbines Sensible 2km buffer zones will be brought back so wind turbines cannot be built close to people's homes. This will ensure regional communities are properly protected from the negative impacts of large-scale renewable infrastructure, while providing clearer and fairer planning rules for landholders and developers. We will stand with regional communities against unfair government farm access laws. Investing in the regions (page 28) … The Liberals and Nationals will conduct audits of Victoria's agricultural land to identify and protect the state's best farming country. This will ensure prime dairy, cropping and grazing land is not unnecessarily lost, fragmented or compromised by poorly planned development, including transmission line projects and other large-scale infrastructure. The aim is to safeguard productive farmland for future generations and strengthen long-term food security … See also: *Our Ten Year Plan to secure Victoria's economic future* (May 2026) More Gas, Fewer Poles and Wires – Our Plan to Keep the Lights on and Prices Low (Media release 19 August 2026) A future Liberal and Nationals Government will keep the lights on and prices low by throwing open the door to new gas supplies and **cancelling Labor's botched VNI West project**. Only a Liberal and Nationals Government will value prime agricultural land and the livelihood of farmers and regional communities equally with our urban centres … Labor's proposed solution - VNI West - has blown out from an initial cost of $2 billion to as much as $11 billion and, together with other transmission lines, will add more than $600 a year more on Victorians energy bills. Worse still, it won't be ready for the expected closure of Yallourn as was originally intended leaving Victorians without a secure energy supply. A future Liberal and Nationals Government will not waste billions on a project that won't help keep the lights on and will cancel VNI West … A future Liberal and Nationals Government will: • Scrap Labor's gas ban and restore energy choice for households and businesses • Throw open the doors to new conventional gas projects • Establish an Energy Security Requirement to underpin new firm generation, to be led by new gas-fired generation • Repeal Labor's divisive compulsory acquisition powers and fines for farmers who refuse access to their land therefore protecting private property rights; and • Introduce new urban solar parks to encourage solar and battery installations on commercial and industrial rooftops …

Party	Policies
	Climate Change and Energy Legislation Amendment (Renewable Energy and Storage Targets) Bill 2023 (Legislative Council Hansard, 7 March 2024) This Bill sets the Government's renewable energy targets (see Labor candidate for details) Page 856: Liberal Councillors voted in favour of the third reading motion (i.e. final vote to pass the Bill)
One Nation	*The Real Deal for Victoria* (Policy Platform, October 2026) Cheaper Energy (pages 36 – 37) Power Bills Victoria is an energy-rich state sitting on coal, gas and uranium, yet too many families cannot afford to turn the heater on. That is a policy failure, not a resource problem: net-zero ideology and the decision to send Victorian gas interstate and overseas while households here pay the price. What we will do: • Scrap all net-zero targets and subsidies. Energy policy will be judged on price, reliability and what is best for Victorian families and industry, not on ideology. • Cancel VNI West, WRL and other multi-billion-dollar large-scale transmission projects driven by the net-zero agenda. These projects drive up network charges on every power bill, lock in higher system costs, damage productive farmland and regional communities, and are unnecessary when Victoria prioritises reliable local generation and existing transmission infrastructure. • Provide long-term industry security to encourage investment into upgrading coal power infrastructure. • Give Victorian household and industrial demand first call on Victorian gas. Genuine surplus can still be exported. We will not run a rigid reservation that damages local producers who mainly supply the domestic market. The principle is simple: Victorians come first. • Price discipline: the price paid by Victorian users should not be higher than the export price … Nuclear Energy Victoria's nuclear ban is outdated, ideological, and blocks the state from even considering one of the most reliable forms of baseload power. Australia has more than a quarter of the world's known uranium reserves, yet Victorian law still forbids the use of nuclear technology. One Nation will change that. What we will do: • Repeal the Nuclear Activities (Prohibitions) Act 1983. • End Victoria's state ban on nuclear energy so the state can consider modern nuclear technology as part of a proper, technology-neutral energy mix. Reliable, affordable power should not be ruled out by a four-decade-old prohibition. Data Centres and Big Battery Storage (pages 58 – 59) Victoria is seeing a rush of large data centres and battery storage proposals. Data centres draw heavy power and cooling water. Large batteries raise fire and amenity questions when they sit near homes … What we will do:

Party	Policies
	• Ban new data centres and large battery storage on prime agricultural land. Food-producing land is not a dumping ground for power-hungry industrial sites and batteries. • Assess community impact before a major project proceeds … and publish the assessment. • Require genuine community consultation before approval near homes … • No retrospective carve-outs … A buffer announced after the application is lodged is not a buffer. • Protect residential amenity with siting rules and buffers from homes. Site large batteries to fire-service standards, not developer convenience … • Align this with farmland protection: no compulsory acquisition for industrial energy sprawl that treats regional Victoria as spare dirt … Protecting Farmland and sensitive land (page 60) … the best agricultural land, water catchments and high-risk areas are being opened up to industrial solar, wind, battery, and transmission projects. At the same time, the Labor government has stripped landholders of the basic right to control access to their own property and given energy companies expanded powers to enter land and seek compulsory acquisition. What we will do: • Ban industrial solar, wind, battery storage and transmission projects on land that is in a domestic water catchment supply area, irrigated, flood prone or bushfire prone. • Require full rehabilitation bonds on every energy project so the cost of decommissioning falls on the proponent, not the landholder or the taxpayer. • Cancel wasteful spending on unnecessarily expensive new transmission line upgrades. • Disband the Western Renewable Energy Zone and remove its compulsory acquisition powers. • Reverse Labor's changes that allow energy companies and government agencies to access private land without the landholder's consent. • Classify large-scale wind and solar projects as industrial developments, not rural ones. They must meet industrial fire safety standards and attract land tax rates that reflect their industrial character … Battery Farms, Net Zero and the Future of Regional Australia (One Nation Victoria, News website, 25 May 2026) … The uncomfortable reality is that net zero ideology has become untouchable in modern politics … Reliable baseload power built modern Australia. Coal-fired generation delivered affordable electricity that allowed manufacturing, farming, industry and households to thrive for decades. That is why High Efficiency, Low Emissions (HELE) coal-fired power stations continue to be discussed globally as a more practical alternative to rapid renewable overhauls. HELE technology is designed to reduce emissions compared to older coal plants while maintaining the reliability required to support industry and stable electricity grids. Critics dismiss coal entirely. But many Australians are beginning to question whether dismantling reliable baseload power before viable alternatives exist has placed ideology ahead of practicality …

Party	Policies
	One Nation commits to coal-fired power at Gippsland's Loy Yang and lifting Victoria's nuclear ban (ABC News, 31 August 2026) One Nation has promised to keep Victoria's largest coal plant running and lift the ban on nuclear energy if it is successful at November's state election. One Nation leader Pauline Hanson and state leader Warren Pickering today travelled to the Latrobe Valley, east of Melbourne, to announce the party's Victorian energy policy. The pair made the announcement at the Loy Yang A power station, which Mr Pickering said the party would not allow to close in 2035 as planned. The party blames the decline of coal on government policy, which it says has discouraged plant owners from conducting maintenance …
Animal Justice	*Energy Policy* (website, accessed 27 October 2026) The Animal Justice Party (AJP) Climate Emergency Policy supports any clean energy source because the consequences to all animals of further climate destabilisation will be dire (see climate change fact sheet). But not all clean energy sources are equal in their animal impacts. Further research is required into viable and sustainable options. **Key Objectives** 1. Including the impact on animals and the environment in the selection criteria for all energy sources. 2. Rapidly transition to a carbon-free energy infrastructure, using known clean technologies in the most ecologically and animal friendly mix. Rapidly in this case means 15 to 20 years. 3. Investing in development of new clean animal-friendly energy technologies. 4. Implementing a climate tax on both the fossil fuels and animal agriculture industries, using the principle that the polluter pays. 5. For more information refer to our Climate Emergency Policy. **Background** AJP is concerned about the reliance on fossil fuel energy sources in Australia. These have been scientifically proven to contribute to climate change. While we recognise that humans rely on energy in their daily lives, we seek a solution that is not only sustainable but also considers the lives of other animals. Energy production is a major source of greenhouse gases. Alarmingly, Australia has the highest per capita emissions in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), with 25 tonnes of greenhouse gases being emitted per person every year. Australia has committed to reducing emissions by 5 percent from 2000 levels by 2020 in line with The Paris Agreement (2015). Electrical energy generates a disproportionate amount of greenhouse gases but all fossil fuels have to be eliminated. In 2017, despite our commitment to the Paris Agreement, emissions increased by 0.8 per cent, the third consecutive year with an increase in emissions. It is clear that our current energy systems and strategies are failing. While clean energy and renewables are often put forward as the solution, these terms are somewhat misleading as all energy harvesting technologies generate pollutants during their

Party	Policies
	life-cycles. Renewables, for example, require considerably more mining than nuclear. The mining requirements of renewables increase still further if mining for battery or other storage technologies is included. Understanding the full consequences of energy production systems is necessary for meeting demand while also safeguarding the ecological systems on which we depend. Significant losses of global biodiversity and ecosystem services are already occurring as a direct result of increasing climate change. We need systems which simultaneously minimise impacts on animals at a species and individual level, while reducing greenhouse gas emissions rapidly. It's a tough problem. **Fossil Fuels** AJP recognises that fossil fuels, including coal and natural gas, cannot and will not be part of any final clean energy solution to climate change. Roughly speaking, if a technology isn't 95 percent cleaner than coal, then it can't be part of a long term solution. Natural gas is neither sustainable nor clean enough. It makes no sense to transition to natural gas only to have to replace it with something better in the near future. **Biofuels** Compared with oil based fuels, biofuels reduce transport emissions or carbon dioxide by approximately 74 percent. This is not clean enough as a long term solution. Furthermore, biofuels require large amounts of what should be wildlife habitat. As it is a core AJP goal to maximise land available for wildlife by minimising our own land use, biofuels do not present as a viable option. **Renewables and objectivity** While it is enticing to think that natural elements may be the way of the future, this is not a straightforward solution. While sun and wind are renewable, the resources used to harvest them are not. These include land, battery chemicals, steel, concrete and a range of rare-earth metals. All have an impact on animals and need serious consideration. The AJPs focus on animals means we cannot ignore any adverse impacts on them. Most renewable energy comes from either flooding river valleys or the burning of forests or crops for biofuels. Wind power is also not benign, with US wind farms killing between 600,000 and 880,000 bats a year in addition to half a million birds. Solar has the least adverse consequences of the renewable options currently available. Globally, hydroelectric reservoirs have flooded 34 million hectares of land to date. Despite this devastation, over 3,700 large (>1MW) dams are planned or under construction, many in the Amazon basin, South East Asia and Africa. If we are to protect the environment and its inhabitants, hydroelectricity cannot be expanded further in Australia. Forests are now labelled as renewable energy, stripping them of protection. The largest coal fired power plant in the UK, for example, has been converted to run on wood pellets. That single power station burns through almost 6.5 million tonnes per year. At best this requires the continuous logging of some 6,800 square kilometers of forest. At present this wood is coming mainly from forests in the US

Party	Policies
	and Canada via very large tankers burning very dirty oil. The transportation fuel emission costs aren't even close to being clean enough to make this renewable energy part of a clean energy future. It is clear that solving our energy problem without increasing impacts on wildlife and habitat will take careful planning and clear thinking.
Tom Ward Independent for Eildon	Energy and Electrification policy (website, accessed 28 October 2026) • A community-owned virtual power plant for the electorate, with earnings shared back to members. • Community batteries and microgrids in end-of-line towns. • A way in for renters to buy a community solar or battery share. • Agrivoltaics and on-farm generation.
End Mass Immigration	
Family First	Energy Policy (website, accessed 28 September 2026) … Family First believes in a common sense approach to our energy mix utilising coal, gas and nuclear to ensure affordable, secure and reliable power. Family First will ensure Australia's energy needs are met by … • Abolishing renewable subsidies … • Protecting the environment by banning all subsidised wind and solar on agricultural land, native forest or virgin land • Green lighting the development of nuclear power • Keeping all remaining coal fired power stations open and operational; • Restoring and reopening closed coal fired power stations using new high efficiency technology where possible …
Freedom	
Legalise Cannabis	
Libertarians	Energy Policy (website, accessed 27 October 2026) • **Establish – as far as is possible under the current national system – a true free market in energy**. Eliminate all government intervention into and ownership of energy sources. • **Make Victorian net-zero initiatives voluntary**. The Libertarian Party of Victoria supports the following measures: a. Eliminate Victorian legislation that prevents the development of efficient low-carbon energy technologies; b. Allow Victorian businesses to publish their carbon emissions if they so wish; and c. Allow Victorian businesses to engage in voluntary carbon-trading schemes. • **Eliminate Victoria's ban on nuclear power by repealing the Nuclear Activities (Prohibitions) Act 1983 (Vic).** The Libertarian Party of Victoria supports the repeal of the Commonwealth bans on nuclear power, after which Victoria must permit the licensing of modern nuclear power plants in accordance with international best practice.

Party	Policies
	• **Recalibrate the regulatory environment for coal, oil, uranium, and natural gas.** The Libertarian Party of Victoria supports allowing all coal, oil, uranium, and natural gas projects. • **Eliminate energy-sector subsidies**. The Libertarian Party of Victoria supports discontinuing all subsidy programs, whether they are for renewable or non-renewable forms of energy. • **Streamline the process by which energy infrastructure projects can be approved.** The Libertarian Party of Victoria supports the following reforms: a. encouraging the Australian Energy Market Operator and the National Engineering Register to streamline their technical and environmental approval system; b. encouraging the Australian Energy Market Operator and energy service providers to work with investors to establish more reasonable (and binding) turn-around times on all responses to investors and other stakeholders; and c. encouraging the National Engineering Register to establish a separate workstream for non-controversial Victorian projects. • **Rationalise the obligations imposed on energy producers**. The Libertarian Party of Victoria supports abolishing both Victoria's current ad hoc regulatory regime in favour of the national regime (the National Energy Customer Framework) and Victoria's unique energy certificates scheme (the Victorian Energy Efficiency Certificates scheme). This will reduce the licensing and energy efficiency requirements for participants in Victoria's energy market, will allow current suppliers to improve their efficiency, and will increase the number of suppliers who can compete in the energy market, therefore making the Victorian energy sector more competitive. Energy Policy Briefing (website, accessed 28 October 2026) Unleash nuclear power. Repeal the nuclear ban immediately. Let Victoria build modern, safe nuclear plant that will deliver cheap electricity for generations. Unlock Victoria's natural resources. Stop strangling coal, gas, and uranium development with endless red tape. Let the market decide which energy sources work best, not politicians playing favourites. End all energy subsidies. Let companies compete on merit, not political connections. Slash energy regulations. Eliminate the maze of bureaucracy that makes energy infrastructure impossible to build. Make net-zero voluntary. Stop forcing families and businesses to meet arbitrary emission targets. Government shouldn't pick winners and losers based on environmental activism.
Shooters Fishers Farmers	
Socialist Alliance	
Sustainable Australia	

Party	Policies
Victorian Socialists	Make Power Affordable and Sustainable (Policies webpage, 2026) … What we think • Energy is an essential service. Like water, housing and healthcare, it cannot be treated as a commodity to be bought and sold for profit. Energy must be publicly owned, democratically controlled and run in the interests of the whole community … • The transition to renewable energy is both an environmental necessity with public ownership the mechanism that makes the renewable dividend universal. • Energy production and distribution must transition fully and as rapidly as possible away from fossil fuels. We'll fight to … • Take Victoria's energy infrastructure back into public ownership, beginning with distribution networks and progressively extending to generation and retail, with no compensation paid to shareholders for assets whose value was built on privatised public infrastructure. • Establish a publicly owned, not-for-profit energy operator responsible for all aspects of energy provision with a charter mandating energy security, affordability, democratic accountability and the full transition to renewable energy. • Accelerate the transition to a 100 percent renewable energy grid, with major public investment in offshore wind, utility-scale solar and wind, grid-scale battery storage and pumped hydro as well as exploration of geothermal power. • Develop Victoria's offshore wind industry and local solar panel, wind turbine component and battery manufacturing to supply the domestic renewable transition and create skilled industrial jobs in Victoria. • Fund research into marine and tidal energy, long-duration energy storage, and the viability of green hydrogen for specific industrial applications where electrification is not yet feasible with public investment focused on applications with clear evidence of potential rather than speculative large-scale grid use. • Expand the Neighbourhood Battery Initiative to provide community-scale energy storage across Victoria, prioritising low-income areas and communities with poor grid reliability. • Invest in rooftop solar for all public housing, schools and community facilities, and expand subsidies to support household solar installation for renters and low-income households. Addressing Climate Change and Protecting our Environment (Policies webpage, 2026) … Fossil fuel phase-out • Accelerate the closure of all remaining coal-fired power generation, with Loy Yang A to close no later than 2030 rather than its current scheduled date of 2035, with guaranteed jobs, income support and community investment for all affected workers and regions … • Stop the establishment of a nuclear power industry in the state. Sustainability

Party	Policies
	• No new data centres. Data centres have detrimental environmental footprints, disproportionately high water and electricity demands, and no community benefits to the areas they are placed. • Require existing data centres to meet mandatory standards on water consumption, energy use and renewable energy sourcing, with binding targets and enforceable penalties for non-compliance. • End all planned waste to energy schemes and ban the creation of future waste incinerators. Renewable transition • Urgently construct solar and wind farms and upgrade the power grid with battery storage to enable the quick transition of Victorian homes and businesses to an all-electric, post-gas energy system. • Establish a renewables manufacturing industry (solar photovoltaic, lithium-ion battery and electric vehicles), with guaranteed secure jobs and retraining for workers from the fossil fuel industry … A Fair Go for Rural and Regional Victoria (Policies webpage, 2026) … We'll fight for … • Create publicly owned alternative energy generators serving local communities … • Ensure the Public Energy Operator invests heavily in the rural communities where large-scale green energy is generated so that jobs, infrastructure upgrades and community support acknowledge the contributions rural Victorians make to enable clean energy at scale …

3. Generous support for household electrification

Party	Policies
Greens	End Coal and Gas (Platform, website accessed 12 October 2026) … The Greens will … • Introduce a $3000 Greens Power voucher for renters and homeowners, to spend on solar, batteries, insulation, efficient electric hot water, reverse-cycle air conditioning, induction cooktops and draught-proofing • Fast-track plug-in balcony solar for renters and apartments, deliver free energy assessments for renters, and offer up to $3,000 off electric cars, e-bikes and two-way chargers. • The Greens will invest $500 million in this plan to lower energy bills through Greens Power vouchers, rebates on electric vehicles and free energy assessments for renters. We'll pay for our plans by doubling royalties on coal and gas companies, and making big banks and gambling corporations pay their fair share of tax. Sustainable Homes and Cheaper Energy Bills (Platform website, accessed 21 September 2026) … The Greens have a plan to permanently lower your energy bills and make it easier for everyone to access renewable energy. You'll be able to claim a $1500 voucher (and even more if you're a renter!) to put towards upgrades like solar panels, electric hot water systems, or home insulation. Upgrades like this are already saving people more than $1000 a year on their bills … The Greens are 100% funded by the community. We'll fund more sustainable homes by making big corporations pay their fair share … Greens Power Voucher to permanently lower your energy bills The Greens will save you money through a new Greens Power Voucher scheme, which can be put towards energy efficient appliances and home upgrades. It is worth up to $1500 for owner-occupiers, and $3000 for renters, to make it easier to persuade their landlords to improve the property. The vouchers will be for use on: • Solar panels/batteries for your home • Home insulation • Efficient electric hot water systems • Reverse cycle air conditioning • Induction cooktops • Draught-proofing That's in addition to rebates that are already available through existing schemes. The Greens will commit $500 million to Greens Power Vouchers and free energy assessments for renters. Free energy assessments for renters The Greens' sustainable homes plan includes free accredited in-home assessments of rental homes, to work out the best way to save on your home energy bills, including changes which need your landlord's approval, and the things you can do without approval. Assessments will also check that your rental is compliant with minimum rental standards.

Party	Policies
	Plug-in solar for renters and apartments Across Europe and Asia and parts of America, renters and people living in apartments can plug in a solar and battery system on their balconies, straight into a power point. But despite word-leading home solar uptake, Victoria is yet to develop the planning and safety regulations to make these systems available here. The Greens will fast-track regulations to make Plug-in Balcony Solar Systems a reality in 2027, including laws to give renters rights to install balcony solar. We'll also change planning rules to make new apartment buildings balcony solar ready … See also: Bushfire and Flood Victims Could Sue Coal and Gas Giants for Climate Change Damage Under Victorian Greens' Bill to 'Make Polluters Pay' (Media release 28 September 2026) Energy Policy (website, dated 4 October 2025) Principles … • All households need affordable energy to meet essential needs … Supply … • Boosting small scale renewable energy generation, including the introduction of a fair feed-in tariff and removing barriers to grid connection … Demand • An emphasis in Victoria on demand reduction through energy conservation and efficiency measures across all sectors … • Assistance for consumers to conserve energy and to access affordable and reliable renewable energy. • Establish government-backed loan schemes which enable all households to access energy efficiency upgrades, solar panels and batteries, with repayment deferred until the home is sold. • Assistance for electricity users to reduce summer peak electricity demand and support for vulnerable consumers affected by outages … • Improving and implementing mandatory energy performance standards for buildings. • Mandating compliance with emissions standards and the disclosure of energy performance ratings for buildings prior to construction, refurbishment, sale or lease. • Higher energy efficiency standards for all buildings, with a particular prioritisation of public, not-for-profit and private rental housing, as well as government-owned buildings. • Developing, funding and publicising an energy retrofit strategy for existing buildings … Victorian Greens Secure $40 million for new climate programs. Getting homes and industry off gas (Media release, 24 June 2025) Today the Victorian Government will announce reforms to reduce Victoria's reliance on fossil gas, and help renters live in more comfortable, efficient homes. These reforms were only secured due to negotiations with the Greens, due to their balance of power position in Victoria's Upper House. The Victorian Greens secured over $40 million of climate programs, announced today, including:

Party	Policies
	• New regulations that will require all rental homes, including Victoria's public housing stock, to meet minimum energy efficiency standards with the Greens securing millions to implement the plan. • Mandatory end-of-life replacement for gas hot water appliances. The Greens secured $10 million for industry to transition to manufacturing efficient electrical appliances. • $10 million for food and beverage manufacturers and dairy farms to transition away from gas – creating a step-change in getting industry and manufacturers off gas. • $5 million for on-farm electrification projects, to help farmers reduce their energy bills and emissions through solar panels and electric hot water. • $5 million to expand the Upskilling for Plumbers and Upskilling for Electricians programs to support tradies to be part of the transition away from gas. • $2 million to assist community groups to promote and support residents to electrify their homes. These climate wins show the power of Greens in Parliaments, working to get good outcomes on climate change and housing. The Greens are disappointed that Labor has chosen not to include gas heaters – the biggest gas guzzlers of all – in their list of appliances that must be replaced with efficient electric appliances at the end of their life. This is the Labor Premier Jacinta Allan scaling back ambition on climate action, and is really disappointing to see … Victorian Energy Efficiency Target Amendment (Energy Upgrades for the Future) Bill 2025 (Legislative Council Hansard, 13 May 2025) The Greens voted in favour of this Bill to extend the VEU program's legislated end date from 2030 until 2045, to align with the legislated net zero emissions target.
Labor	*Energy sector emissions reduction pledge* (released January 2026; see also *Victoria's Climate Change Strategy 2026-30*) Empowering households and businesses to lower energy bills (pages 8-10) Reduce the carbon footprint of homes and businesses Since the release of Victoria's last Climate Change Strategy in 2021, we've released the first-in-the-nation **Gas Substitution Roadmap**, to help more households and businesses switch from fossil gas to efficient, electric appliances, and lower their bills long term … Initiatives already in place include: • Gas connection abolishment fees capped at $220 by the Australian Energy Regulator, and ensuring the costs of new connections can't be forced on existing network users. • All new homes requiring a planning permit will be built all-electric. • The minimum thermal star rating for new residential buildings is now 7-stars (National House Energy Rating Scheme) according to the National Construction Code (NCC) 2022. • Strengthened energy-efficiency requirements for homes are estimated to save new homeowners an average of $183 on energy bills each year. Initiatives w*hich will commence soon include:* • From 1 January 2027 all new homes and many new commercial buildings will be built all-electric.

Party	Policies
	• From 1 March 2027, existing homes must replace gas hot water systems at end-of-life with an efficient electric alternative, like a heat pump. • From 1 March 2027, residential rental properties must meet new minimum energy efficiency and electrification standards. • The proposed NCC 2025 will update energy efficiency requirements and mandate solar uptake for new commercial buildings. All-electric homes lower emissions and save on bills New homes Going all-electric on a new home saves around $880 a year, increasing to around $1,820 a year with solar installed. Built today, a new, all-electric home has 6% lower emissions than a dual-fuel (electric and gas) home, saving 0.3 tonnes of CO2-e in the first year. Over 10 years from 2025 to 2035, emissions will be 23% lower, saving 8.2 tonnes of CO2-e. Yearly energy bills for a typical new, all-electric 7-star detached home (without solar) are around $2,070, compared to $2,950 for a dual-fuel home. Existing homes Going all-electric saves households around $1,700 a year, increasing to around $2,000 a year with solar installed. In 2025, converting a dual-fuel home to all electric lowers emissions by 19%, saving 1.3 tonnes of CO2-e in the first year. Over 10 years from 2025 to 2035, emissions will be 38% lower than a new dual-fuel home, saving 21.5 tonnes of CO2-e. By switching to all-electric with solar, households can reduce energy bills by around 60%. Yearly energy bills for residents of an existing detached home are around $3,420, compared to $1,730 after complete electrification. Supporting energy upgrades for Victorian homes and businesses … The **Solar Homes Program** supports Victorian households to reduce their energy bills and emissions with rebates and interest-free loans for rooftop solar and efficient hot water systems. Since launching in 2018, the program has supported over 324,000 rooftop solar systems for owner-occupier homes, rentals, apartments and community housing, and over 70,000 hot water systems. This includes support from the **Residential Electrification Grants Program** for up to 1,775 rooftop solar systems and 720 hot water systems in all-electric homes to eligible households. At 1 July 2025, the Solar Homes Program had reduced emissions in the National Electricity Market (NEM) by an estimated 2.7 Mt CO2-e and installed more than 2.3 GW of new solar generation capacity. To accelerate the switch to efficient electric energy, the **Victorian Energy Upgrades (VEU) program** offers homes and businesses discounts and rebates on a wide range of activities including: • efficient electric appliances for space heating and hot water • electric induction cooktops • weather sealing and window glazing. The VEU also supports business upgrades, including: • commercial and industrial motors, heat pumps and gas efficiency upgrades • bespoke projects like solar or building upgrades. From early 2026, the VEU will re-introduce support for **ceiling insulation**, further lowering energy demand for heating and cooling in Victorian homes.

Party	Policies
	We're reviewing the VEU to ensure it remains effective, inclusive and responsive to our evolving energy needs, and can accelerate the switch to efficient electric energy at scale. Between 2026 and 2030, the VEU program will deliver upgrades that represent appliance lifetime savings around 7.2 Mt CO2-e in Victoria, the equivalent to taking 2.1+ million cars off the road for a year. Benefits of the VEU Program The VEU program is the largest and most comprehensive program of its kind in the country. Since 2009, the VEU program has supported over 2.4 million households and 180,000 businesses to reduce their energy bills and greenhouse gas emissions. VEU energy efficiency upgrades save households around $192 on average on their yearly energy bill, and save small to medium businesses $5,314. Some businesses have saved as much as $74,000 a year on energy costs. The VEU program targets in 2025 and 2026 are expected to create a net present value of more than $1.5 billion in energy system savings. This means bill savings for everyone – with households saving $150 over the next 10 years. Better energy for renters and social housing One-third of Victorians are renters, and they need cost of living help more than anyone right now. That's why from 1 March 2027, nation-leading **minimum energy efficiency standards for rental homes and public housing** will commence in Victoria. Standards will require draught-proofing, efficient shower heads, energy-efficient cooling and heating, and ceiling insulation. Additionally, gas hot water systems at end-of-life must be replaced with efficient electric alternatives. We will accelerate compliance with new minimum energy efficiency standards in public and community housing. We'll also review the exemption for community housing properties in the new rental energy efficiency regulations by December 2026. The **Solar for Community Housing Program** is supporting a clean energy transition for some of Victoria's most vulnerable residents by partnering with community housing providers to install rooftop solar panels to help alleviate cost-of-living pressures for low-income Victorians. The **Energy Efficiency for Social Housing Program** will deliver over 50,000 upgrades across 23,600 properties, including replacing gas appliances with efficient electric alternatives, draught and gap sealing, ceiling insulation, gas disconnections and rooftop solar. The Victorian and Australian governments are contributing $209.4 million through this program and the Australian Government's Social Housing Energy Performance Initiative. In April 2025, the Australian Government announced an additional $120.3 million for Victoria to deliver energy improvements to a further 8,000 public and community housing properties. Helping households to navigate the energy system We're providing simple and accessible information to help Victorians take practical steps to save money on their energy bills, reduce their energy use and switch to efficient electric energy. The SEC's 'one-stop shop' provides trusted, independent advice to help households make electric upgrades to their homes. It offers tailored

Party	Policies

	plans to help households reduce their energy costs and emissions with energy-efficient electric appliances, through a digital platform and over the phone. It uses simple information about the home to estimate upfront costs, annual bill savings, return on investment, availability of government discounts and rebates, and connection to trusted and verified SEC suppliers and installers.
	Over 15,000 households have already used the one-stop-shop pilot, with the tool to be launched statewide in 2026. It's forecast to help over 100,000 Victorian households make electric upgrades to their homes and save on their energy bills over the next 15 years …
	
	Neighbourhood Batteries for community energy storage
	Victoria has rolled out a range of programs to support neighbourhood batteries. The $10.92 million **Neighbourhood Battery Initiative** has supported many neighbourhood battery models in Victoria, from inception to implementation through staged grants. Implementation projects funded in the third and final round of the program are underway, with completion expected in 2025–26.
	The **100 Neighbourhood Batteries Program** is Victoria's flagship community energy program, and supports community-owned renewable energy projects. Round 1 funded 25 batteries, Round 2 funded a further 65 batteries and Round 3 funding will be awarded in early 2026.
	The **First Peoples' Solar and Storage Initiative**, co-funded by the Australian Government, is providing energy generation and storage projects on Country, in partnership with Registered Aboriginal Parties, 14 Aboriginal Controlled Community Organisations and other not-for-profit First Peoples' organisations.
	
	Gas Substitution Road Map (Update 2025)
	Minister's foreword (pages 2-3)
	… in 2026, the Victorian Government will continue the Gas Substitution Roadmap agenda by:
	• Reforming the VEU program by implementing recommendations from the Strategic Review in legislation, which will:
	  ○ Give families and businesses more ways to reduce the up-front costs for efficient electric appliances and bills.
	  ○ Boost consumer awareness and protections by making discounts more transparent.
	  ○ Strengthen consumer protections by providing trusted independent dispute resolution.
	• Examining the frameworks which govern electricity supply upgrades and explore any improvement opportunities.
	• Finalising requirements for gas distribution businesses to process gas connection abolishment requests in certain circumstances, saving households and businesses time and money.
	These actions continue with the Victorian Government's transparent and pragmatic approach to moving Victoria away from gas, slashing bills for families and businesses while meeting our legislated emission reduction targets.
	
	Four years of nation-leading policy action (pages 8-9)
	With the release of the inaugural Gas Substitution Roadmap in 2022, Victoria became the first state in Australia to lay out the path to moving away from fossil gas. Since then, dozens of commitments have been delivered …

Party	Policies
	2025 • **Victorian Energy Upgrades extended** - VEU program legislated end-date extended to 2045 … • New **VEU targets** set - Targets of 4.4 million Victorian Energy Efficiency Certificates in 2026 and 4.6 million Victorian Energy Efficiency Certificates in 2027 are set • **Ceiling insulation** to be re-introduced under VEU - VEU discounts for ceiling insulation due to be available from 2026 in a staged rollout • Expanded **Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards for rental homes** announced - Covering ceiling insulation, efficient shower heads, draught-proofing, cooling and end-of-life electrification of gas heating and hot water introduced, to be phased in from 1 March 2027 • **Building Electrification regulations** announced - New regulations introduced for all new homes to be built as all-electric from 1 January 2027. From 1 March 2027, a gas hot water system must be replaced with an electric alternative at end-of-life … • Community Housing exemption from compliance with rental efficiency standards to be reviewed - Regulatory Impact Statement to assess energy performance of current community housing stock, determine path to compliance • Expansion of the **SEC one-stop shop** - SEC is developing solutions to help more Victorian households switch to electric appliances, and reduce energy bills and emissions … 2027-2030 • New **Building Electrification and Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards in Rental Properties Regulations** commence - New building electrification regulations and expanded rental efficiency standards begin to come into effect in stages from 1 January, with full compliance by 1 July 2030. How we are supporting families (pages 10-23) … The Victorian Government understands that for busy Victorian families, navigating the energy sector can be a complex and daunting experience. That's why there are a range of supports on offer to simplify these interactions, on top of the financial incentives in place through the VEU and Solar Homes programs … New **VEU program** targets and electrification upgrades The VEU program is a key pillar of the Victorian Government's gas substitution agenda … From early 2026, ceiling insulation will be reintroduced into the VEU program via a staged rollout, with the first stage targeting social and community housing. In the second half of 2026, this will be expanded to all Victorian households … [See further detail below] **Solar Homes** The Solar Homes program continues to support the uptake of renewable energy across Victoria … The Victorian Government is also ensuring apartment residents share in the benefits of the renewable energy, with the Victorian and Commonwealth Governments each allocating $8.05 million to delivering round 3 of the **Solar for Apartments program** … [See further detail below]

Party	Policies
	SEC One-stop shop For many Victorian households, the decision to reduce energy bills by installing solar panels or replacing gas appliances is straightforward. For some households where it is more complex, the SEC is building a One-stop shop to provide assistance and support for Victorians to electrify their home … [See further detail below] **All new homes and most commercial buildings to be all-electric** … Since 1 January 2024, new homes requiring a planning permit have been required to be constructed as all-electric. Building on that foundation, the Victorian Government announced in June 2025 that from 1 January 2027, this would be extended to all new homes. From 1 January 2027, most new commercial buildings must also be built all-electric. This doesn't apply to some buildings, such as factories or farms. **Electrifying hot water appliances in existing homes** From 1 March 2027 when a gas hot water system reaches the end of its life, it must be replaced with an efficient electric alternative … [See further detail below] **Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards for Rental Homes** The Victorian Government has also delivered on its commitment to improve Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards for Rental Homes, building on minimum standards introduced in 2021. The new standards will lower energy bills and make rentals more comfortable to live in. Rental providers should also benefit, with recent data indicating that energy efficient homes for sale in Melbourne are fetching up to $197,000 and $95,000 more than non-energy efficient houses and units respectively. Exemptions are available for rental homes where compliance with the standards is not possible or reasonable, such as where ceiling space is common property and heating or hot water is supplied by a centralised system. What this means for rental providers … From 1 March 2027 At the start of a new lease (or conversion to periodic lease): • Insulation must be installed to an R 5.0 rating by an accredited installer where no insulation is present • 4-star Water Efficiency Labelling and Standards (WELS) efficient shower head/s must be installed • Efficient electric cooling must be installed in the main living area Heating and hot water systems that reach end of life must be replaced with efficient electric systems (heat pump or reverse cycle air-conditioner) FROM 1 July 2027 At the start of a new lease (or conversion to a periodic lease), external doors, windows and wall vents must have draught-proofing installed FROM 1 July 2030 Efficient electric cooling must be installed in the living area of all rental homes irrespective of whether a new lease has been entered into **Energy efficiency in social housing**

Party	Policies
	[See details below] Next steps (page 38) We're making common-sense, practical decisions to guide the next steps of the Gas Substitution Roadmap. These decisions reflect the Victorian Government's continued focus on providing cost-of-living relief by lowering energy bills for Victorian families and businesses. Improving efficient electric appliance accessibility for households and businesses • Completing the VEU Strategic Review • Streamlining the process to include new discounted products and improve transparency • Strengthening consumer protections High costs for upgrading single phase electrical supply • The Victorian Government will examine the frameworks which govern electricity supply upgrades and explore any improvement opportunities Consumer protections • The Essential Services Commission will commence Stage 2 of the Energy Retail Code of Practice Review in early 2026. Stage 2 will build upon the important improvements implemented in Stage 1. Supporting our tradies to install electric appliances • The Victorian Government will develop clear guidance materials for licensed tradespeople to safely and efficiently comply with new building electrification regulations SOLAR VICTORIA: Solar panel (PV) rebate (website 1 July 2026) … Eligible households can receive a rebate of up to $1,400 towards the cost of installing solar panel (PV) systems. The solar panel (PV) rebate is also available for homes under construction and rental properties. You can reduce your upfront cost further by opting-in to an interest-free loan to match the rebate amount. More rebates are released each month … As a Victorian householder, you could receive a solar panel (PV) rebate if: • you are the owner-occupier of an existing property or the owner of a home under construction where the system is to be installed • combined household taxable income of all owners is less than $150,000 per year • value of the property is under $3 million (for an existing home or when construction is complete) … Solar battery loans (website 16 April 2026) Solar Victoria is no longer taking applications for interest-free loans for the installation of a solar battery system … Hot water rebate (website 1 July 2026) Hot water rebates of up to $1,000 are available for eligible heat pump and solar hot water products. If you select a locally made product, you could be eligible for a rebate of up to $1,400 … Heating hot water is one of the biggest the sources of energy use in the home, accounting for 15% to 30% of household energy use. To keep these costs under

Party	Policies
	control and save energy you could install an efficient heat pump or solar hot water system. The Solar Homes hot water rebate can help you to cover the cost of this. You could save even more with Victorian Energy Upgrades (VEU) hot water discounts if your retailer is also an approved VEU provider … As a Victorian householder, you could receive a hot water rebate if: • you are the owner-occupier of an existing property where the system is to be installed • the household taxable income of all owners combined is less than $150,000 per year • the value of the property is under $3 million … Solar rebates for rental properties (website 7 July 2026) Solar panel rebates plus the option of an interest-free loan are available for eligible rental properties … We provide a rebate of up to $1,400 to eligible rental providers for the installation of solar panel (PV) systems on a maximum of two rental properties each financial year. This helps renters save on their energy bills. An agreement must be signed by you and your renter/s. You can reduce your upfront cost further by applying for an interest-free loan to match the rebate amount … As a Victorian householder, you could receive a hot water rebate if: • you are the owner-occupier of an existing property where the system is to be installed • the household taxable income of all owners combined is less than $150,000 per year • the value of the property is under $3 million … Solar rebates for community housing (website 13 January 2026) … Not-for-profit community housing organisations (CHO) can apply for a rebate of up to $1400 per tenancy on behalf of their renters to install solar panels (PV) on the properties they manage. This will help reduce cost of living pressures for low-income Victorians … A not-for-profit organisation that provides affordable rental housing to low-income households is eligible to receive a solar panel (PV) rebate if it: • is a Registered CHO listed on the Housing Registrar Public Register as a community housing provider; OR • is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission; and • can demonstrate that the provision of affordable housing is one of the organisation's core activities • has properties that are owned or managed by the community housing organisation • confirms that the full value (100%) of energy savings achieved by installing solar panels will be passed onto renters • engages an authorised solar retailer who must use products on our product lists. Solar for Apartments (website 13 April 2026) … Rebates of up to $2,800 per apartment (up to $140,000 per property) are now available until Tuesday 30 June 2027 or until all rebates are exhausted, whichever comes first. Rebates are available for apartment buildings, strata townhouses and units under the control of an Owners Corporation and sharing a common property rooftop. By adopting solar, an average household in a multi-unit development can

Party	Policies
	save up to $500 a year on their energy bills … The Solar for Apartments Program is jointly funded by the Victorian and Commonwealth governments … Rebates will be provided to Victorian Owners Corporations (OCs) with up to 50 occupiable lots. To be eligible, your OC must: • be a 'tier three Owners Corporation' or 'tier four Owners Corporation', as defined by the Owners Corporations Act 2006 (Vic) – this refers to OCs that consist of 3 to 50 occupiable lots and are not a 'services only Owners Corporation' • not have previously received funding under the Solar for Apartments Program. OCs should engage both owner-occupiers and owner-investors on the benefits of the program and encourage their participation … To be eligible, your building must: • be no more than 8 storeys tall from ground level • be a completed development at the time of application • be classed under the National Construction Code as a Class 2 domestic building (e.g. an apartment complex) or a group of horizontally attached Class 1a buildings (e.g. townhouses or row units) – go to the Victorian Building Authority website for more information about building classes • have a median capital improved residential lot value that does not exceed $950,000 … Solar Victoria's Residential Electrification Grants (website 31 March 2026) Solar Victoria's Residential Electrification Grants program is the next step in boosting residential solar uptake and the transition to all-electric homes in Victoria. These grants are now enabling innovative organisations, as approved providers, to deliver unique projects that embed renewable solar energy and energy efficient hot water products in Victorian homes at scale. They will provide Victorians with more comfortable homes that comply with new 7-star building efficiency standards and are cheaper to heat and cool. We are also supporting industry to meet new energy efficiency building standards through fully funded Renewable Homes Construction Training. Projects funded An assessment panel selected approved providers based on the innovation of their proposed projects and the benefits to Victorians, including their commitment to protecting consumers and their high standards in sales and marketing. Through these projects Victorian households may be able to access rebates of up to $1400 towards the installation of Solar (PV) systems and $1,400 towards the installation of energy-efficient hot water systems. These projects will reduce the cost of energy bills for metro and regional Victorians, including vulnerable and low-income households, retirement home residents and first home buyers … Benefits and objectives Residential Electrification Grants will directly benefit householders through reduced upfront costs and ongoing bill savings, and support Victoria's transition towards electrification. They will make it easier for Victorians to access more affordable clean energy … VICTORIAN ENERGY UPGRADES PROGRAM (VEU):

Party	Policies
	Victorian Energy Upgrades for homes (website 21 April 2026) … Whether you own, rent or invest, you can access discounts by replacing your old appliances with efficient electric options … All Victorian households are eligible for discounts to upgrade to more energy-efficient appliances. In most cases, you need to replace an older appliance with a more efficient, approved model. Discounts are applied upfront, so you only pay the remaining amount. Renters can access many discounts, but some upgrades (like heating and cooling) will require landlord approval … Heating and cooling discounts (website 29 May 2026) … Households can receive a discount of up to $1,610 and save up to $460 on energy bills each year when they install or replace a non-ducted gas space heater (such as a single room heater) with an efficient reverse cycle air conditioner. Higher discounts are available for larger systems, with up to $5,530 off and energy bill savings of up to $1,140 a year when removing or replacing a ducted (whole-of-home) gas heater with an efficient reverse cycle air conditioner … All Victorian households and businesses are eligible for a heating and cooling discount through the Victorian Energy Upgrades program. Private rental properties are also eligible. Hot water system discounts (website 12 May 2026) Save up to $400 on your energy bills every year and $630 on upfront costs when you upgrade to a heat pump hot water system … Victorian households are eligible for a hot water system discount … Private rental properties are also eligible … To be eligible, you must: • have an existing hot water system (to be replaced) in a house or building that's at least 2 years old • install an approved product through the program that has a minimum 5-year warranty. Households can upgrade up to 2 hot water systems. Businesses can upgrade up to 5 systems … You can get up to $1,560 off when you combine a Solar Homes hot water rebate with a Victorian Energy Upgrades discount. A further $400 rebate is available by choosing an eligible locally made hot water product, with a total saving of up to $1,960. Customers must make a minimum contribution of $200 for upgrades and $10,000 for larger commercial and industrial upgrades. Induction cooktop discounts (website 1 July 2026) Save on energy bills and up to $140 on upfront costs when you upgrade to an induction cooktop … • Induction cooktops are around 3 times more efficient. Using less energy helps reduce energy bills. • Get a discount of up to $140 off an induction cooktop. • You could save around $350 to $400 a year by removing all gas appliances and avoiding ongoing gas supply charges. To be eligible for a rebate on an induction cooktop … you must: • be a Victorian household • have a current gas cooktop to replace • live in a home built at least 2 years ago • have not previously claimed a discount for an induction cooktop

Party	Policies
	• purchase an eligible product. Private rental properties are also eligible. Insulation discounts (website 17 June 2026) Discounts to help eligible Victorian households improve the energy efficiency of their home with ceiling insulation … From 14 April 2026, public and community housing dwellings are eligible for discounts through upgrades underway in the Energy Efficiency in Social Housing Program (EESHP). This stage will expand the capacity and capability of the Victorian retrofit ceiling insulation workforce and take learnings into the second stage of the activity rollout. From 1 October 2026, the activity will expand to all eligible Victorian homes with uninsulated or under insulated ceilings … The VEU discount is expected to reduce the average ceiling insulation install cost by approximately 30–50%. The final installed price of the insulation upgrade, which includes the discount, is up to the accredited provider and will depend on several factors … An average (150 m2) size house in regional Victoria (cold climate zone) could expect an approximate incentive of up to $2,104 … Two types of upgrades are available under this activity: • Uninsulated ceiling spaces – where no insulation is currently installed. • Under insulated ceiling spaces – where existing insulation is below R2.0 … Under Victorian Energy Upgrades, ceiling insulation have a minimum customer contribution of $200 (incl. GST). This means that after installation costs the minimum that customers must pay is $200 … Clothes dryer discounts (website 16 June 2026) Get a discount of up to $70 on an efficient heat pump dryer and save on energy bills. To be eligible to upgrade your clothes dryer and get a discount, you must: • be a Victorian household or business • install a product with a star rating of 7 stars and a load capacity of 5 kg or more that and is listed on the Greenhouse and energy minimum standards register and the Essential Services Commission product register. Households can only receive an incentive for a high efficiency dryer once … Window glazing discounts (website 16 June 2026) Get a discount of up to $210 (per 10m2) to double glaze your windows and save on energy bills … Victorian households and most businesses with single-glazed windows can receive discounts for window upgrades … If you're living in a private rental property, you are eligible to receive a discount on window glazing … Weather sealing discounts (websites 16 June 2026) … All Victorian households that want to seal their household windows, doors, chimneys and vents are eligible to participate … If you're living in a private rental property, you are eligible to receive a discount on weather sealing … Some gas heaters, such as flueless gas heaters installed in chimneys and open flued gas space heaters, need fresh air to work safely. They take air from inside the house, so you must ensure good ventilation so they can work properly and safely. Homes with these types of gas heaters do not qualify for weather sealing under the VEU program. Incentives of up to the following amounts are available for the average household.

Party	Policies
	• Apartment: 1 external door, 1 exhaust fan and 4 ceiling outlets: $70 (2 year warranty) or $140 (5 year warranty) … • House: 4 external doors, 3 exhaust fans, 12 ceiling outlets, 1 chimney: $350 (2 year warranty) or $700 (5 year warranty) … Shower head discounts (website 16 June 2026) Get a discount of up to $70 to upgrade to a water-saving shower head in your home or business … To be eligible to upgrade your water-saving shower heads and get a discount, you must: • be a Victorian household or business • replace an inefficient showerhead with a flow rate above 9 litres per minute, or below 3 stars. Please note: Up to 3 inefficient showerheads can be replaced per household. Your existing shower head must be removed from the property … If you're living in a private rental property, you are eligible to receive a discount on shower heads. Refrigerator and freezer discounts (website 16 June 2026) Get a discount of up to $70 for a high-efficiency fridge or freezer for your home or business … Victorian households and businesses can receive discounts when upgrading fridges or freezers. To be eligible to upgrade your fridge or freezer and get a discount, you must: • be a Victorian household or business • install a refrigerator with a star rating of 5.5 stars or greater and a total volume between 250 and 700 litres* or • install a freezer with a star rating of 4 stars or greater with a total volume between 250 and 700 litres* • The appliance must be listed on the Greenhouse and Energy Minimum Standards register and the Essential Services Commission product register … In-home display discounts (website 16 June 2026) Get a discount of up to $70 for an in-home display to monitor your household energy use … All Victorians can receive a discount on the installation of 1 in-home display per household … If you're living in a private rental property, you are eligible to receive a discount on 1 in-home display … Television discounts (website 16 June 2026) Get discounts of up to $70 for high-efficiency televisions for your home or business … To be eligible to get a discount or rebate on an energy efficient television, you must: • be a Victorian household or business • purchase a product with a star rating of 6 or more stars and a screen area of over 4,000cm2 (approximately 38 inches or more) that is listed on the Greenhouse and Energy Minimum Standards register and Essential Services Commission product register. Households can only receive an incentive for a total of 2 high efficiency televisions … GRANTS:

Party	Policies
	Energy Efficiency in Social Housing Program (website 28 July 2026) … The Energy Efficiency in Social Housing Program (EESHP) supports upgrades to social housing homes across Victoria, helping residents reduce energy costs, improve comfort, and lower greenhouse gas emissions. The Victorian Government, in partnership with the Australian Government, will deliver up to 60,000 energy efficiency upgrades to 23,600 social housing homes, including converting 5,000 homes to all-electric. The program has been delivering energy efficiency upgrades in social housing since 2020 and will continue through to 2029. The program delivers tailored upgrades to eligible public, community and Aboriginal housing properties based on each home's condition and needs. These upgrades may include: • reverse cycle air conditioners (to provide heating and cooling) • draught proofing • ceiling insulation • electric cooktops (induction preferred) • hot water heat pumps • water efficient showerheads, if combined with the installation of a hot water heat pump • solar rooftop photovoltaic (PV) • gas abolishment, where full electrification has been achieved via other upgrade activities under this grant. … Apply for a grant of up to $18,000 on average, per property across a portfolio to undertake energy efficiency and electrification upgrades in community housing properties. Grants are open to Community Housing Organisations. $9.27 million funding was awarded in **Round 1**. **Round 2** is now open and closes on at 5pm on Friday 21 August. A cash co-contribution is required from applicants for their properties. Grants will be awarded over 3 rounds, the funding available for future rounds is subject to agreement with the Australian Government. Bringing Down Energy Bills For Community Housing Renters (Media release, 23 October 2026) Minister for Energy and Resources Jaclyn Symes today announced $9 million for seven projects to upgrade around 730 community housing homes. The upgrades will make homes cheaper to run, warmer in winter and cooler in summer. They include reverse cycle air conditioners, draught proofing, ceiling insulation, induction cooktops, heat pump hot water systems and rooftop solar. Delivered in partnership with the Commonwealth Government, the grants will help community housing organisations replace inefficient appliances and improve their renters' homes. The program offers grants of up to $18,000 on average per property, helping housing providers deliver improvements across their homes. The funding is part of the second round of the Community Housing Upgrades Stream, with upgrades expected to save households more than $1,000 a year. The grants form part of a combined $346.6 million investment from the Victorian and Australian Governments to improve more than 23,000 social housing homes. The investment will deliver around 60,000 individual energy upgrades, converting 5,000 homes to all-electric …

Party	Policies
	The SEC Is Powering Up And Helping You Save (Media release 26 May 2026) … Easy Electric SEC is a new, easy to use one-stop-shop to help households switch from gas to electric appliances. Victorians can start using it from today. … going electric can be time-consuming and difficult. Easy Electric SEC will simplify this process with free, easy to understand advice. If families are ready to make the switch, they can access a statewide network of trusted, vetted SEC installers online or over the phone. These experts are licensed to deliver upgrades including hot water, heating and cooling, cooking, solar, batteries and EV chargers. They are authorised to provide rebates through Victorian Government programs including Solar Homes and the Victorian Energy Upgrades scheme. Switching appliances from gas to efficient electric alternatives can save Victorians up to $1,900 a year. Those savings can grow to as much as $2,230 annually when combined with rooftop solar. Victorians can visit easyelectricsec.com.au to see how much they could save … Victorian Energy Efficiency Target Amendment (Energy Upgrades for the Future) Bill 2025 This Bill (passed May 2025) extended the VEU program's legislated end date from 2030 until 2045, to align with the legislated net zero emissions target.
Liberals	*Our Plan to Deliver for Victorians* (2026) Affordable and reliable Energy (pages 20 -21) … As our energy system continues towards renewable sources we must ensure we maintain reliability for households and businesses. Our Plan will manage the transition responsibly. A Liberal and Nationals Government will: • Strengthen the energy network • Establish an Energy Security • Requirement for Victoria • Improve grid reliability • Deliver Victorian gas for Victorians Energy choice for Victorians We will ease cost of living pressure and restore energy choice by scrapping Labor's ban on gas appliances in new homes, addressing concerns about consumer choice and system capacity. Because Victorians should be the ones who choose which appliances best meet their needs in their homes, not government. Victorian gas for Victorians Natural gas has been demonised by Labor for a decade. Only the Liberals and Nationals will back Victorian gas for Victorians. Our Plan will throw open the door for gas exploration, ensuring reliable gas supply for Victoria. And it will support manufacturing, while helping our gas industry to create more local jobs and grow our economy … More Gas, Fewer Poles and Wires – Our Plan to Keep the Lights on and Prices Low (Media release 19 August 2026) … A future Liberal and Nationals Government will: • Scrap Labor's gas ban and restore energy choice for households and businesses …

Party	Policies
	Liberals and Nationals will Scrap Labor's Gas Ban (Media release 12 August 2026) A Liberal and Nationals Government will restore energy choice for Victorians and have today relaunched a series of advertisements against Premier Ben Carroll's undemocratic gas ban. Victorian households should be allowed to choose how they cook, heat and produce hot water, they should not be directed by the Carroll Labor Government. Labor has flagged it will ban consumer choice of hot water services and heating, and almost certainly cooktops too, from March 2027. This November, Victorians will have a choice: Labor's gas ban or the Liberals and Nationals who will allow households to choose their own energy source. We will reverse Labor's ban on gas … Labor's Energy Upgrades Program in Chaos (Media release, 31 January 2024) Labor's energy upgrades program is in disarray with complaints about poor quality and potentially unsafe installations. The high cost of carbon credit certificates and lack of oversight of the program has opened the door to unscrupulous operators amid numerous concerns over the quality and safety of products … The energy upgrades program was set up to allow registered installers to replace household and business appliances with more energy-efficient appliances, after which the installer can purchase carbon credit certificates before selling them to energy retailers on the open market. However, amidst numerous concerns about the program, the cost of Labor's green schemes remains the highest in the country - $188 annually for every consumer. The Victorian Energy Upgrade program is a big component of these expensive green scheme cross subsidies – around $99 annually for Victorian consumers. Shadow Minister for Energy Affordability and Security, David Davis, said: "The Minister … has now brought us a failed appliance program that has been run incompetently … Energy costs have surged under Labor, growing faster in Victoria than any other state … The mismanagement of these schemes directly adds to the energy bills of Victorian households and businesses, with poorer Victorians hit hardest." Shadow Minister for Environment and Climate Change, James Newbury, said: "Labor's program puts environment and climate change goals in jeopardy while Victorians are left with poor quality or even unsafe installations … Victorians are paying the price for yet another Labor scheme that has been mismanaged." Victorian Energy Efficiency Target Amendment (Energy Upgrades for the Future) Bill 2025 This Bill (passed May 2025) extended the VEU program's legislated end date from 2030 until 2045, to align with the legislated net zero emissions target. The Liberals voted against the Bill. Victorian Energy Efficiency Target Amendment (Energy Upgrades for the Future) Bill 2025 (Legislative Assembly Hansard, 3 April 2025) Pages 1516 – 1517 (James Newbury): … The coalition, I must say, has great, great concerns with this bill. And not just the coalition: Victorians have great concerns with this bill. We have seen what has previously been described, including by me, as perhaps one of the greatest sets of rorts under a government taxpayer-funded

Party	Policies
	scheme in this state's history … the coalition cannot support the bill as stands. In addition, I move: That all the words after 'That' be omitted and replaced with the words 'this house refuses to read this bill a second time until the government explains the true costs of the extension of the Victorian energy upgrades (VEU) program from 2030 until 2045, guarantees no further instances of rorts, waste and exploitative practices will occur and concludes the ongoing strategic review of the VEU program.' … Pages 1536 – 1537 (John Pesutto): … We have a program that is totally discredited. The concept is good. We like the concept. We have never opposed the concept, under a responsibly managed and well-administered program, of helping people who can afford it, when they can, to electrify appliances in their homes and in their businesses. That concept should be non-contentious. But this program has been riddled with rorts … There is no plan from the government in its presentation of this bill to the house about how it proposes to put in place steps to stop those rorts from occurring. And they have been well traversed in the course of this debate. It makes no sense to Victorians to proceed with this bill when you have a review into the very regime we are discussing here. Why not wait for the outcome of this review … Pages 1581 – 1582: Liberal amendment lost; Liberals voted against the Bill. Victorian Energy Efficiency Target Amendment (Energy Upgrades for the Future) Bill 2025 (Legislative Council Hansard, 13 May 2025) Pages 1680 – 681 (David Davis): … I reject the minister's view that we are opposed to or we will abolish the energy upgrades program. We would want that program to run properly and efficiently. I do not think there is anything wrong with that; that is actually common sense. I make the point that the minister said this in response to this very first amendment, which is about prescribing the VEU scheme targets, and that is not quite the same as the energy efficiency program … Liberal amendments lost; Liberals voted against the Bill, which was passed unamended for the final time (3rd Reading).
One Nation	*The Real Deal for Victoria* (Policy Platform, October 2026) Cheaper Energy (page 36) Power Bills … What we will do: Scrap all net-zero targets and subsidies … Reverse the ban on gas connections in new homes. Victorians should be free to choose the energy source that works best for them …
Animal Justice	*Climate Policy* (website, accessed 26 October 2026) **Building and Urban Design** New homes in Australia are among the largest in the world; particularly free-standing houses. Large houses use more materials to build and furnish, and more energy to run. All material goods begin either as the output of mines, forests, cropping, or animal agriculture. Housing materials and contents frequently generate emissions not just via energy used in mining and processing, but also via the chemistry of manufacture. Cement, for example, not only uses prodigious

Party	Policies
	amounts of energy during production, but the process itself generates carbon dioxide. Global cement production is about 4.4 billion tonnes per year; generating about 2.6 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide. We desperately need a climate-friendly alternative. It is not just the homes and buildings we need to change, but the cities and townscapes around them. Cities are major sources of emissions. We must mitigate climate change by stopping urban sprawl and developing walkable cities (see our Human Population & Planning and Land Transport Policies). Australia must also adapt to climate change by welcoming nature back into our suburbs (see our Urban Animals Policy) and making our towns and cities cooler with better designs, less concrete and more green spaces. Implementing biodiversity-sensitive urban design (BSUD) creates settlements that support the local ecosystem rather than replace it. It is positive all round: cities are cooler and emit less, people are happier and more active, and species become more resilient to a changing climate and landscape.
Tom Ward Independent for Eildon	Energy and Electrification policy (website, accessed 28 October 2026) • A community-owned virtual power plant for the electorate, with earnings shared back to members. • Community batteries and microgrids in end-of-line towns. • A way in for renters to buy a community solar or battery share. • Agrivoltaics and on-farm generation.
End Mass Immigration	
Family First	Energy Policy (website, accessed 28 September 2026) … Family First will ensure Australia's energy needs are met by … • Abolishing renewable subsidies
Freedom	
Legalise Cannabis	
Libertarians	Commitment to cease existing household energy assistance provided for energy efficiency and electrification, and repeal existing gas substitution regulations. Energy Policy (website, accessed 27 October 2026) • The Libertarian Party of Victoria supports discontinuing all subsidy programs, whether they are for renewable or non-renewable forms of energy. Energy Policy Briefing (website, accessed 28 October 2026) Real Choice: You choose your energy provider based on price and service Companies compete for your business instead of government handouts. Innovation drives progress instead of political correctness
Shooters Fishers Farmers	
Socialist Alliance	
Sustainable Australia	

Party	Policies
Victorian Socialists	Make Power Affordable and Sustainable (Policies webpage, 2026) … We'll fight to … • Expand the Neighbourhood Battery Initiative to provide community-scale energy storage across Victoria, prioritising low-income areas and communities with poor grid reliability. • Invest in rooftop solar for all public housing, schools and community facilities, and expand subsidies to support household solar installation for renters and low-income households.

4. No new fossil fuel mining or infrastructure

Party	Policies
Greens	End Coal and Gas (Platform, website accessed 12 October 2026) The major parties have failed us on climate change. Labor in Victoria has opened 5 new fossil fuel projects in the last year, even drilling near the iconic 12 Apostles. The Liberals and One Nation are no better: they want even more coal, gas and logging. Opening new fossil fuels makes climate change worse and we all pay for it, with higher energy and insurance bills, more fires, floods and drought … We'll … ban gas drilling in Victoria's oceans ... End coal & gas, build renewables The Greens will: • Ban oil and gas drilling in our oceans, including stopping Labor's drilling near the 12 Apostles, and stop Viva's gas import terminal … • Ban donations from fossil fuel corporations to politicians. We'll make coal and gas corporations pay their fair share by doubling royalties, as well as ending subsidies and tax exemptions for fossil fuel projects, so that money can be spent on our communities. • Make big polluting corporations fund clean-up for communities hit by climate disasters, and legislate to make gas companies pay to clean up the mess they leave behind in our oceans. • Make polluters pay by legislating to enable everyday people who have been affected by climate disasters to sue the coal and gas companies who caused them … Protect & Restore Nature (Platform, website accessed 12 October 2026) … Stop destructive fossil fuel and mining projects The Greens will block all new fossil fuel projects in Victoria … Climate Change Policy (website, dated 4 October 2025) … Mitigation … A ban on the exploration and development of new fossil fuel resources including but not limited to coal seam gas and other forms of unconventional gas. Energy Policy (website, dated 4 October 2025) … Ending fossil fuel subsidies • No public funding for the existing fossil fuel industry. • Ending support for the development of gas-from-coal and oil-from-coal, and associated carbon capture and storage technologies. No More Coal and Gas (campaign website, undated) … The Greens in Victoria are fighting alongside First Nations people, environmental organisations and local communities to stop all new fossil fuel projects … Ban Oil and Gas Drilling in Victoria's Oceans (website petition, undated) … The Greens have introduced a bill to end all new offshore oil and gas drilling in Victorian waters … No Gas Terminal in Corio Bay (website petition, undated)

Party	Policies
	Viva Energy wants to build a massive gas import terminal in Corio Bay, near Geelong. This gas terminal will import fracked gas from other states and create a huge amount of emissions. At a time when the climate crisis is more urgent than ever, Labor should not be approving new gas and fossil fuel projects … demand that the Labor Victorian Government reject the proposal for a gas terminal in Corio Bay once and for all … *The development and expansion of waste-to-energy (WtE) infrastructure in Victoria* (Legislative Council Economy and Infrastructure Committee Inquiry August 2026) … Minority Report: Victorian Greens (pages 143 ff) Foreword … it is our view that there is in fact evidence of harm from thermal WtE. This harm applies not only to human health, but to our climate through greenhouse gas emissions, and to the environment by undermining the circular economy. This brief minority report does not revisit all of the detail included in the majority report; rather, it outlines why the Greens believe that the appropriate conclusion from the evidence gathered in this inquiry is for the Victorian Government to prohibit thermal WtE in this state …
Labor	*Energy sector emissions reduction pledge* (released January 2026) Empowering households and businesses to lower energy bills (page 8) Reduce the carbon footprint of homes and businesses … We're reforming planning and legislation to prevent locking in new, expensive gas infrastructure and decades of higher emissions and energy bills. The 2022 Gas Substitution Roadmap and the 2024 Update guide households and businesses through this transition … *Gas Substitution Road Map* (Update 2025) Minister's foreword (pages 2-3) … the Victorian Government is establishing the conditions to ensure sufficient gas supplies to meet our state's ongoing needs. The Gas Security Statement lays out the new investment in exploration and production that is underway to ensure there is sufficient gas in the system to meet our needs … The Victorian Government has long advocated for further measures that will improve reliability of supply, such as a national domestic gas reservation, to ensure the needs of domestic consumers are prioritised … These actions continue with the Victorian Government's transparent and pragmatic approach to moving Victoria away from gas, slashing bills for families and businesses while meeting our legislated emission reduction targets. Executive summary (page 5) Four years after the inaugural Gas Substitution Roadmap, Victoria continues to lead the nation through the gradual move away from expensive fossil gas. Since then, we've started reducing Victoria's dependence on fossil gas through common sense reforms that have cut energy bills and boosted certainty for business. Our efforts to build the all-electric homes of the future are already delivering cost-of-living relief for Victorian families … The Victorian Government is laser-focused on ensuring all Victorians benefit from a fair and equitable transition away from fossil gas … [See Section 3 above for policies on support for household electrification]

Party	Policies
	Victorian businesses are being closely supported to strengthen Victorian industry's competitive advantage. This is headlined by Round 3 of the $10 million Energy Innovation Fund and the $9.5 million Industry Diversification Fund. These programs will kickstart investment in industrial electrification technology and support repositioning of Victoria's gas appliance sector respectively. Victoria's gas substitution agenda is reducing gas demand, freeing up more low-cost gas for industrial users with limited alternatives … These reforms, combined with wider electrification initiatives, are expected to save 44 PJ of gas annually by 2035, equal to 85 per cent of 2025 industrial gas demand. This effectively unlocks a new source of low-cost, bulk Victorian supply reserved for Victorian industry. The 2025 Gas Substitution Roadmap builds on these achievements, with common sense decisions that will make getting off gas cheaper and easier. Securing Victoria's gas supply (pages 33-35) The **Gas Security Statement** outlines decisive Victorian Government actions to prevent forecast fossil gas shortfalls and ensure reliable supply for both industrial sector and gas-powered electricity generation. The Gas Security Statement outlines how the Victorian Government is ensuring that we have sufficient gas supplies to meet our state's needs. Approximately $2 billion worth of investment across a range of projects has been announced in 2024 and 2025, including: • New production from Esso and Woodside's Gippsland Basin Joint Venture and Beach Energy. • Exploration campaigns from ConocoPhilips, 3D Energi, Korean National Oil Corporation (KNOC), Amplitude Energy, ADZ Energy and Lakes Blue Energy. • Progress in storage and large infrastructure plays through Golden Beach, Lochard Energy, Viva Energy, and Vopak. The Victorian Government has made a positive assessment to Viva Energy's proposed Liquified Natural Gas (LNG) import terminal in Corio Bay as part of the Environmental Effects Statement (EES) process administered by the Minister for Planning. Alongside these actions to increase Victoria's gas supply, Victoria's reforms to reduce gas usage are expected to reduce fossil gas use by 44 PJ annually by 2035 (equivalent to around 85 per cent of Victoria's industrial demand in 2024). This effectively represents a new source of the lowest cost gas in the country for Victorian industrial users, boosting Victoria's competitiveness and supporting manufacturing jobs. The forecast for shortfalls facing the east coast gas market is a national problem requiring a national solution. The Victorian Government has advocated strongly to the Commonwealth Government and Energy Ministers for a national approach. As a result, Energy Ministers are working through options on expanded powers for AEMO to address east coast gas supply issues. This will empower AEMO with a new national role to fill any residual gap through a new bulk supply source such as an LNG re-gasification terminal or domestic supplies available through pipelines and storage infrastructure. These actions, combined with reforms to the east coast gas market through the Energy and Climate Change Ministerial Council (ECMC), will help alleviate forecast gas shortfalls … The Victorian Government has long advocated for further measures that will improve reliability of supply, such as a national domestic gas reservation, to ensure

Party	Policies
	the needs of domestic consumers are prioritised. We welcome the announcement by the Commonwealth Government that an east coast gas reservation policy will be introduced, and look forward to continuing to engage with the Commonwealth Government on measures to deliver energy security and affordability. Wombat Project by Lakes Blue Energy Lakes Blue Energy continues to appraise the Wombat gas field and recently drilled the Wombat-5 well in Victoria's Gippsland Basin. It is aimed at determining the commercial viability of developing this new source of natural gas. The Wombat gas field is strategically located near the existing pipeline infrastructure, enabling efficient integration of fossil gas supply into the state's energy network. Current predictions indicate that it could supply up to 20 PJ of fossil gas each year, supporting energy reliability and affordability. *Gas Security Statement* (released June 2025) Ministerial foreword (page 1) … The Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) has warned that unless action is taken, there could be a structural gas shortfall by 2029 in the east coast gas market. The Victorian Government's pragmatic and comprehensive response combines a gradual reduction in household demand with new gas supply and storage, with an emphasis on ensuring supply for businesses that require gas. The Victorian Government has boosted the resilience of Victoria's gas system, conserving more Victorian gas to ensure secure and reliable supplies into the future. We are accelerating new storage facilities, making sure they're full when they're needed, meaning more low-cost Victorian gas will be free for our industrial sector. This approach is reinforced with over $2 billion in new investment announced just this year. This approach will deliver reliable and secure supplies of gas well into the 2030s … Upstream Supply: Securing Gas for Today and Tomorrow (pages 2-3) … New transitional gas supply is needed to ensure industry continues to support Victorians with secure jobs and affordable products and services that depend on gas. But the reality is there's not enough proven gas reserves onshore or offshore in Victoria to offset the structural decline. New gas that is more expensive to produce locally, combined with the linking of Australia's domestic gas prices to international markets by the Queensland Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) export sector, mean that gas prices are expected to remain above historic levels … Increasing Supply from current and future Sources • Industrial Renewable Gas Guarantee to commence from 2027. • Facilitation of new Victorian gas development with over $1.1 Billion in exploration committed since September 2024. • Lead national reforms to ensure Eastern Australian Gas Security through a Long Term Reliability and Security Adequacy function for AEMO. • Address Upstream legislation Reform and national rules for Gas Storage use by AEMO. • Facilitating LNG import proposals – Pt Kembla, Viva Energy, Vopak • Ensuring Queensland's LNG Export industries don't drain domestic gas markets Reliable and affordable energy outcomes…

Party	Policies
	What We've Done … Undertaken from 2017 to 2020, the Victorian Gas Program provided a scientific basis for restarting the onshore conventional gas industry, following the former Government's 2012 blanket ban on onshore petroleum exploration and new production. In 2021, the Victorian Government restarted the program under improved environmental, consultation and market parameters. The restart of onshore gas exploration and production did not include coal seam gas or fracking, which are permanently banned in Victoria. The ban was added to Victoria's Constitution in March 2021. Victorian and Commonwealth waters in Bass Strait have a range of recent, committed and potential projects that could provide additional gas supply and storage over the next five years. These include new production from Esso and Woodside's Gippsland Basin Joint Venture and Beach Energy; exploration campaigns from ConocoPhilips, 3D Energi, Amplitude Energy, ADZ Energy and Lakes Blue Energy; as well as continued progress in storage and large infrastructure plays through Golden Beach, Lochard Energy, Viva Energy, and Vopak. The Government has recently made a positive assessment on Viva Energy's proposed LNG import terminal in Corio Bay. While the Government is acting to bring on new supply, both prospective and committed projects will not deliver enough new gas to offset depletion from Bass Strait. This means that in any scenario, a bulk source of new supply will be required, imported either via pipeline, regasification terminal or via a combination of the two. What We're Doing As outlined in the Economic Growth Statement, all new potential Victorian gas projects will be able to access the **Development Facilitation Program**, Victoria's accelerated assessment pathway for new planning permits. This will deliver faster decision making and approvals for gas extraction, storage, transmission or importation projects, getting critical projects online sooner. Since December, Energy Ministers have been considering options to expand powers for AEMO to address East Coast gas supply issues emerging by 2029. Any powers to be developed would direct AEMO to be technology and solution agnostic, providing the chosen solution or mix of solutions can be delivered within the required timeframes and the lowest cost to customers. A decision is expected later this year. What Comes Next While gas supply and infrastructure are critical, the Government is listening to industry's calls for a **Victorian Industrial Renewable Gas Guarantee** (IRGG). This will provide Victoria's industrial and gas peaking sectors with a new source of gas that is both disconnected from the export price of gas and compatible with Victoria's net-zero ambitions. This, along with supporting large businesses to improve their energy efficiency and explore electrification, will retain cost competitiveness for our local industries. Networks and Storage: Building a Flexible, Resilient System (page 4) As the way Victorians consume energy evolves and gas supply sources change, the way Victoria uses its gas networks and storage will evolve too …

Party	Policies

	Victoria's pipeline and storage network must respond to maintain resilience through the transition. As a result, investment is required in storage facilities, while the existing pipeline infrastructure must be managed effectively, to maximise its efficiency while minimising stranded asset risk and the associated costs … The future will require more targeted investments, delivering capacity in the right places and at the right times in an environment of gradually falling consumption …
	
	End-Use Policy: Reducing Gas Demand and Saving Victorians Money on their Energy Bills (page 5)
	The Victorian Government is focused on what matters most – real help for families to ease the cost-of-living. Gradually reducing household gas usage will cut bills for families each and every year. The Gas Substitution Roadmap and its subsequent updates lays out the government's pragmatic and sensible approach to delivering this through improved energy efficiency, electrification, and renewable gases …
	
	How our actions secure Victoria's gas supplies (page 7)
	AEMO's Gas Statement of Opportunities in 2025 noted that without action, peak-day has shortfalls are forecast for Victoria, NSW, SA and Tasmania as early as 2028, with structural shortfalls forecast by 2029. Such a scenario places an unacceptable risk before the Victorian economy and must be avoided. To achieve this, Victoria, through the Government's policies and the community action they enable, will:
	• Reduce demand by up to 11.9 PJ per year by 2029 beyond the demand reductions that have already been set in train by government policy and consumers making their own choices to be more energy efficient and use more sustainable fuels.
	• Increase supply locally, with 25 PJ of additional gas production in 2029 already committed, and nearly $1.1 billion of exploration and production expenditure committed in Victoria and Commonwealth waters offshore.
	  ○ Adding to this, the IRGG will bring on sustainable renewable gas, with the government considering the appropriate target level for this scheme.
	  ○ To insure against shortfalls, Victoria will work with other jurisdictions to empower AEMO with a new national role to fill any residual gap through a new bulk supply source such as an LNG regasification terminal or domestic supplies available through pipeline infrastructure. The proposed capacities of most of the proposals in the market address south-eastern Australia's needs into the 2030s …
	
	See also: Securing gas supply for Victoria (website 24 June 2025)
	
	Oil and Gas (website 11 Feb 2026)
	… Oil and gas production in Victoria
	Oil and gas are found in geological features known as sedimentary basins …
	The Otway Basin
	The Otway Basin spans both land and sea, covering about 155,000 km2. Close to 80% of the basin is offshore. On land, it stretches along Australia's southern coast from Geelong in Victoria to Lucindale in South Australia … Today, natural gas is produced from offshore fields. Some old onshore gas fields near Port Campbell are now used for underground gas storage …

Party	Policies
	The Gippsland Basin The Gippsland Basin spans both land and sea, covering 46,000 km2. Two-thirds of it is offshore. Onshore, it stretches from Western Port Bay to Orbost … So far, about 12.7 trillion cubic feet of natural gas has been produced from the Gippsland Basin. Around 1.7 trillion cubic feet of gas is estimated to remain in offshore fields … Offshore gas in state waters (website 7 August 2025) … To stimulate commercial exploration for natural gas resources, the Victorian Government offered five new offshore acreage areas in the Otway Basin for tender in May 2018. The acreage areas were in state-controlled nearshore waters. Following an assessment of applicant bids by Resources Victoria, permits to explore two of these areas were granted by the Minister for Resources in July 2020 … Apply for a petroleum exploration permit tender 2025 (website 12 February 2026) 2025 petroleum exploration permit areas – Otway and Gippsland basins The Victorian Minister for Energy and Resources is inviting tender applications for petroleum exploration permits in 2 areas: • Area VIC/25-1 – offshore Otway Basin (Victorian waters) • Area VIC/25-2 – onshore Gippsland Basin. The petroleum industry identified these areas as having the most interest for exploration … This is a competitive process. Applicants must show their industry experience, technical skills, financial capacity and a clear exploration plan that meets environmental and community expectations. **Applications closed at 5 pm AEDT, 11 February 2026. Applications are now being assessed.** Beach Energy Enterprise Field (Beach Energy website 2026) The Enterprise Project allows raw gas to flow from the offshore Enterprise gas reservoir through the onshore wellsite to Beach's Otway Gas Plant where it is produced for supply to the Victorian gas market. Beach drilled the offshore Enterprise 1 exploration well in 2020 using Extended Reach Drilling from an onshore wellsite located approximately 4 km west of Port Campbell. Testing and assessment delivered a positive result and the Enterprise 1 exploration well was successfully completed in December 2020. Following the completion of the pipeline and wellsite facilities design and receipt of the required licences, permits and approvals, construction of the approximately 11 km long pipeline (PL006998) and the wellsite facilities commenced in late 2022. Reinstatement activities to complete the construction of the Enterprise pipeline were undertaken in April 2024. Gas production commenced in June 2024 following the completion of construction and commissioning of the wellsite facilities. Regulatory approvals for the operation of the Enterprise well have included an Environment Plan and an Operation Plan for the production of gas and operation of the wellsite, and safety and environmental management plans for the operations of the pipeline.

Party	Policies
	More Gas To Flow Into Victoria (Premier's media release 7 May 2026) … The Allan Labor Government and Albanese Labor Government have both approved the production licence for **Amplitude Energy's Annie Gas Field Project** in the Otway Basin. This project could provide the equivalent of more than a third of Victoria's annual gas use, delivering more cheap Victorian gas to power industries which can't make the switch to cheaper electric alternatives. Works will start next year to deliver gas from 2028, kicking in at a crucial time for the East Coast Gas Market. AEMO has pushed back its peak-day gas shortfall forecast by one year to 2029. This was driven by lower demand from Labor's electrification initiatives which help households and businesses move off gas, easing pressure on supply and protecting families from rising bills. Gas is part of Victoria's energy transition – but legacy supplies from Victoria's Bass Strait are dwindling and prices are going up. That's why it's critical we continue to drive down Victorians' energy bills by going electric and working to secure the gas supply Victoria needs. This project will use existing infrastructure from the Casino-Henry-Netherby gas field in the Otway Basin. Labor's **Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Amendment Regulations** 2026 have also been approved. This provides regulatory certainty for Golden Beach's $1 billion gas production and storage project in Gippsland. This project could provide approximately 18.75 petajoules of additional gas storage, increasing Victoria's storage capacity by 70 per cent and further minimising the risk of winter peak day shortfalls from 2029. Only Labor will protect Victorian families and businesses from rising gas costs by helping them switch to electric, freeing up gas supply for industries which need it most … ON-SHORE GAS: Restart of onshore conventional gas industry in Victoria (website 11 August 2025) New regulations The Petroleum Regulations 2021 are now in place to help govern the onshore conventional gas sector. The new regulations address the findings of the Victorian Gas Program that found that the previous regulatory framework was sound on environmental and safety grounds but could be improved for project transparency and community engagement. The development of the regulations was underpinned by strong consultation … Now that the regulations are in place, Resources Victoria can recommence processing new industry applications for operations on the ground. In line with new requirements, all new operations plans will have to have been developed in consultation with relevant stakeholders and will need to demonstrate how any issues raised in stakeholder submissions have been addressed. The Government is now finalising a **Code of Practice for Well Management** and will continue to work with stakeholders to develop further guidance material and to refine the regulatory approach.

Party	Policies
	The Victorian Gas Program estimated that an onshore conventional gas industry could potentially start production from 2023–24 if industry makes a gas discovery quickly, considers it commercially feasible to develop and secures the necessary regulatory approvals. The sector is predicted to deliver a jobs boost for south-west Victoria and Gippsland in the coming years. The restart follows three years of detailed scientific investigations by the Victorian Gas Program. It found an onshore conventional gas industry would not compromise Victoria's environment or our vital agricultural sector. The restart of onshore gas exploration and production does not include coal seam gas or fracking, which are permanently banned in Victoria. **The fracking ban was added to Victoria's Constitution in March 2021.** OFF-SHORE GAS STORAGE (GOLDEN BEACH & IONA EXPANSION): Offshore gas storage (website 5 May 2026) Victoria relies on underground gas storage to meet high demand throughout winter. A secure and reliable supply of gas is also essential as Victoria transitions towards more renewable energy. The Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) has forecast risks of peak day shortfalls in southern regions from 2029. Victoria's Gas Substitution Roadmap identifies challenges facing the gas sector and outlines actions to reduce Victoria's reliance on fossil gas while maintaining reliability through the transition. Currently Victoria only has one deep storage facility, in the southwest of the state. With the amount of gas produced from the Gippsland Basin declining, gas storage will continue to be vital when demand is highest for supplying domestic and industrial users as well as generating electricity. To ensure an adequate gas supply for Victorians, the Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2010 was amended in late 2024 to confirm that petroleum injection and storage is a permitted activity under a petroleum production licence. The change relates to offshore gas production and storage in Victorian state waters, up to three nautical miles (around 5.5km) from the coast. Fundamentally, it allows gas to be stored deep under the sea bed in the same way it has been stored under the coastal areas of south-west Victoria. This will help alleviate the potential shortfalls predicted by AEMO … The development of unconventional gas, coal seam gas and the use of fracking remain banned in Victoria. Golden Beach Energy Storage Project (website 29 January 2026) The Golden Beach Energy Storage Project is located about 250 km south-east of Melbourne near Golden Beach in Gippsland. GB Energy (Vic) Pty Ltd, as the authority holder of retention lease VIC/RL1(V), is proposing to develop an offshore gas field in Victorian state waters about 3 km from the Ninety Mile Beach coastline. The project is focused on providing a gas storage facility for Australia's east coast gas markets … Background GB Energy completed initial geophysical and geotechnical investigations for the project in 2020 to gather preliminary information on seabed conditions and shallow geology to prepare for future drilling and pipeline laying. Between June and July 2023, the company drilled an appraisal well with the results informing the

Party	Policies
	design and operation of the proposed production and storage wells and associated infrastructure for the project. Environment plans for these activities were submitted and accepted by the Minister for Energy and Resources before works commenced. More recently, the minister has accepted environment plans for additional geotechnical and geophysical investigations scheduled for early 2026. The data collected will inform the location of the project's offshore infrastructure … Current status Geotechnical and geophysical investigations are scheduled to commence in February 2026. They are expected to take about 10 to 12 days to complete. GB Energy submitted an environment plan in January 2026 for its offshore gas drilling campaign (scheduled for the second half of 2026). This plan is now being assessed to determine if it is acceptable, including ensuring that operations will be managed in accordance with the Environment Effects Statement … See also: Heytesbury Underground Gas Storage Project (website, accessed 20 August 2026) … Project Update Lochard Energy are continuing to develop the HUGS Project for expansion of our Iona Gas Storage Facility. The HUGS Project will store gas underground in depleted gas fields … GAS IMPORT TERMINALS (VIVA & VOPAK): Major Milestone For Gas Import Project (Media release 29 May 2025) … Minister for Planning Sonya Kilkenny today released her assessment of the Environmental Effects Statement (EES) for the Viva Energy Gas Terminal Project in Corio, finding that the potential impacts of the project can be managed with strengthened environmental management practices and amended mitigation measures are adopted. This assessment advances the project towards Viva's commercial decision to move forward, pending further regulatory approvals … If successful, the Viva Energy Terminal can receive up to 160 petajoules (PJ) of liquefied natural gas (LNG) per annum – approximately 88 per cent of Victoria's 2024 gas consumption … This assessment increases competition among potential gas supply projects when they enter the tender process to secure support from AEMO – this will ensure that families and businesses on the east coast have access to a dependable gas supply at the most affordable price … See also: Viva Energy Gas Terminal (website 20 June 2025) Viva Energy's proposed gas terminal receives federal environmental approval (website 9 April 2026) On April 1, 2026, Viva Energy's proposed gas terminal in Geelong received formal approval under the Federal Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act. Viva Energy welcomes the Environment Minister's EPBC approval, that recognises the proposed Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) terminal can proceed, subject to conditions, with acceptable environmental effects.

Party	Policies
	The approval follows the Victorian Government's positive assessment of an Environment Effects Statement for this vital energy infrastructure project in May last year … Viva Energy Hub Gas Terminal (Viva Energy website accessed 3 August 2026) After receiving a positive assessment on the Environmental Effects Statement for a gas terminal in Geelong, Viva Energy is progressing the remaining work to bring this vitally important project to reality. With the capability to supply more than 50 per cent of the State's gas needs … The Viva Energy Hub Gas Terminal will: • Solve Victoria's gas supply concerns flexibly and cost effectively; • Unlock a pathway to bring the most cost-effective liquefied natural gas (LNG) from Australian gas fields in northern Australia or from the global market; • Ensure reliable supply for 2.2 million households in Victoria that rely heavily on gas for heating and cooking; • Ensure industry has access to a reliable gas supply to help secure jobs and their futures; and, • Support the energy transition by ensuring enough gas for electricity generation as coal retires and when renewables aren't generating … The Viva Energy Hub Gas Terminal includes a new pier, a floating terminal to process the LNG which would be located at an existing industrial location adjacent to our refinery and a short pipeline to tie-in to the existing gas transmission infrastructure … With construction of the terminal expected to take two years, the terminal promises a complete solution to the structural gas shortfalls forecast to impact Victoria from later this decade … Vopak Victoria energy terminal (website 14 July 2026) Background The proponent (Vopak Victoria Energy Terminal Pty Ltd (Vopak)) is proposing to build and operate a floating liquefied natural gas (LNG) import terminal in Port Phillip Bay, approximately 20 kilometres east from Avalon. It would process LNG and feed it into the existing onshore gas supply system using an underwater pipeline. The aim of the Project is to provide Victorians access to a reliable supply of natural gas from the global market that can scale up and down to meet Victorian's energy needs. Key components of the project include: • Offshore facilities; including a marine berth for the Floating Storage Regasification Unit (FSRU) vessel, and marine platforms. • A subsea high pressure gas pipeline (approximately 20 kilometres in length), and two 20-kilometre-high voltage cables that connect the offshore facilities to the onshore pipeline and high voltage cables. This component includes a 1.5-kilometre trenchless shore crossing for both the pipeline and cables to approximately 500 metres inland. • Onshore facilities; including a gas receiving station (GRS) and associated infrastructure including nitrogen generation plant, 7-kilometre onshore gas pipeline and tie-in station to the Victorian gas transmission system, and high voltage cables between the trenchless construction site to the GRS. • Onshore underground transmission line, including 15.5 to 23 kilometres predominantly within existing road reserves between a new terminal station in Lara, and a new substation located either next to the GRS or on Beach Road within the Western Treatment Plant.

Party	Policies
	Exhibition The Environment Effects Statement (EES) was publicly exhibited for comment for 30 business days from Thursday 14 May 2026 to 11.59pm on Friday 26 June 2026 … Inquiry The Vopak Victoria Energy Terminal Inquiry and Advisory Committee was appointed by the Minister for Planning's delegate on 14 May 2025 to consider the environmental effects of the project. The Directions Hearing will be held on 13 July 2026. The Hearing will commence, indicatively on Monday 10 August 2026. A timetable for the Hearing will be published after the Directions Hearing … Vopak Victoria Energy Terminal Inquiry and Advisory Committee (website accessed 12 October 2026) Update - 31 August 2026 The Inquiry and Advisory Committee Hearing concluded on Monday, 31 August 2026 … Overview The Minister for Planning (the Minister) has appointed a joint Inquiry and Advisory Committee (IAC) to advise on the environmental effects of the proposed works for the Vopak Victoria Energy Terminal Project (the Project). The IAC is an independent group of experts tasked with this assessment. The IAC will: • review the Environment Effects Statement (EES), draft Planning Scheme Amendment (PSA) C490ggee to the Geelong Planning Scheme, EPA development licence application and public submissions • hold a public Hearing to hear from the Proponent and submitters who want to speak to their written submission • provide advice to the Minister about the environmental effects of the project and the draft PSA; and • provide recommendations to inform the Environment Protection Authority's (EPA) consideration of the development licence application under the Environment Protection Act 2017. Vopak Victoria Energy Terminal Inquiry and Advisory Committee: Timeline (website accessed 12 October 2026) … Hearing stage: Hearing Commence indicatively on Monday 10 August 2026 … Report stage: Report and next steps September 2026 - October 2026 Once the Hearing ends, the Inquiry and Advisory Committee must prepare a report for the Minister for Planning. Under the Terms of Reference, the Inquiry and Advisory Committee must submit its report within 30 business days of the last day of its proceedings. The Minister for Planning will use the IAC's report to inform the Minister's Assessment under the Environment Effects Act 1978 of the environmental effects of the project. This Assessment will be considered by the statutory decision makers for the project. The Minister will decide if and when the Inquiry and

Party	Policies
	Advisory Committee report will be made publicly available. If released, the report will be published online.
Liberals	*Our Plan to Deliver for Victorians* (2026) Energy choice for Victorians (page 21) … Victorian gas for Victorians Natural gas has been demonised by Labor for a decade. Only the Liberals and Nationals will back Victorian gas for Victorians. Our Plan will throw open the door for gas exploration, ensuring reliable gas supply for Victoria. And it will support manufacturing, while helping our gas industry to create more local jobs and grow our economy … *Our Ten Year Plan to secure Victoria's economic future* (May 2026) Ensuring energy security (page 11) Reliable, affordable energy is essential for households and businesses. Yet Victoria faces a looming supply gap as older generators retire and new capacity fails to keep pace. We will: • Remove the gas ban. • Reopen Victoria to gas exploration. Energy policy must be practical, balanced, and focused on reliability … Lowering energy and housing costs by scrapping Labor's gas ban (Media release, 18 October 2026) A Jess Wilson led-Government will lower energy costs and restore energy choice for households and business by scrapping Labor's gas ban within 100 days … In addition to scrapping Labor's gas ban, a Liberal and Nationals Government will throw open the doors to new conventional gas by inviting gas producers to tell us where Victoria's best conventional gas opportunities are and how quickly they can responsibly bring them into production. A Victorian Gas Program Report - overseen by Victoria's Lead Scientist - confirmed there is likely up to 830 PJ of commercially feasible onshore conventional gas yet to be discovered in Victoria, and that utilising these resources could generate $300 million annually for regional economies and create up to 6,400 jobs … More Gas, Fewer Poles and Wires – Our Plan to Keep the Lights on and Prices Low (Media release 19 August 2026) … A future Liberal and Nationals Government will: • Scrap Labor's gas ban and restore energy choice for households and businesses • Throw open the doors to new conventional gas projects … Liberals and Nationals' Energy Security Requirement to Lower Prices and Keep the Lights On (Media release, 26 July 2026) … the Victorian Auditor-General has warned Victoria faces a significant risk of electricity shortfall following the expected closure of the Yallourn Power Station in 2028. This imminent energy shortage puts us at risk of blackouts, higher prices and having our economy to grind to a halt. The Liberals and Nationals' Energy Security Requirement will ensure Victoria has sufficient power to meet our needs by securing additional new firm electricity generation through competitive tenders.

Party	Policies
	The Energy Security Requirement will be based on similar schemes in New South Wales and South Australia which facilitate new projects that meet energy reliability and security thresholds. Whilst technologically agnostic, it is expected that gas-fired generation will be the most likely to provide the bulk of the necessary firming capacity. The Liberals and Nationals' Energy Security Requirement complements our plan to throw open the door to new conventional gas exploration and extraction and to overturn Labor's ideological and costly gas ban … Delivering more local gas and lower energy bills, sooner (Media release 12 July 2026) A future Liberal and Nationals Government will ease the pressure on energy prices for households and businesses by throwing open the door to new gas exploration. After more than a decade of Labor's war on gas, Victoria faces declining local production, rising prices and growing risks to future energy security. Around 80 per cent of Victorian households rely on gas, yet Labor has failed to back the industry that keeps homes warm, manufacturers operating and the electricity system reliable. For more than a decade, Labor failed to issue a single new onshore conventional gas exploration permit. Even after finally releasing two small exploration areas last year, Labor has failed to attract the new investment and new supply Victoria desperately needs. A Liberal and Nationals Government will put Victoria back in business. Within 60 days of coming to government, we will launch a statewide Request for Proposal process, inviting gas producers to tell us where Victoria's best conventional gas opportunities are and how quickly they can responsibly bring them into production. Instead of governments deciding where exploration should occur, we will let industry put forward the strongest proposals, assess them under Victoria's existing laws and environmental safeguards, and get the best projects moving. At the same time, we will slash unnecessary red tape by streamlining State environmental approvals, so projects no longer face years of costly and avoidable delays. Furthermore, a future Liberal and Nationals Government will form an Energy and Resources Cabinet sub-committee to oversee the process of examining proposals and prioritising the issuing of permits in line with current Victorian law and requirements. The result will be simple: more local gas, delivered sooner …
One Nation	*The Real Deal for Victoria* (Policy Platform, October 2026) Cheaper Energy (page 36) Power Bills … What we will do: • Give Victorian household and industrial demand first call on Victorian gas. Genuine surplus can still be exported. We will not run a rigid reservation that damages local producers who mainly supply the domestic market. The principle is simple: Victorians come first … • Support continued exploration for commercial offshore gas reserves so Victoria maintains long-term supply …

Party	Policies
	Victoria has the resources. What has been missing is a government prepared to put Victorian households and manufacturers first.
Animal Justice	*Energy Policy* (website, accessed 27 October 2026) **Fossil Fuels** AJP recognises that fossil fuels, including coal and natural gas, cannot and will not be part of any final clean energy solution to climate change. Roughly speaking, if a technology isn't 95 percent cleaner than coal, then it can't be part of a long term solution. Natural gas is neither sustainable nor clean enough. It makes no sense to transition to natural gas only to have to replace it with something better in the near future. Rapidly transition to a carbon-free energy infrastructure, using known clean technologies in the most ecologically and animal friendly mix. Rapidly in this case means 15 to 20 years.
Tom Ward Independent for Eildon	No policies related to no new fossil fuel mining or infrastructure.
End Mass Immigration	
Family First	Energy Policy (website, accessed 28 September 2026) … Family First will ensure Australia's energy needs are met by … • Unlocking gas reserves by lifting restrictions on exploration; • Increasing gas supply and ensuring we have reserves to drive industry and jobs; • Increasing the petroleum reserves to ensure transport security …
Freedom	
Legalise Cannabis	
Libertarians	Support for new fossil fuel exploration and mining. Energy Policy (website, accessed 27 October 2026) The Libertarian Party of Victoria supports allowing all coal, oil, uranium, and natural gas projects Energy Policy Briefing (website, accessed 28 October 2026) Unlock Victoria's natural resources. Stop strangling coal, gas, and uranium development with endless red tape. Let the market decide which energy sources work best, not politicians playing favourites.
Shooters Fishers Farmers	
Socialist Alliance	
Sustainable Australia	
Victorian Socialists	Addressing Climate Change and Protecting our Environment (Policies webpage, 2026)

Party	Policies
	… In 2025, the Allan government opened up a new offshore gas exploration program, a pivotal policy shift after years of more restrictive measures, and locking in fossil fuel development that will generate emissions for decades and is incompatible with any credible path to net zero … We'll fight to … • Reverse the Allan government's 2025 offshore gas exploration program, prohibit the development of all new fossil fuel projects — onshore and offshore. • Make environmental approval for any new resource development contingent on full greenhouse gas emission neutrality … • End all planned waste to energy schemes and ban the creation of future waste incinerators … How Will We Pay for It? (Policies webpage, 2026) … We'll fight to … • Increase royalties on all coal, gas, oil, base and precious metals and minerals, currently ranging from around 2.75 percent to 10 percent depending on the resource, to a flat 35 percent …

5. Stronger protection of nature, including native forests

Party	Policies
Greens	Protect & Restore Nature (Platform, website accessed 5 October 2026) A healthy environment isn't just a nice-to-have. Clean air, fresh water, functioning ecosystems - these are the foundations of our health, our food, our economy, our culture. For First Nations peoples, Country is not a backdrop to life. It is life … Funding for environmental protection in Victoria is at an historic low. Species are declining. Habitat is shrinking. Invasive species are spreading. Meanwhile, the department managing our environment too often acts in the interests of industry, not nature. We need a fundamental shift – not tinkering at the edges – but a genuine re-ordering of how our government values and invests in nature. That's what the Greens will deliver … Fund nature properly and create a green workforce to restore country Labor's funding cuts to environmental protection have been devastating. The latest State of the Environment Report shows all of Victoria's biodiversity indicators are poor or declining – while Labor cuts environmental funding, slashes fisheries officers' jobs, gives in to the gun and hunting lobby at every turn, and refuses to declare new national parks to protect Victoria's ancient forests. The Greens will create a $2 billion seed fund to reverse Labor's cuts to nature protection and fund First Nations-led work protecting and restoring Country. We will deliver secure, long-term jobs for environmental protection and restoration - with long-term investment that survives budget cycles. We'll also address immediate threats to our threatened species – we'll reclassify feral deer as a pest, instead of a protected species, and invest in controlling invasive species like rabbits, feral cats, and fire ants, which cause enormous damage to native wildlife, with the most humane and scientifically-proven methods available. Protect native forests and close Labor's loopholes that allow under-the-radar logging In 2004, after decades-long campaigns by community activists and the Greens, Labor announced they would end native forest logging. But they left the back door open by allowing some massive loopholes in the laws. This means many of Victoria's forests continue to be logged for profit, our ancient forests still have no permanent protection, and Labor has allowed Victorian taxpayer money to be used to destroy precious ancient native forests in Tasmania. The Greens will close Labor's logging loopholes and protect our forests for good. We will: • Repeal laws that would enable future governments to bring back native logging on public land - future-proofing Victoria's ban on commercial logging • Create permanent legal protections, and new national parks and reserves, to protect forests in the Central Highlands and East Gippsland, with Traditional Owners' rights and management front and centre. • Make it illegal for mills in Victoria to process native forest timber from anywhere in Australia - including old forests in Tasmania. • Ban logging in native forests on private land (not including sustainable plantations)

Party	Policies
	• Create real accountability by empowering the Environment Protection Authority and Office of the Conservation Regulator to investigate Forest Fire Management Victoria, so fire management isn't used as an excuse for logging. Fix Victoria's wildlife laws Victoria's wildlife laws are 50 years old and badly out of date. Labor promised to fix them, then quietly abandoned those plans. The Greens want to change that. We will: • Ban duck shooting • Overhaul our wildlife laws and fix the permit system that allows massive numbers of native animals to be killed • Make sure threatened species don't just get listed - they get a real plan to help them recover, funded through our $2 billion nature fund • Redirect the funding which currently goes to promoting recreational hunting to protecting species and habitat instead. Greens Our Cities … The Greens will rewrite the planning rules, returning the requirement that planners need to take into account the environmental impacts of a development, and with a target of 40% tree canopy coverage in urban areas. We will also support urban rewilding and greening initiatives that reconnect city residents with nature, through planting programs in parks, nature strips, along creeks and in backyards. Protect what's left of our grassland Years ago, Labor promised to purchase land on Melbourne's outskirts to establish a Western Grassland Reserve, to protect some of our most endangered ecosystems and Country deeply significant to First Nations people. That promise remains largely unfulfilled. The Greens will purchase the remaining land, using our $2 billion nature fund, and establish genuine First Nations led protection and restoration for what remains of these ecosystems. Restructure the environment department and put nature and First Nations knowledge first The Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action often puts the interests of industry on equal (or greater) footing with environmental protection. The Greens will restructure it so that nature protection and First Nations knowledge is the primary mandate, not giving corporations what they want to make more profit. Stop destructive fossil fuel and mining projects … Planning for Liveable Cities and Towns (Platform, website accessed 12 October 2026) … Protecting our environment Right now in Victoria, too often the environment is just an afterthought in planning decisions. The Greens will rewrite our planning laws to strengthen environmental protection in all planning decisions. We will also support urban

Party	Policies
	rewilding and greening initiatives that reconnect city residents with living ecosystems … Protect Animals (Platform, website accessed 12 October 2026) … Ban duck shooting … Fix Victoria's wildlife laws Victoria's wildlife laws are 50 years old and badly out of date. Labor promised to fix them - then quietly abandoned those plans. The Greens want to change that. We'll overhaul our wildlife laws and fix the permit system that allows massive numbers of native animals to be killed. We'll make sure threatened species don't just get listed - they get a real plan to help them recover. And we will redirect the funding which currently goes to promoting recreational hunting to protecting species and habitat instead. Forests Policy (website, dated 23 June 2024) Principles • Victoria's forests must be managed in accordance with the principles of intergenerational equity, the precautionary principle, biodiversity conservation and respect for the traditional ownership of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. • Victoria's public native forests have inestimable value for climate management, water supply and biodiversity, and as places for recreation and appreciation. They should be protected and managed primarily for these purposes. • Ecological principles and scientifically robust information should guide forest management. • Investment in forest protection, restoration and management should be increased substantially, as part of a broader commitment to reversing the species extinction crisis and expanding jobs and economies in regional Victoria. • Only plantation grown wood can be classified as renewable. • Achievement of best practice plantation management throughout Victoria to minimize adverse impacts on local communities and local biodiversity, air, soil and water quality. • Forest plantations can be used to meet our entire domestic and export markets and to produce a range of value-added products. • Native forest on private land must be protected • The carbon value of ending logging and protecting our forests should benefit the climate, not be traded away • Logging and other major forest disturbances increase the risk and intensity of bushfires. Aims • A wood-production industry plan that will complete the transition from native forests to existing plantations, including appropriate transition arrangements (maximum 5 years) to the use of plantation and recycled timbers only, and re-training and other assistance for workers and affected communities. • Prioritise, as part of a transition to solely plantation-sourced timber: a. an end to all timber extraction in native forests; b. a blanket ban on the use of wood for generating electricity;

Party	Policies
	c. An end to the export of woodchips and whole logs from native forests; and d. Ending logging in high-conservation value forests and town water catchments; • Reform of Victorian government departments and agencies to ensure greater focus on protecting Victoria's natural assets. • Carbon stored in native forests and other natural ecosystems to be fully included in greenhouse accounts, and for policies that will maintain and restore natural ecosystems to their long term carbon capture and carrying capacity as a major carbon pollution mitigation strategy, while not allowing existing forests to be used as carbon offsets. • Allowing regrowth forest to mature to reduce bushfire risk and maximise biodiversity, carbon uptake and water yield. • The management of re-growth forest to an old growth state to maximise biodiversity, carbon uptake and water yield, which are more valuable outcomes than logging. • Funding of independent detailed research into the effects of fire, including planned burns, on ecosystems • To ensure prescribed burns focus primarily on protecting people and assets and be driven by science, not politics. Hectare-based guidelines at either the state or regional level are inappropriate. • The revegetation of land (including salt-affected land) with diverse native vegetation which can store carbon, help manage water and restore local biodiversity. • Promote a range of Victoria's alpine and other types of forests for World Heritage listing, as well as recognition of the Central Highlands Mountain Ash Forests as a critically endangered ecosystem. • The development of sustainable alternative fibre industries. • A sustainable and productive wood products industry on public and private land that maintains or enhances the resilience of natural ecosystems and that creates long-term skilled jobs and social sustainability in regional communities. • Forestry plantations which are: a. responsibly managed, and certified as such by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) b. moderate in scale c. species-diverse d. only cultivated on land that has already been cleared. • World's best practice, FSC-certified, farm-scale species-diverse plantation forestry, including a ban on genetically modified tree species. • To ensure forest certification schemes are rigorously defined to prevent 'greenwash'. • More effective enforcement of bans on the sale of illegally logged wood products both imported and domestic, and FSC chain of custody documentation requirements. • To restrict timber-getting from state forests to domestic collection of firewood for personal purposes only (not resale), which is regulated to operate within strict ecological limits. • To ensure that remaining small-scale and localised timber-getting operates within strict ecological limits.

Party	Policies
	• Support for creation of high value products (eg. furniture) to occur in addition to production of lower value commodities (wood chips, palings, sleepers and fence posts, etc.) • An end to MIS schemes for timber and oppose tax-driven carbon plantations. • Resourcing local government so that it can effectively implement native vegetation removal laws, and to provide oversight of local councils with a properly resourced and qualified regulator. • Agroforestry requires robust regulation to significantly reduce impacts on native vegetation and wildlife during harvesting. • Abolish the 1996 Wood Pulp Agreement, which accelerates the destruction of native forests for commercial interests. • Government agencies must not engage in commercial sales of timber cleared in the course of fire risk management. • Fire management authorities must: a. ensure transparency in their work b. assess and protect habitat values and rare species c. assess smoke pollution impacts on communities d. account for losses of stored carbon e. carry out pre- and post-burn monitoring f. base all modelling and planning on sound scientific evidence. • Areas of failed regeneration must be repaired and enabled to become natural forest again. Restoration must not become an excuse for de facto plantation establishment. Bushfire Policy (website, dated 14 June 2025) Principles • Fire is an integral part of many Australian landscapes but varies in its behaviour, intensity and frequency. Weather plays a critical role in fire behaviour. Climate change is amplifying weather extremes which greatly exacerbates fire behaviour. • All aspects of bushfire prevention, management, mitigation and control must: ○ be based on independent evidence-based research; and ○ prioritise human safety … Wildlife • Resources to increase the rate of survival and rehabilitation of affected wildlife. • Trained wildlife volunteers to be allowed access to areas immediately after a fire to rescue, feed or humanely destroy suffering wildlife. • Properly resourced and evidence-based planned burning regimes that: ○ ensure thorough surveys for, and protection of, threatened species and habitats, particularly hollow-bearing trees, before and after undertaking prescribed burns ○ involve Traditional Owners and local communities with local biodiversity knowledge ○ exclude long unburnt representative areas ○ require fuel hazard re-assessment with on-site inspection immediately prior to burning ○ consider an area as ‘treated’ if fuel levels are below the designated threshold

Party	Policies
	○ protection of mature trees and long-unburnt forests unless genuinely necessary to protect nearby built environments ; and ○ reduce the number of large old trees cut down after the fire – unless they are a credible threat to the public – and cease blanket salvage logging • Significantly greater resourcing for biodiversity assessment of fire operation plans (FOPs). • Fire agencies to minimise the use of back burns, given their destruction of fleeing wildlife and vulnerable habitats, doubts regarding their effectiveness, and their impact on the safety of firefighters. • Cease the practice of burning out unburnt 'islands' within burnt areas as standard post-fire management practice • The impact on wildlife to be included in ecological assessments undertaken before any fuel reduction burn. • Advance public understanding of bushfires and work towards Victoria developing world's best practice in fire prevention, management and control. • Bushfire research and fire suppression techniques taking into account the need to halt biodiversity decline. • Increasing research funding to advance fire agencies' understanding of fire and the environment, and fire risk minimisation. • Further research and review into the ever-increasing impact of climate change on bushfire behaviour … • Encouraging the scientific community to use plain language to bring bushfire information and expertise to the broader community, ensuring evidence-based justification and risk assessment of all prescribed burns. • Improving the scientific accountability of fire management and mitigation measures … Planning … • Changing government plans for logging state forests adjacent to residential interface to reduce flammable regeneration. • Reconciling 'fire zones' with 'planning zones' and identifying high fire risk zones to limit subdivision in dangerous interface areas. • Increased funding for fire risk and land management practices undertaken by First Nations peoples. • Support cultural burning being practiced by First Nations peoples … Biodiversity policy (website, dated 14 June 2025) Principles • Victoria's unique indigenous biodiversity is intrinsically valuable and must be protected. • Biologically diverse ecosystems and ecosystem processes sustain Earth's life support systems, including the climate system. • Biodiversity is essential to human survival, health, and wealth. • Healthy and resilient ecological systems are essential for current and future generations and should thrive in our cities, agricultural and rural areas, as well as in all parts of the natural environment. • Economic development and technologies must be within the limits of our biologically diverse ecosystems if we are to survive and flourish.

Party	Policies
	• The ongoing loss of Victoria's biodiversity poses an unacceptable risk to human and ecosystem health, and dramatically reduces our ability to cope with major environmental threats. • Victorian ecosystems are vital for the survival of nationally and internationally significant species of migratory animals, and the loss of biodiversity in Victoria has national and international ramifications. • Local Indigenous Networks have an important role to play in the protection of Victorian biodiversity. • All legislation should abide by precautionary principles; that is, if an action or policy has a suspected risk of causing harm to the public or the environment, protective action should be supported before there is complete scientific proof of a risk. Aims • Review of all current environmental legislation to evaluate how effectively each is protecting relevant aspects of the natural environment (i.e. specific areas, biomes and species), and identify where improvement is needed. • Pass legislation to prevent actions that are damaging our ecological systems and processes. • Resource environmental legislation implementation to fulfil its primary objectives of maintaining and improving the natural environment. • Establish a comprehensive statewide biodiversity framework with a funding mechanism aimed at reversing the ongoing degradation of existing biodiversity. This framework will give priority to protecting ecosystems, allowing our fauna and flora to evolve naturally. • Develop a comprehensive, adequate, and representative system of terrestrial, freshwater, and marine protected areas (MPAs), including all remaining areas of high conservation value, managed primarily to protect biodiversity. • Protection from accidental or deliberate introduction of non-native plants, animals and organisms which may compromise Australia's biodiversity. • Improved support for services which anticipate and address biosecurity risks and invasive species threats at a state level. • Support for science-based, large-scale programs for habitat protection, restoration of ecological systems, and protection of all indigenous species. • Promote effective integration of regional and urban planning, ecological sustainability, economic development, and social wellbeing. • Liaise with and support environmentally focused community groups to further identify areas of environmental concern. • Market-based processes and trading mechanisms such as biodiversity banking and offsets to not be used to clear or contaminate conservation areas for development, given their appalling implementation track record. • Introduce state measures to end broad-scale clearing and incremental loss of native vegetation, including degradation of native forests and excessive strategic fuel break construction. • Native vegetation clearing offsets to be the last resort when considering approval of projects and development applications, and to be secured and approved before the final decision. • Establish evidence-based buffer zones in high conservation areas, with linkage and restoration of ecological fragments on public and private land.

Party	Policies
	• Strengthening the planning scheme to allow councils to better protect biodiversity. • Research humane and sustainable means of controlling existing and potential threats to biodiversity from feral animals, weeds, and pest species. • Increase and enforce penalties for the killing or capture of state-listed threatened and endangered species and damage to their habitat. • Support programs to work with private landowners and community groups to protect, restore, and conserve natural values on their land, including conservation covenants. • Develop and enforce recovery plans for threatened and endangered species and protection plans for ecological communities. • Create indigenous flora and fauna reserves where animals and plants can be protected or re-established. • Resourcing for research to monitor the status of ecosystems and inform government policy. • Resourcing for biodiversity education programs. Greens stop deer hunting at Mt Buangor National Park which would have seen shooters right next to school kids (Media release 28 November 2025) The Victorian Greens have stopped recreational deer hunting from being introduced in the new Mount Buangor National Park, with the Greens amendment to new national parks laws passing the Upper House. The Bill will create long-promised new national parks in Victoria, but as a sweetener to the shooting lobby, Labor initially proposed gifting hunters tens of thousands of hectares to shoot deer in the new national parks Mount Buangor, Pyrenees and Wombat-Lerderderg national parks … The Greens have been able to secure an amendment to remove deer hunting from the national park entirely - which are supported by the Victorian National Parks Association, Outdoors Victoria, Australian Camps Association and the community in the area … The Greens support professional deer-control efforts to bring down deer numbers, rather than amateur hunters who have been shown not to make a dent in deer populations … Victorian Greens will introduce new laws to close loopholes in native forest logging – in response to shocking revelations from Four Corners (Media release 23 June 2026) In response to shocking revelations about the continuation of logging in Victoria, and Victorian sawmills fuelling forest destruction in old forests in Tasmania - the Victorian Greens will introduce a Bill to Parliament to close loopholes in the law that allow these destructive practices to continue. The Greens bill would: • Make it illegal for mills in Victoria to process native forest timber from anywhere in Australia - including old forests in Tasmania • Ban logging on private land • Prevent logging companies from exploiting bushfire and storm processes • Repeal laws that would enable future governments to bring back native logging on public land - future-proofing Victoria's ban on commercial logging … Forests Legislation Amendment (Closing Logging Loopholes) Bill 2026 (Hansard, 28 July, 2026)

Party	Policies
	Greens introduced Bill to close logging loopholes. Forest management (Hansard, 9 September 2026) Motion moved by Georgie Purcell (14:40): … (2) calls on the government to: (a) commit to genuine transparency over FFMV tree-felling and timber removal operations on public land; (b) extend mandatory on-the-ground threatened species surveys to all non-emergency tree-felling operations on public land; (c) establish an independent mechanism for community concerns regarding forest management to be properly investigated; (d) recognise and support the rights and aspirations of traditional owners over country, including through meaningful joint management of Victoria's forests; and (e) ensure that Victoria's forests and the wildlife that depend on them are genuinely protected. Greens voted in favour of the Motion. Entities Legislation Amendment (Consolidation and Other Matters) Bill 2025 (Victorian Legislation website) This Bill abolishes a number of public entities, including the Victorian Environment Assessment Council and the Victorian Marine and Coastal Council. The Greens voted against the Bill (see Hansard Legislative Council, 19 March 2026)
Labor	*Land use, land use change and forestry sector emissions reduction pledge 2026-30* (released January 2026; see also *Victoria's Climate Change Strategy 2026-30*) Minister's foreword (page 1) The land use, land use change and forestry (LULUCF) sector is central to our transition to net zero emissions by 2045. It's the only sector that can naturally remove emissions from the atmosphere, and we're committed to accelerating this potential by planting more trees and safeguarding the future of our state's forests … Achievements (page 3) … 450+ offset sites in Victoria covering 20,000+ hectares. Requirements to avoid native vegetation removal and offset biodiversity impacts of removals have reduced vegetation clearing and played a vital role in capturing and storing carbon. 117,000+ hectares of private land under conservation covenants, government-backed programs that accelerate native vegetation management and protection – strengthening community grassroots efforts. 382,000 hectares Victoria has the largest plantation estate in the country, producing around a quarter of Australia's plantation grown wood and providing timber for construction and paper manufacturing. 1.8 million hectares of protected state forest. From 1 January 2024 all native timber harvesting on public land ceased – six years earlier than planned – significantly reducing carbon emissions … Emissions reduction pledge 2026–30 (page 4) The 2021–25 LULUCF sector pledge's tree planting actions will continue until at least

Party	Policies
	2030 as we create new habitat for biodiversity, establish new plantations and support farm forestry and shelter belts on farms. Our long-term planting programs aim to plant millions of trees across private and public land, boosting our agricultural sector and restoring our great outdoors. Actions in this pledge will reduce emissions by at least 0.3 Mt CO2-e in 2030, noting this is a conservative estimate as it excludes emissions reductions from forest recovery and management. Pledge actions together with our ongoing action to protect native vegetation and invest in forest management will help the LULUCF sector continue to remove 12–15 Mt of CO2-e in 2030. Benefits of these actions include: • providing habitat for biodiversity and places to explore and enjoy through native forests and environmental plantings • creating essential wood products and income streams to regional communities through plantation and farm forestry • First Peoples and Traditional Owners participating in land restoration projects to realise their aspirations for Country • partnering with Traditional Owners to reset the strategic direction of forest management, including empowering Traditional Owners to heal and care for Country. We'll continue to engage with the Australian Government and others to support carbon markets and the emerging nature repair market that offer opportunities and access to private funding to deliver this critical work. Emissions reduction actions 2026–30 (page 5-7) Actively manage forests Victoria's impressive forests provide habitat for unique animals and plants, clean water and places for connecting with nature through bushwalking, bird watching, hiking and camping. Victoria's public land covers approximately 8 million hectares of state forests, parks and conservation reserves, holding more than 1 billion tonnes of carbon. Forested areas are the largest carbon sink in Victoria, providing around 70% of Victoria's annual carbon sequestration. The end of native timber harvesting presents new opportunities for how to manage over 1.8 million hectares of state forest. The Victorian Government is partnering with Traditional Owners to embed traditional knowledge, values and the rights of Traditional Owners in this management, while also responding to forest management challenges including climate change, population growth and changing community needs. From 2024 to 2028 the **Future Forests Program** will provide approximately $40 million to: • actively regenerate 1,200 hectares of degraded native forests • manage forests for biodiversity and carbon outcomes • manage weeds and pest threats • improve fire ecology and forest modelling knowledge • support research and trials into ecological thinning, and apply this to improve ecological values, support biodiversity and increase the resilience of forests to climate impacts. Restore nature for a greener, cooler, more biodiverse Victoria Well-planned tree planting can deliver co-benefits for the economy, biodiversity, agriculture, water, Traditional Owners and regional communities.

Party	Policies
	The Victorian Government will continue to leverage existing carbon and nature repair markets and explore opportunities such as new Crown land carbon sequestration agreements to attract private investment for nature restoration. **BushBank Program** The $77 million, 16-year BushBank Program provides incentives to restore and protect natural habitats, helping remove emissions, diversify income streams, heal Country and improve biodiversity, soil, air and water quality. The BushBank Program aims to restore more than 20,000 hectares of land across Victoria by 2035 by leveraging private investment – delivering up to 2 Mt CO2-e emissions reductions by 2045. We're investing $3 million through the BushBank Program to support the upscale of seed supply while also supporting Traditional Owner nursery expansions and the Traditional Owner-led 'Right Plant Right Way' forum focused on overcoming challenges in the sector … **Victorian Plantations Support Program** Victoria already has the largest plantation estate in the country and a new $10 million program will support plantation expansion by up to 5,000 hectares by leveraging Australian Government and private investment. These plantations can generate Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCUs), providing additional revenue to landowners, and supporting domestic wood supply. **Trees on Farms Program** The Victorian Trees on Farms Program commenced in August 2025. This program provides grants to farmers and small plantation growers to integrate trees on their land. The aligned **Trees on Farms Incubator Program** will be delivered in parallel supporting rural landowners to receive in depth training and planning advice to strengthen their technical knowledge and inform decision-making. **Trees on Farms Utilisation Program** We're investing $4.5 million over three years to support mid-rotation thinning in farm forestry plantations – a practice that improves productivity but can be financially challenging at smaller scales. This support will help avoid early clear-felling for low-value products, promoting the production of high-quality sawn timber that stores carbon longer. This program is backed by Australian Forestry and Wood Innovations which will evaluate carbon and natural capital benefits of hardwood plantations and investigate innovative processing, new markets and industry growth opportunities for the nascent hardwood plantation sector across Victoria. **Gippsland Plantations Investment Program** The $120 million Gippsland Plantations Investment Program continues to support industrial-scale plantations and is expected to plant 16 million softwood trees over the life of the program. [Also section on Carbon Markets] Traditional Owner self-determined participation

Party	Policies
	With a unique connection to land and cultural responsibilities to protect and heal Country, Traditional Owners and First Peoples groups across Victoria have their own distinct aspirations for Country and People. We recognise the rights of Traditional Owners and value their cultural knowledge. As part of our commitment, we've: • allocated $14.5 million in grants through the **BushBank Program** for Traditional Owners to heal Country and participate in habitat restoration and carbon markets, including support for Traditional Owner nurseries and seed businesses • funded the development of the **Traditional Owner Cultural Landscapes Strategy** to support Traditional Owner rights and interests in managing Country according to their Lore and Customs. The Victorian Government continues to enable Traditional Owner participation in land management including: • supporting economic and employment opportunities on Country • land restoration and carbon farming opportunities • genuine partnerships with public land managers • increasing the influence of Traditional Owners on climate action • strengthening culture and incorporating cultural knowledge into management practices Traditional Owners caring for Country and climate We are supporting Traditional Owners to advance their self-determined priorities for Country, People and the climate. Eastern Maar Aboriginal Corporation (EMAC) is delivering a Resilient Forests Project for the Otway forest foothills in partnership with the Conservation Ecology Centre. This partnership is embedding biocultural landscapes, obligations to Country and climate vulnerability assessment into forests management. BushBank has also supported an EMAC ACCU Project near Beech Forest. The project will enable Eastern Maar People to practise their cultural responsibilities to manage their Country and provide important carbon and biodiversity outcomes for Victoria. BushBank has supported several groups to increase their ability to supply plants or seed including the First People of the Millewa Mallee Aboriginal Corporation (FPMMAC), Taungurung Land and Waters Council (TLaWC), Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation (WWWCHAC), Barengi Gadjin Land Council (BGLC), Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation (DJAARA) and Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation (WTOAC). WTOAC has examined the use of ecological thinning in the Ross Creek and Bamganie State Forest under a Joint Management trial. The trial will assess whether ecological thinning can enhance carbon storage, climate and fire resilience, and biodiversity by promoting tree growth in the long term. New parks in Central West Victoria (Website, 9 September 2026) We are creating 3 new national parks, 2 conservation parks, and expanding the Bendigo Regional Park in Central West Victoria ... In 2021, the government announced that it would create 3 national parks, 2 conservation parks, and 7 new and expanded regional parks in the state's central west. This includes the Wombat-Lerderderg National Park covering more than 44,000 hectares between Daylesford and Bacchus Marsh.

Party	Policies
	The parks will protect important, connected habitat which will benefit many of Victoria's threatened species, while ensuring that opportunities for all existing recreational activities are supported across the region. The Victorian Government is creating the new parks in accordance with its response to the Victorian Environmental Assessment Council's (VEAC's) Central West Investigation Final Report. Legislation to create the first 6 parks was passed in 2025. This comprises the Wombat-Lerderderg, Pyrenees and Mount Buangor national parks, the Cobaw and Hepburn conservation parks, and an addition to the existing Bendigo Regional Park. The parks will be created on 5 October 2026, with statutory control and management of these areas transitioning to Parks Victoria on that date. Parks Victoria will also manage the remaining regional parks, nature reserves and bushland reserves committed to in the government's response from October 2026. These will be created as soon as practicable … Wombat-Lerderderg National Park The Wombat-Lerderderg National Park (approximately 44,000 hectares) is made up of the approximately 20,000 hectare existing Lerderderg State Park (45% of the new park) and approximately 24,000 hectares of the Wombat State Forest (55% of the new park). The creation of the national park will give added protection to this important natural and culturally significant area. Most existing recreational activities will be able to continue in the new national park. Firewood collection is not permitted in the new national park … Recreational pest hunting will not be permitted in the new national park. However, seasonal recreational deer hunting (by stalking) will be able to continue in the areas of the park that are currently State Forest … Recreational prospecting will not be permitted in the new national park … However, the government is creating a smaller Wombat-Lerderderg National Park than what was recommended by VEAC to provide an additional 4855-hectare Barkstead Regional Park where opportunities for recreational prospecting will be provided. Pyrenees National Park The Pyrenees National Park (approximately 15,000 hectares) is made up of the approximately 4,400-hectare Landsborough and Landsborough Hill nature conservation reserves and 10,600 hectares of the Pyrenees State Forest. The national park comprises relatively undisturbed mixed species forests with extensive patches of mature eucalypts. The park will protect populations of the highly restricted Pyrenees gum among many other threatened species … • Most existing recreational activities will be able to continue in the new national park. • Recreational pest hunting will not be permitted ... However, seasonal recreational deer hunting (by stalking) will be able to continue … • Recreational prospecting will not be permitted … • Firewood collection will not be permitted in the new national park. Mount Buangor National Park The Mount Buangor National Park (approximately 5,300 hectares) is made up of the approximately 2,500 hectare existing Mount Buangor State Park (47% of the new park) and 2,800 hectares of Mount Cole State Forest (53% of the new park).

Party	Policies
	The creation of the national park will give added protection to this important natural and culturally significant area … • Most existing recreational activities will be able to continue in the new national park. • Recreational hunting will not be permitted … However, as part of the legislation to create the parks, the Mount Cole Game Sanctuary has been revoked to provide new opportunities for recreational deer hunting in the adjoining Mount Cole State Forest. • Recreational prospecting will not be permitted … • Firewood collection is not permitted in the new national park Cobaw Conservation Park The Cobaw Conservation Park comprises the 2532-hectare Cobaw State Forest north-west of Lancefield. The park will protect the habitat of many woodland birds and threatened species within a largely cleared landscape, and is an important ecological link between central west Victoria and the eastern highlands … Recreational prospecting, hunting and firewood collection will not be permitted in the conservation park, however all other recreational activities will be able to continue. Hepburn Conservation Park The Hepburn Conservation Park comprises 2700 hectares of the Wombat State Forest north-west of Hepburn Springs. The park contains high natural values including records of the threatened brush-tailed phascogale … Recreational prospecting, hunting and firewood collection will not be permitted in the conservation park, however all other park activities will continue. Bendigo Regional Park The approximately 7,100-hectare Wellsford State Forest will be added to the existing Bendigo Regional Park. The addition will enhance the existing regional park, which provides a wide range of recreational activities in a natural setting close to Bendigo. Most existing activities except recreational hunting will be able to continue in the addition to Bendigo Regional Park. The government is creating a larger addition to the Bendigo Regional Park than was recommended by VEAC (which recommended part of the area be added to the Greater Bendigo National Park). This was to retain opportunities for recreational prospecting in the park, and to allow for domestic firewood collection (from designated sites) until June 2029 … See also: Three New National Parks Officially Open (Media release 5 October 2026) and New Parks for Victoria's Central West and Mirboo North (Parks Victoria website) [This shows 3, not 2 new conservation parks (extra one is Mirboo North)] Future of State forests (Website, 22 October 2025) Government's response to the Great Outdoors Taskforce and Eminent Panel for Community Engagement

Party	Policies
	The Victorian Government is investing $30 million to act on advice from the Great Outdoors Taskforce and Eminent Panel for Community Engagement. This builds on more than $1.5 billion already delivered towards the transition away from native timber harvesting. Thank you to every single Victorian who shared their story and connection to Victoria's forests. We have listened carefully to the community–and support their vision to share the benefits of the forests –focusing on building regional economies, maximising tourism and recreation opportunities, while also protecting forest values and supporting Traditional Owner self-determination. Our commitment is clear: the outdoors is there to be experienced and admired, not locked away. Our focus is on bringing more families and individuals to the bush and more jobs to the regions – while still protecting our environment … The Great Outdoors Taskforce did not consider large-scale change to land tenures and the creation of new national parks. Victoria's state forests will continue to maintain the same access our communities have always enjoyed. Our state forests are already home to environmental protections, cherished recreation spaces, and local economic activity. We'll continue this balanced approach – protecting what matters while ensuring communities can keep enjoying and caring for these landscapes. We share the same goal – thriving, healthy forests that can be enjoyed and cared for by everyone. We'll continue monitoring forest health and biodiversity to ensure our approach adapts as needed over time. With the end of large-scale commercial native timber harvesting, the Victorian Government delivered landmark protection for precious biodiversity and endangered species. Our commitment is to create more opportunities for people of all abilities to enjoy Victoria's great outdoors, and to work with communities to make Victoria's natural assets healthy and resilient. The Victorian Government is adopting a holistic, inclusive and collaborative approach to forest management. The Taskforce built on previous work from the Eminent Panel of Community Engagement, which engaged closely with local communities and provided advice to government on forest management, planning, and governance in the Central Highlands of Victoria, the Strathbogie Ranges and Mirboo North. The Taskforce and Eminent Panel have made it clear that planning for and managing forests needs to put community and Traditional Owner knowledge at the centre. The Taskforce's input makes it clear: Victorians care deeply about our forests, and they expect them to be cared for and remain accessible for future generations. We will also make our forests more attractive destinations for sustainable, nature-based tourism and investment, supporting wellbeing and livelihoods in regional communities. The Victorian Government's response consists of 4 actions: • Protecting our environment • Resetting the management framework for state forests • Working together for healthy forests • Driving recreation and tourism investments in regional economies … Traditional Owner Partnerships (Website 21 October 2025) Partnerships are key to improve how we care for and manage our forests DEECA recognises the unique rights and obligations held by Traditional Owners to care for Country and developing partnerships with Traditional Owners in land management is key to improving how we care for and manage our forests. The current program of forest management reform is an important opportunity to do

Party	Policies
	this. We understand that there is much to do to enable meaningful and enduring partnerships with Traditional Owners. It is a long-term proposition, which requires shared authority and decision making. The Traditional Owner authored ***Cultural Landscapes Strategy*** sets out long-term pathways for Traditional Owners to lead the planning and management of Country in line with their cultural obligations to care for Country … Science and Research (Website, 21 October 2025) Decisions on the future of our forests are informed by the latest science It is important that the modernisation of the Victorian Regional Forest Agreements (RFAs) and forest management system was guided by the latest robust science … The Victorian Government committed to funding $17.6 million towards the RFA modernisation process. Of this amount, $7.5 million has been directly invested in updating assessments of a range of forest values … We are also updating our information on timber resources. Findings from the research program provide information for the modernisation of Victoria's RFAs along with future forest management planning and decisions. Western Grassland Reserve (Website, 24 June 2026) Securing a 15,000 hectare reserve to restore and protect grasslands, wildflowers and animals. … A fragile ecosystem The volcanic plains of western Victoria were once home to sprawling native grasslands filled with delicate orchids, wildflowers, birds, reptiles, insects and marsupials, some of which were found nowhere else in Australia. Today, these important grasslands have almost disappeared due to clearing for agriculture, grazing, and urban development. This irreplaceable grassland ecosystem … is classified as critically endangered. Working together with Traditional Owners and learning from their knowledge and deep connection to Country, the Western Grassland Reserve will be restored over the coming decades so it can be enjoyed by future generations … What we're doing To protect one of the largest, contiguous sections of remaining grassland, the Victorian Government has set aside 15,000 hectares of private land, mostly used for agricultural purposes, to establish the Western Grassland Reserve. This entire area is covered by a Public Acquisition Overlay, which means the Victorian Government is committed to purchasing all properties and establishing the reserve in full. Some areas are still under private ownership. We are negotiating with landowners to acquire more land in the coming years. As we continue to raise revenue from the MSA levy, we will purchase more land … Challenges Establishing and restoring the Western Grassland Reserve is a long-term, complex project, with significant challenges like weeds, pests and overgrazing. Weeds are one of the most serious threats to fragile grassland ecosystems. Invasive species are a huge issue … Controlling and managing weeds is a complex task. Different weeds require a range of removal methods, and this is dependent on the type of landscape and ecology of the area. To tackle this challenge, we work with the

Party	Policies
	Arthur Rylah Institute, local councils and other government agencies and organisations to manage threats to native plants, animals and ecosystems. Working together to heal Country We work with Forest Fire Management Victoria, Wyndham City Council, Parks Victoria and the Arthur Rylah Institute, to manage and restore the grasslands, and have started discussions with Traditional Owners on their aspirations and assertions for Country … Biodiversity 2037 Progress Report (Website, 25 November 2025) Keeping the natural environment healthy Protecting Victoria's Environment – Biodiversity 2037, launched in 2017, is Victoria's plan to stop the decline of our native plants and animals and improve our natural environment. The plan is underpinned by **2 goals – Victoria's natural environment is healthy** and **Victorians value nature**. The plan set out ambitious statewide targets and contributing targets for both goals … Significant progress has been made in the past 5 years towards these targets, despite the challenges of climate change, the 2019–20 bushfires and COVID-19 … 1. Goal – Victoria's natural environment is healthy Protecting Victoria's Environment – Biodiversity 2037 has 5 targets for on-ground management to protect biodiversity. These landscape-scale activities benefit multiple species, including some that are threatened, and aims to prevent other species from becoming threatened. The targets focus on hectares of action in priority locations … Biodiversity 2037 targets for on-ground action • 4 million hectares of pest herbivore control per year in Biodiversity 2037 priority locations • 1.5 million hectares of pest predator control per year in Biodiversity 2037 priority locations • 1.5 million hectares of weed control per year in Biodiversity 2037 priority locations • 200,000 hectares of revegetation in Biodiversity 2037 priority locations by 2037, on average, 10,000 hectares per year • 200,000 hectares of new permanently protected areas on private land by 2037, on average 10,000 hectares per year Protecting our threatened species … Some threatened species need targeted assistance, as they don't receive enough benefit from landscape-scale actions like pest animal or weed control. Here are some examples of work happening across the state to make sure our threatened species have a positive future. • Orange-bellied Parrot … • Plains-wanderer … • Spotted Tree Frog … • Eastern Barred Bandicoot … • Snowy River Westringia …

Party	Policies
	2. Goal – Victorians value nature … Evidence shows that people who have a greater connection with nature are more likely to value nature and take action to protect the natural environment. Regular online surveys collect information about how Victorians are connecting with and acting for nature. [TARGETS:] • All Victorians connecting with nature • 5 million Victorians acting to protect the natural environment • All Victorian Government organisations that manage environmental assets contribute to environmental-economic accounting Invasive species on public land (Website, 4 February 2025) … Invasive species on public land in Victoria are managed by using a biosecurity approach. This approach focuses on asset-based protection measures that aim to minimise their impact on the environment, the economy and society. The Invasive Plants and Animals Policy Framework aims to protect our native flora, fauna and primary producers from harm caused by invasive species … Invasive plants (weeds) … Under the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994* certain plants are declared as noxious weeds in Victoria. This allows certain actions to be taken to control them. The impact of weeds on the environment is recognised through several listings under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* : • Introduction and spread of Spartina to Victorian estuarine environments. • Invasion of native vegetation by 'environmental weeds' • Invasion of native vegetation communities by Tall Wheat-grass Lophopyrum ponticum. Programs targeted at weed control on public land in Victoria include the **Peri-urban Weed Management Partnerships** program, the **Good Neighbour Program**, and the **Weeds and Pests on Public Land** program. Invasive animals … Under the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994* certain animals are declared as pest animals in Victoria. Established pest animals include foxes, rabbits, feral pigs, feral goats and feral cats. The impact of pest animals on the environment is recognised through several listings under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988*. • Degradation and loss of habitats caused by feral horses (Equus caballus). • Predation of native wildlife by the cat (Felis catus). • Predation of native wildlife by the introduced red fox (Vulpes vulpes). • Reduction in biodiversity of native vegetation by sambar deer (Cervus unicolor). • Reduction in biomass and biodiversity of native vegetation through grazing by the European rabbit (Oryctolagus cuniculus). • Soil degradation and reduction of biodiversity through browsing and competition by feral goats (Capra hircus). There are a number of programs targeting pest animals on public land in Victoria. One example, the **Weeds and Pests on Public Land** program funds landscape-

Party	Policies

	scale fox and rabbit control projects including Southern Ark, Glenelg Ark, Grampians Ark, and the Mallee Bounceback program.
	
	Weeds and Pests on Public Land program (Website, 19 June 2026)
	Taking action to protect Victoria's nature through controlling invasive plants and animals.
	Weeds and pest animals such as foxes and rabbits are one of the greatest threats to the survival of our native plants and animals in Victoria. We can't conserve our iconic Victorian species without also taking actions to control and limit the spread of invasive species.
	The Weeds and Pests on Public Land (WPPL) program aims to do this through funding landscape-scale weed and pest projects in national and state parks in Victoria. The program has been running since 2005 and invests over $2.85 million each year, with an additional $1 million provided each year by our key delivery partner Parks Victoria.
	This program operates as a collaborative partnership between more than 42 partners and stakeholders. These include 10 Traditional Owner groups, Victorian government agencies, the Arthur Rylah Institute, Melbourne Water, local councils, Catchment Management Authorities, universities, community organisations and volunteers. The program is part of the Victorian Government's ongoing investment to support the implementation of ***Protecting Victoria's Environment – Biodiversity 2037***. It is one of a suite of programs funding actions to support biodiversity and threatened species …
	Flagship projects
	There are 8 different projects under the program which take place across all corners of Victoria …
	• Capability building: sharing knowledge
	  ○ Weeds at the Early Stage of Invasion …
	• Herbivore control: targeting rabbits
	  ○ Mallee Bounceback …
	• Predator control: targeting foxes
	  ○ Glenelg Ark …
	  ○ Grampians Ark …
	  ○ Southern Ark …
	• Weed control: targeting invasive plants
	  ○ Central Highlands Eden …
	  ○ Glenelg Eden …
	  ○ Otway Eden …
	
	Victorian Deer Control Program (Website, 17 December 2025)
	… Deer Control Framework
	Within the strategy is the Deer Control Framework, which guides a coordinated, strategic and adaptive approach to managing the impacts of deer …
	3 regional deer control plans will address the state's deer control response under the Strategy. These include peri-urban, east, and west deer control plans.
	It is anticipated the Program will contribute 150,000 hectares annually to the contributing targets in Protecting Victoria's Environment - Biodiversity 2037.
	In the 2020-21 State Budget, the Victorian Government allocated $18.25 million over 4 years and $4.4 million ongoing to support the on-ground delivery of the Strategy.

Party	Policies
	Deer Control Program Q&A General … • The program is ongoing. There has been $1 million allocated to works in the Peri-urban areas as well as $18.25 million over the next 4 years to be spent across the state. Funding of $4.4 million will be ongoing after the initial 4 years of funding … • Relevant Traditional Owner groups in the different regions have been engaged in the planning and delivery of activities under the Deer Control Program. The level of involvement in activities is determined by the interest and capacity of the Traditional Owners … • All staff and contractors delivering deer control activities are appropriately authorised, skilled and experienced and must comply with all relevant legislation, Codes of Practice and Standard Operating Procedures designed to ensure animals are controlled as humanely as possible. Animal welfare is a key consideration in the development and delivery of the Deer Control Program … Recreational hunting • Recreational hunting alone has not been proven effective in preventing deer population growth or range expansion. • Accredited volunteer shooters are not generally deployed to achieve rapid knockdowns in deer populations as this can be more effectively implemented using specialist contract shooting teams … Aerial and ground shooting • There are 4 known species of deer in Victoria. Of these species, the Victorian Deer Control Program will target Sambar, Fallow and Red Deer for aerial shooting … Exclusion fencing • Exclusion fences protect specific species or high-value habitat areas from damage by large herbivores, such as trampling, grazing, ringbarking and wallowing. • The areas being targeted for protection by exclusion fences provide refuge to important threatened native plant and animal species … Trapping on private land • The Victorian Deer Control Strategy supports research into the effectiveness and suitability of trapping of deer and other potential management tools, while considering animal welfare impacts … See also: *Victorian Deer Control Strategy* (June 2021) Stepping Up Deer Control Across Victoria (Media release 30 September 2026) The Carroll Labor Government is stepping up deer control across Victoria – protecting wildlife, native forests, farmland and communities from the impacts of the invasive species. An additional $1.7 million will target deer in key areas, including $1 million across Melbourne's eastern fringe and $500,000 for sambar and hog deer control at Wilsons Promontory. In the Dandenong Ranges National Park, targeted control will protect the park's temperate rainforest and reduce deer moving into surrounding urban areas and private property. Control operations will also take place across the Yarra Ranges, Knox and Cardinia local government areas. DEECA, Parks Victoria, councils and other land managers

Party	Policies
	will deliver the operations, which will be designed to maximise benefits for biodiversity, forests and productive agricultural land, while ensuring public safety. Operations will target areas where deer are causing the greatest damage to native vegetation, forests and productive agricultural land, with public safety a priority. At Wilsons Promontory, deer control will complement work already underway by Parks Victoria to establish a predator and herbivore exclusion fence. The operation will reduce deer numbers inside the Prom, while the fence will help protect it from deer re-invasion once complete. A further $200,000 will support the Arthur Rylah Institute to update Victoria's deer population estimate. This new estimate will help target future control where it will have the greatest impact. The additional $1.7 million investment builds on $4.4 million in ongoing annual funding to deliver the Victorian Deer Control Strategy. Deer are unprotected on private land in Victoria, except hog deer, allowing landholders to control them without authorisation … Forest management (Hansard, 9 September 2026) Motion moved by Georgie Purcell (14:40): … (2) calls on the government to: (a) commit to genuine transparency over FFMV tree-felling and timber removal operations on public land; (b) extend mandatory on-the-ground threatened species surveys to all non-emergency tree-felling operations on public land; (c) establish an independent mechanism for community concerns regarding forest management to be properly investigated; (d) recognise and support the rights and aspirations of traditional owners over country, including through meaningful joint management of Victoria's forests; and (e) ensure that Victoria's forests and the wildlife that depend on them are genuinely protected. Labor voted against the Motion. Entities Legislation Amendment (Consolidation and Other Matters) Bill 2025 (Victorian Legislation website) This Bill abolishes a number of public entities, including the Victorian Environment Assessment Council and the Victorian Marine and Coastal Council. The Labor introduced the Bill and voted in favour of it (see Hansard Legislative Council, 19 March 2026) 2026/27 State Budget (Budget papers website) Analysis by the Victorian National Parks Association indicates that: • Total departmental funding for nature has fallen by around $535 million compared to last year's budget. This continues a pattern of cuts … • Parks Victoria received $187.3 million in last year's budget but spent $211.7 million, likely due to restructuring costs and the effects of long-term under-resourcing. This year's allocation drops further, to $184 million …
Liberals	State Platform (website) The Party's Platform sets out our fundamental values as Party … • We believe in conserving, protecting and sustaining our natural environment and national heritage …

Party	Policies
	Our Plan to Deliver for Victorians (2026) Conserving our environment (page 36) … Under Our Plan we will: • Make our parks accessible and enjoyable • Bolster recycling • Protect our public land Making our parks accessible and enjoyable A Liberal and Nationals Government will restore public confidence in public land management by prioritising the core maintenance functions of Parks Victoria. We will ensure public walking tracks are open and safe, upgrade campsite amenities, and improve accessibility for all Victorians. By empowering local management teams, we will rebuild community confidence that our public lands are being managed responsibly and transparently. Protecting and preserving our environment We will safeguard our public lands from degradation and preserve their beauty for the next generation. Under Our Plan a Liberal and Nationals Government will implement proactive, science-backed land management practices that meet fire mitigation targets and control feral pests while protecting native flora and fauna … Liberal and Nationals to introduce new measures to have Victoria Bushfire prepared (Media release, 17 October 2026) Liberals and Nationals to introduce new measures to have Victoria bushfire prepared The Liberals and The Nationals will double prescribed burning and work towards the Bushfire Royal Commission's recommendation to treat 5 per cent of treatable public land annually, building a safer and more resilient Victoria. Shadow Minister for Public Land Management, Melina Bath, said an elected Liberal and Nationals Government would adopt a whole-of-landscape approach that combines strategic burning and, targeted fuel reduction. Last summer's fires burnt more than 440,000 hectares across Victoria, a larger area than Black Saturday, and destroyed 451 homes. The Parliamentary inquiry into the 2026 summer fires heard repeated evidence that Victoria entered the fire season underprepared, despite years of warnings about declining planned burning, rising fuel loads and inadequate roadside vegetation management … The plan will also: • Expand cultural burning in partnership with Indigenous Victorians, combining traditional knowledge with modern fire management to reduce bushfire risk and care for Country. • Put more boots on the ground and less bureaucracy in Melbourne, backing the people who know the land, forests and fire risks. • Restore transparency by publishing fuel management plans, targets and results, so communities can see what is promised and what is delivered … Bath – History-making petition calls for no more national parks (Media release 18 February 2025)

Party	Policies
	The Liberals and Nationals will today table the largest petition in Legislative Council history as anger brews about the Allan Labor Government pushing ahead with the expansion of national parks. More than 40,000 signatures have been received for the No New National Parks petition, which stands up for the rights of those who want to keep accessing our state forests for traditional bush activities … Affected groups include those involved in dispersed camping, hunting, four-wheel driving, hiking, horse-riding, mountain biking, prospecting and fishing. We do not need more pad-locked national parks, which are poorly maintained and a fire risk. Neglecting public land leads to overgrown tracks and, the proliferation of invasive weeds and feral pests, which degrade the environment and pose a threat to native flora and fauna. Shadow Minister for Public Land Management, Melina Bath, will today table the petition. "Labor's flawed policies are not saving vulnerable species, through neglect and mismanagement it is placing them and Victorians at a greater risk of bushfire," Ms Bath said. "The Liberals and Nationals will actively manage our public land for better environmental and recreational outcomes. "Our historic petition is a voice for Victorians who cherish our bush and immerse themselves in nature through the traditional outdoor activities of dispersed camping, hunting, four-wheel driving, hiking, horse riding, mountain biking, prospecting and fishing … " Sustainable Forests (Timber) Repeal Bill 2024 (Legislative Assembly Hansard, 29 May 2024) This Bill abolished VicForests, and removed the legal framework that previously made commercial logging possible in Victoria's state forests. Page 1965 (Emma Keally): … I think it is an absolutely shameful situation where we are shutting down any industry in Victoria for no reason whatsoever. As I have stated in my contribution, native timber industry is sustainable. Trees regrow, and when they do regrow they capture more carbon. We can manage our forests so that it is sustainable in terms of supporting the wildlife that lives within these forests. We have research that backs up that the Leadbeater's possum is no longer dwindling in very small numbers … Page 1967 (Peter Walsh): … Vale, native timber industry here in Victoria. We are standing here today because of the treachery – I repeat, treachery – of the Labor government. They have actually sold out the workers of Victoria. They have caved in to illegal protesters to close down an industry … Sustainable Forests (Timber) Repeal Bill 2024 (Legislative Council Hansard, 20 June 2024) Page 2229 (Melina Bath): This is a sad day, a dark day in Victoria's history. This is a disaster of a bill, and the Nationals and the Liberals will seek to amend and oppose this abomination … Page 2276: Liberal Councillors against the third reading motion (i.e. the final vote to pass the Bill)

Party	Policies
	Parks and Public Land Legislation Amendment (Central West and Other Matters) Bill 2025 (Legislative Assembly Hansard, 16 October 2026) This is the Government Bill to create Mount Buangor, Pyrenees and Wombat-Lerderderg national parks; Cobaw, Hepburn and Mirboo North conservation parks; and Wandong Regional Park; also expands the existing Bendigo Regional Park and several other parks, adds land to the Wimmera Heritage River and revokes several native game sanctuaries. Page 4111 (Cindy McLeish): … The coalition have had long-held views about the creation of additional national parks, and it is something that we have not supported, because the government cannot manage what they have already … Page 4135: Liberals voted against the second and third reading of the Bill. Forest management (Hansard, 9 September 2026) Motion moved by Georgie Purcell (14:40): … (2) calls on the government to: (a) commit to genuine transparency over FFMV tree-felling and timber removal operations on public land; (b) extend mandatory on-the-ground threatened species surveys to all non-emergency tree-felling operations on public land; (c) establish an independent mechanism for community concerns regarding forest management to be properly investigated; (d) recognise and support the rights and aspirations of traditional owners over country, including through meaningful joint management of Victoria's forests; and (e) ensure that Victoria's forests and the wildlife that depend on them are genuinely protected. The Coalition voted against the Motion. Entities Legislation Amendment (Consolidation and Other Matters) Bill 2025 (Victorian Legislation website) This Bill abolishes a number of public entities, including the Victorian Environment Assessment Council and the Victorian Marine and Coastal Council. The Coalition voted in favour of the Bill (see Hansard Legislative Council, 19 March 2026)
One Nation	*The Real Deal for Victoria* (Policy Platform, October 2026) Timber and Forestry (page 42) Victoria's timber industry is worth $9 billion a year, contributes 1.7 per cent of the state's economy, and supports 17,000 direct jobs, rising to around 50,000 across the supply chain. Labor's approach has been to shut down local production and leave the market to overseas suppliers who operate under far weaker environmental standards. That is not good for jobs or the environment. Trees are a renewable resource. Victoria should be growing, harvesting and processing more of them, not importing timber while local mills close and regional jobs disappear. What we will do: • Incentivise greater use of Australian timber in construction through a "local wood first" policy in government procurement.

Party	Policies
	• Request a five-year GST exemption on basic building materials, including timber, for homes valued up to $1 million. • Support a proper fire response plan for Victoria's forests. • Support forestry training and tertiary education to secure the next generation of workers. • Require clear country-of-origin labelling on timber products. • Support native timber thinning, planting, harvesting, processing and local manufacturing. Victoria has the trees, the skills and the industry. One Nation will back them instead of shutting them down. Selective Forestry Rebuild (page 43) Currently much of Victoria's forests are unhealthy. There is a complete lack of resources to maintain them. Forests are more susceptible to high-intensity wildfire that scorches the landscape and kills the seedbed, because the flora has changed and access for low-intensity burning is no longer there. Pest flora — blackberry, St John's wort, ragwort, oxalis and others — are out of control. Pest fauna — deer, foxes, dogs, cats and European wasps — are not being managed. Money and resources are so inadequate that maintaining State forests and national parks to a required standard is impossible. Biodiversity values fall as a result. Labor's shutdown of previous forestry practices and the loss of contracts also left a vacuum. That vacuum is an opportunity to rebuild the industry on a completely new model — not a return to archaic clear-fell harvesting —developed with industry experts. What we will do: • Review previous forest management practices and complete research on modern, sustainable harvesting before locking in the rebuild model. • Rebuild on selective harvesting, not clear-fell. European and United States models have practised selective harvesting for centuries, returning to the same forests every 25 to 30 years. Selective harvesting reduces slash on the forest floor, and crown cover from remaining trees limits sunlight that drives fire-prone ground species. • Start from the Tasmanian platform: selective harvesting under a strict, approved Forest Practices Plan, with the same species we have in Victoria, where that approach has already shown strong results. • Design the model to be low-cost and self-funding, so harvest revenue supports forest improvement, fire prevention and suppression, and management of pest plants and animals. • Require monitoring and transparency at every stage from planning to completion, so practices keep improving and the public can see what is being done in their name. • Maintain access for management of invasive flora and fauna, forest health and wildfire response — locked-up forests without access cannot be protected. • Store carbon in forest products rather than under a lock-it-up system that leaves fuel loads to burn. Young eucalypts absorb large amounts of carbon dioxide in their early years; as they approach 80 to 100 years they absorb less, drop branches and leaves, move toward carbon neutrality and can become carbon negative. Selective harvest with regrowth keeps that cycle working. Claims will be made carefully and backed by monitoring.

Party	Policies
	• Support tertiary forestry education so Victoria has the workforce to sustain and improve the industry for future generations. One Nation will rebuild forestry with industry experts on a selective, accountable model — not clear-fell, and not neglect. Fisheries (page 44) Recreational fishing alone contributes an estimated $2.27 billion to Victoria and supports nearly 20,000 full-time jobs. Nationally, the recreational fishing industry generates around $11 billion in economic benefit. Commercial fishing and aquaculture add further value and export income. Despite this, the Labor government cut 35 fisheries roles in 2025, reducing total numbers from 192 to 157. Only 54 of those remaining are frontline officers, yet they are expected to cover more than 2,500 kilometres of coast and 250,000 kilometres of inland water frontage. That is not serious enforcement, and it leaves Victoria's waterways open to illegal fishing and environmental damage. What we will do: • Reinstate the 35 fisheries roles cut by Labor. • Support the expansion of aquaculture, including Port Phillip mussel farms, to grow local production. • Oppose offshore wind proposals that fail to properly protect Victoria's sustainable commercial fishing zones. A fishery without officers is not a managed resource. It is an invitation. Firearms and Hunting (page 46) What we will do … • Protect duck hunting with current bag limits. • Support deer hunting for both recreational and pest control management … • Support the most humane practices for pest control and feral population management and eradication. Environment (page 61 – 62) Victoria's natural environment is an asset that must be managed properly for the benefit of local communities, agriculture, tourism, and future generations. Good environmental policy is practical. It prioritises prevention of bushfires, protection of water quality, responsible land management, and continued public access to forests and parks. What we will do: • Reintroduce proper fire breaks and back-burning as core bushfire prevention tools. • Allow controlled firewood collection in appropriate areas. • Strengthen early warning systems and floodplain management. • Support practical, on-ground management by the people who live and work in these landscapes … Water Quality and Pest Species • What we will do: • Improve water quality monitoring, including testing for PFAS ("forever chemicals") in domestic water catchments. • Pursue eradication programs for European carp and redfin that damage native waterways.

Party	Policies
	Public Access What we will do: • Defend public access to national parks and state forests. • Oppose the Great Forest National Park and any proposal that locks out hunters, four-wheel drivers, trail bike riders and horse riders, climbers and fossickers from state forest. Victoria's environment is best protected by practical management, not by locking people out or covering productive land with industrial infrastructure. No explicit reference to traditional owners.
Animal Justice	Animal Justice Party policies (website, accessed 28 October 2027) A planet on which animals and nature have the right to live and thrive free from negative human interference and a human society which functions with kindness and compassion within its ecological limits as a responsible member of the Earth community. • Protect, regenerate, expand, rewild and enhance all ecological systems including forests, grasslands, freshwater and marine habitats, in part by reserving at least 50% of the planet for nature. https://www.animaljusticeparty.org/climate_change • Immediately cease the logging of native forests https://www.animaljusticeparty.org/forestry • Reduce the impact of introduced animals by rewilding and restoring ecosystems, and invest in research for new humane fertility and biological population control methods https://www.animaljusticeparty.org/introduced_animals • Introduce new federal environmental laws which adequately deal with climate change, land clearing and other crucial issues. Establish a Commonwealth Environment Commission (CEC) with the power to implement bioregional plans, programs, strategies and environmental standards. Establish a Commonwealth Environmental Protection Agency (CEPA) with adequate resources to monitor, enforce and prosecute offenders. Increase citizen participation in environmental decisions, especially community groups and environmental protection organisations, and enshrine their ability to litigate on behalf of nature. Legally recognise the inherent Rights of Nature, including the right to survive and be restored, and pursue the most appropriate means of protecting these rights. Challenge the cultural, economic and legal conceptions of nature and animals as property to be owned by humans and educate the public to live within our ecological limits. https://www.animaljusticeparty.org/environmental_law
Tom Ward Independent for Eildon	No policies relating to stronger protections for nature.

Party	Policies
End Mass Immigration	
Family First	Energy Policy (website, accessed 28 September 2026) … Family First will ensure Australia's energy needs are met by … • Protecting the environment by banning all subsidised wind and solar on agricultural land, native forest or virgin land … Family First Policy (website, accessed 28 September 2026) No further reference to protection or restoration of nature.
Freedom	
Legalise Cannabis	
Libertarians	Energy policy (website, accessed 28 October 2026) Protect public land from destructive wind and solar developments that harm natural environments. Prevent the destruction of natural environments and wildlife caused by wind and solar farms built on public land solely to meet renewable energy targets. These projects harm local flora and fauna, create waste material, and undermine environmental preservation efforts for no economic reason. No further reference to stronger protection of nature.
Shooters Fishers Farmers	
Socialist Alliance	
Sustainable Australia	
Victorian Socialists	Addressing Climate Change and Protecting our Environment (Policies webpage, 2026) We'll fight to … • Protect, restore and expand Victoria's natural carbon stores — defending and extending the end of native forest logging introduced in January 2024, establishing large-scale programs of reforestation, restoring native grasslands and wetlands, and protecting blue carbon ecosystems in coastal and estuarine areas … A Fair Go for Rural and Regional Victoria (Policies webpage, 2026) We'll fight to … • Rehabilitate Victoria's waterways and rebuild sustainable soil composition, reversing the land degradation, water pollution and biodiversity loss driven by agribusiness's push for ever-higher yields. • Expand programs that draw on Indigenous people's knowledge of land management. Protecting Animals from Cruelty and Exploitation (Policies webpage, 2026) … We'll fight to …

Party	Policies
	Safeguard, preserve and rehabilitate the natural environment and native animal habitats to the greatest extent … Introduce stricter regulation of recreational hunting and fishing to protect endangered species and ensure that permit holders are adequately trained to minimise harm …

6. Effective action to reduce transport emissions

Note: Committed major infrastructure projects excluded from scoring.

Party	Policies
Greens	Transport (Platform, website accessed 12 October 2026) … Transport is set to become our biggest source of climate emissions by 2030. And noxious gases and diesel particulates harm the health of anyone who lives, works or goes to school near major roads. Now more than ever, governments need to support people with cheap and clean options to get around … Free and frequent public transport The Greens will make public transport frequent and free, so it's cheap and easy to get around. The Greens will: • Run trams at least every 10 minutes from 7am-10pm • Run trains at least every 10 minutes from 7am-10pm across most of the network, where infrastructure allows • Duplicate the Upfield line, so it can finally get a train every 10 minutes • Spend $270 million to progressively reform buses into a fast, frequent grid, across suburban Melbourne, and upgrade local buses in regional Victoria • Run regional trains and coaches more often, by investing $245 million in frequency improvements. • And we will make public transport permanently free. Cheaper electric cars and bikes The Greens will save you money through a new Green Power Voucher scheme, which will take up to $3000 off the price of electric cars and bikes, and make it easier for people to cut their petrol bills. Our plan will also see increased electric vehicle charging in your workplace, by supporting businesses with large roof areas or carparks. More bike lanes and better coordinated bike and scooter hire schemes With fuel prices through the roof, the Greens want more options to reduce petrol car dependence, including more safe, separated bike and micromobility lanes. We will commit 5% of the existing transport budget to building a network of safe bike routes across Melbourne and regional centres (the long promised Strategic Cycling Corridors). The Greens also want to see: • More coordination of scooter and bike-hire schemes, so users don't face new providers and new schemes when they cross a council boundary • Scooters using bike lanes to keep footpaths clear for pedestrians and prams • More bike racks on regional buses • More bike parking at stations and bus stops • 30 km/h speed limits in residential streets, around schools and in high pedestrian areas Accessible tram stops … Since coming to power, Labor has built just 102 accessible platform tram stops, leaving over 1000 where people need to climb up from street level. Despite a deadline in legislation to have all stops accessible by the end of 2022.

Party	Policies
	The Greens believe it's time to make serious progress on making our tram network accessible, and will make a $225 million initial investment in building accessible tram stops. No more dodgy transport planning Transport planning under Labor has included building a toll road proposed by the tolling company, and dreaming up the Suburban Rail Loop without telling the transport department. The Greens will give independent advisory body Infrastructure Victoria the power and resources to create a detailed Integrated Transport Plan, with a 30-year investment pipeline. We will then require the government to publicly justify any major project that deviates from the plan. More train lines, better platforms and more stations The Greens will give Infrastructure Victoria the power to do our transport planning, instead of basing it on politics. Depending on the priorities set by the transport plan, we expect to see a whole lot of improved infrastructure, including: • increased capacity on regional rail lines to address overcrowding • a second Melbourne Metro tunnel • reconfiguring the city loop • electrifying the line to Melton and building bypass tracks for V/Line • fixing the Altona Loop • improving platform interchange at Caulfield • building more stations on the way to Wyndham Vale The Greens also commit to fixing the Upfield Line, as recommended by Infrastructure Victoria, given it has one of the worst peak frequencies in Melbourne ... Sustainable Homes and Cheaper Energy Bills (Platform website, accessed 12 October 2026) … Cheaper electric cars, bikes and powering your house with your car The Greens will introduce a new Green Power Voucher scheme, which includes up to $3000 off the price of electric cars and bikes, as well as two-way chargers so you can power your house with your electric car. Rural & Regional Victoria (Platform, website accessed 12 October 2026) … More frequent and better connected public transport People in rural and regional Victoria deserve better public transport options, including buses and trains, within and between towns. The Greens will: • Run regional trains and coaches more often, by investing $245 million in frequency improvements. • Upgrade local buses in regional Victoria, as part of our $270 million investment in improving bus services. • Give Infrastructure Victoria the power to do our transport planning, instead of basing it on politics. Depending on the priorities set by the transport plan, we expect to see increased capacity on regional rail lines to address overcrowding, electrification of the line to Melton and bypass tracks for V/Line, and longer platforms on some V/Line stations to enable longer trains to use them safely, reducing overcrowding …

Party	Policies
	Melbourne's North Needs More Trains Not More Delays – Labor Finally Admits Upfield Needs Fixing (Media Release 28 September 2026) The Victorian Greens say Melbourne's north needs more trains, not more delays, as Labor finally admits the Upfield line desperately needs duplication - while simultaneously delaying promised level crossing removals for the second time. Labor's announcement commits $80 million to another two years of planning, design and approvals for duplication, but does not commit to actually building the project or put a single extra train on the Upfield line. At the same time, eight level crossing removals promised before the 2022 election for completion by 2027 - and already delayed once to 2030 - have now been pushed back again to 2033. The Greens have repeatedly pushed for duplication of the single-track section between Gowrie and Upfield. In September last year, Parliamentary Budget Office costings commissioned by the Greens and published in The Age found duplicating the four-kilometre section would cost around $246 million - at the time likening the entire duplication to the cost of a single level crossing removal. The Greens say communities in Melbourne's north have already been neglected and taken for granted for years and they shouldn't have to choose between overdue infrastructure projects. Energy Policy (website, dated 4 October 2025) Principles … • All buildings, vehicles, machinery and appliances need to be energy-efficient and powered by reliable renewable energy … Supply … • Government buildout of widespread non-proprietary electric vehicle recharging infrastructure. • Supporting and assisting the development of markets for alternative sustainable fuels … Demand … • Supporting the production of biofuels by farmers for use as tractor fuels. • Promoting the sustainable use of electric vehicles … Transport and Freight Policy (website, dated 14 June 2025) Principles • Transport systems must function according to principles of ecological sustainability, equity of access, and public control of critical public transport infrastructure. • Climate change, poor planning and urban sprawl make Victoria's present transport reality unsustainable. • We have an urgent need to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels and the rate of greenhouse gas emissions from the transport section. • Road traffic has many harmful effects relative to other forms of transportation, particularly in urban areas … • Transport, infrastructure, and land-use strategic planning must be integrated to be effective. • The widening and construction of additional major roads, highways and freeways does little more than induce additional demand, and ultimately does not reduce long-term urban road congestion. • Roads should not be operated for private profit.

Party	Policies
	• A greater proportion of trips should be made by walking, cycling, and public transport rather than by private motor vehicles – to reduce environmental impacts, improve health and reduce road congestion, deaths, and injuries. • Safe, convenient, affordable, and accessible public transport allows for more people to live fuller, more active and more independent lives. • Safe active transport should be encouraged – including through investment in dedicated cycleways and footpaths, shared use paths and safer on-road routes, new infrastructure, widening and extension of existing infrastructure, and better connections between routes. • Public transport spaces should be safe, welcoming and free from discrimination and harassment. • Investments in active and public transport must be complemented by measures that effectively disincentivise private motor vehicle use, and better account for the real costs they impose on the community. • Public transport should be owned and operated by the government on behalf of the public. • Public transport agencies, including planning and service providers, must operate transparently, with participatory, consultative, and accountable decision-making. • Local communities and local governments need ongoing, substantive, and meaningful opportunities and adequate resources to participate in transport-related decision-making. • A high-quality state and national rail network is essential to a modern economy, and high-quality public transport benefits local economies. • The role of rail in moving freight should be significantly increased relative to road-based freight. • Interstate rail infrastructure must be augmented to allow fast, efficient, and low-cost freight movements, to and from ports and between state capitals. • Freight transport modes should compete fairly, and equally bear all their direct and indirect costs. • Freight should be transported in a manner that is environmentally responsible, and reduces risk to the public and environment to levels that are as low as reasonably practicable. Aims Reducing Emissions from Transport • Concrete and ambitious strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transport and freight. • Ensuring all road and rail vehicles meet appropriate standards for emitting air and noise pollution by introducing periodic independent testing of vehicle exhaust emissions and roadworthiness. • Require all new state government cars to be fully electric or, where not practical, hybrid. • Transitioning Victoria's public transport system to 100% electric services powered by renewable energy sources, including bus and coach services and regional trains. Sustainable Transport Planning • An independent, accountable, and transparent body to manage public transport, with a review of the franchise policy prior to the completion of existing contracts.

Party	Policies
	• Evaluating major transport proposals for social, environmental, economic, and other associated benefits and costs against those of alternative transport solutions. • Regular performance evaluation of all transport systems, showing full costs and benefits, including capital, maintenance, social and environmental aspects of each, as well as the financial contributions made by users of each mode. • Provide and maintain in-house project appraisal and modelling expertise within the public service to verify and assess claimed environmental, social, and economic benefits of infrastructure projects. Maximise Public Transport Use • Significant investment in new trains, buses and trams for deployment across new, existing and enhanced metropolitan, regional and interstate networks. • Repair and renewal of existing ageing rail infrastructure. • Duplication of all single-line sections of the metropolitan rail network. • Public transport that is fully accessible to people with disabilities and older people, and is fully compliant with anti-discrimination legislation. • Increased investment in community transport options for older people and people with a disability. • Co-location of commercial and community facilities at train stations. • Convert and extend existing rail infrastructure to support higher-speed services and connections between population centres. • Servicing all urban areas, including regional towns and cities, with public transport that induces demand by improving service frequencies, reliability and coverage, and which keeps pace with the growth in demand these improvements generate. • A clear and equitable public transport fare structure that maximises public transport use. • The implementation of single-use tickets and removal of fees to purchase reusable stored-value cards (myki) to encourage one-way trips. • Appropriate staffing throughout the public transport system to improve passenger safety, support and amenity, and provide assistance across the network at all times. • Regulation of ride-sharing services. • Measures to protect workers and patrons of public transport, taxis and rideshares from harassment and violence. • Integrating the commercial passenger vehicle industry with public transport systems to facilitate connections at rail, bus, and tram stops. • Extend the practice of giving priority to trams and buses at traffic light intersections. • Extend and connect the many 'missing links' in the existing metropolitan tram network. • Expand and improve the frequency of overnight weekend 'night network' train, tram and bus services. Encourage cycling as a transport option • Accelerating construction of the Principal Bicycle Network. • Increasing clearly signed, designated road space for cyclists, including signalling equity and protected cycleways where demand and risk are high. • Giving cyclists priority over motor vehicles in high concentration zones such as schools.

Party	Policies

	• Better integration of cycling with other transport options, including bicycle access to trains and secure bicycle storage at public transport stops and stations.
	• Regulation of one-way or 'floating' bike share schemes to encourage responsible stewardship by scheme operators, the safe storage of bicycles in public spaces, and the removal and repair of bicycles when they are no longer in use.
	• The funding and assessment of cycling and pedestrian infrastructure, independent of road construction infrastructure projects.
	Sustainable freight transport
	• Central freight planning that effectively prioritises and develops rail freight networks and practices.
	• Using regulation and incentives to shift an increasing proportion of freight from road to rail, in cooperation with neighbouring States.
	• Significantly increasing the proportion of intra-state and inter-state freight moved by rail by standardising and upgrading the Victorian freight rail network and connecting major logistics sites by rail.
	• Adopting a Victorian logistics policy for ports and long-distance freight movements, prioritising rail.
	• Increasing the volume of stand-alone country rail freight services, including mixed traffic where volumes for either passenger-only or freight-only services are insufficient.
	• Implementing long-term solutions to solve empty freight container movements by on-road heavy vehicles, including the use of rail options and establishing dedicated intermodal freight terminals near industrial areas …
	• Preventing further coastal port development and channel deepening by focusing on increasing the movement of intra-state and inter-state freight by rail …
	Alternatives to private car ownership
	• Supporting the uptake of car sharing as an alternative to car ownership.
	• Regulation of one way or "floating" car share schemes to encourage responsible stewardship by scheme operators, including legal parking arrangements for share vehicles, and the removal and repair of vehicles when they are no longer in use.
	• Effective regulation of autonomous vehicles to ensure their safety.
	
	Planning Policy (website, dated 23 June 2024)
	Principles …
	• Significant land-use and transport projects should be subject to public audit, assessment and appeal processes …
	• Metropolitan Melbourne and major regional centres need comprehensive and active planning which …
	  ○ integrates transport, infrastructure and land-use planning, and respects major service industries …
	Aims …
	• A planning strategy for greater Melbourne which:
	  ○ is facilitated by a metropolitan planning authority with a robust governance framework and a strong focus on deliberative and democratic community representation;

Party	Policies
	○ prioritises public transport, rail freight systems and integrated transport hubs … • High quality public and active transport infrastructure included in the commitment to, planning of, and permits for, any significant new or renewal urban land use projects as a priority. • Land use and transport decisions should be made after rigorous and transparent cost-benefit analyses, comparing relevant options … • Urban planning guidelines for new developments and urban renewal to include … ○ the clustering of medium-density housing, community facilities and commercial developments around neighbourhood shopping centres and other social facilities (including health care and schooling) linked with public transport …
Labor	*Transport sector emissions reduction pledge 2026-30* (released January 2026; see also *Victoria's Climate Change Strategy 2026-30*) Minister's foreword (page 1) Our journey to net zero in transport delivers on what matters most: while we reduce emissions, we're building a transport network that lowers the cost of living, and supports better housing choices for Victorians. The Victorian Government is leading the way on climate action to reduce emissions in the transport sector. Our **Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Roadmap** was released before those in other states, and included several 'first-in-the-nation' measures … Our transition to zero emission buses (ZEBs) on our public transport network has begun. We've also been rolling out a statewide charging network so Victorians can have confidence in purchasing an electric vehicle. With the bulk of the task to reduce transport sector emissions still ahead of us, significant challenges persist – particularly in reducing emissions from freight and unlocking the full potential of alternatives to private vehicles … The availability of zero emission technology in freight is trailing the passenger vehicle market. So we are working closely with industry to foster investment in reducing emissions in freight as emerging zero emission technology catches up with the passenger vehicle market. And we'll be making the best use of sustainable modes like public and active transport, as well as moving more freight onto rail. Achievements (page 3) • $470 million invested since 2020 in rail freight network upgrades, including $103 million in the 2025–26 State Budget. • Freight plan released with a range of emissions reduction actions to be delivered between 2025–30. • ~10,000 EV subsidies helped Victorians to shift into an electric vehicle through Australia's first EV subsidy program. [NOW CLOSED] • 13.6% new vehicle sales were ZEV in September 2025, up from 1.7% in 2021. • 88 ZEBs currently servicing the network with 252 diesel buses due to be replaced • 100% electric bus depot operational in Ivanhoe (Ventura), with a mixed operations depot in Preston (Kinetic) and others under construction and planning. • 900+ V/line services have been added to the network since 2014 including on the busiest lines.

Party	Policies
	• 1,200+ metro train services introduced since 2014. • Metro Tunnel delivered to enable 500,000 more low-emissions passenger trips per year. • 24,000 weekly bus services delivered since 2014, with 9,400 extra services since our Bus Plan launched in 2021. • 410 km walking and riding paths delivered with new and upgraded paths and riding infrastructure to come. Emissions reduction pledge 2026–30 (pages 4-5) … Victoria has led the nation with ZEV targets and incentives through the 2021–25 transport sector pledge and **Zero Emissions Vehicle Roadmap**. This includes Australia's first public ZEV subsidy scheme [NOW CLOSED]. Since the first transport sector pledge, ZEV sales have grown from 1.7% of new light vehicle sales in 2021 to over 13.6% in September 2025. The Australian Government has released a refreshed National Freight and Supply Chain Strategy and 2025–29 National Action Plan. Reducing emissions in freight is one of the plan's four National Priority Action Areas. We will continue collaborating with government and industry to deliver actions that support our freight industry in moving towards a low-carbon future. This pledge builds on commitments from the previous pledge, with actions for sustainable transport modes and support for the freight industry as zero emission technology emerges. Pledge actions focus on key areas that complement national actions to drive the uptake of light ZEVs. Actions within the pledge are expected to contribute to an emissions reduction of 0.2 Mt CO2-e in 2030. The Avoid-Shift-Improve framework The 2026–30 transport sector pledge is guided by the **Avoid-Shift-Improve (ASI) framework**. The ASI approach structures policy measures and is inspired by the principles of sustainability, focusing on the mobility needs of people instead of car infrastructure. It seeks to achieve significant emissions reduction, reduced energy consumption and less congestion, with the final objective being to create more liveable cities. It involves avoiding or reducing travel, shifting to more sustainable modes of transport and improving the efficiency of transport systems. • Avoid: First, avoid the need for travel through integrated land use planning (e.g. taking steps to build more homes and create more jobs near train and tram lines). • Shift: Then, shift the travel to more sustainable modes like active transport, public transport and freight on rail (e.g. switching on the Metro Tunnel and operationalising the Port Rail Shuttle Network). • Improve: Finally, improve the efficiency of the vehicles we travel in by transitioning to lower and zero emission vehicles (e.g. zero emission bus transition and support low and zero emission heavy vehicle uptake). … The ASI framework delivers emissions reduction while maximising other outcomes sought through our transport network including: • support for more housing, and more affordable housing, closer to the activities we need every day • lowering the cost of living for Victorian families • better air quality and less noise in local neighbourhoods

Party	Policies
	• healthier, more active and better connected communities • increased local job creation and productivity • better road safety. Emissions reduction actions 2026–30 (pages 6-9) Make freight cleaner Victoria's freight volumes are growing as our population and its demand for products increases. The **Victorian Freight Plan 2025–30 – Victoria Delivers** is supporting our freight industry to reduce emissions while protecting local communities and maintaining our competitive advantage. As part of the plan, we'll: • Establish an $8 million freight sector innovation fund for small-and-medium-sized transport companies to buy and operate low and zero emission fleets. • Lead the working group tasked with implementing an action of the National Freight and Supply Chain Strategy to develop government and industry frameworks to collaborate on the transition to net zero. • Partner with industry and local authorities on new low emission and low impact delivery zones to reduce local transport emissions and traffic congestion. • Engage with the Australian Government's Future Made in Australia Program to support the domestic low-carbon liquid fuels industry. • Work with the bus industry on enabling commercial freight vehicle recharging during the day when buses are out on the network. • Support international efforts for lower emissions commercial shipping and improved information exchange, including for low and no carbon fuels. **The Victorian Freight Plan 2025–30: Victoria Delivers** The Victorian Government's new freight plan, Victoria Delivers, is our plan to meet the challenge of growing freight volumes – expected to double as our population grows to 10 million by 2050. Reducing emissions promises economic opportunities. That's why Victoria Delivers has a strong focus on achievable emissions reduction, with actions to build the foundation for a low carbon future. Victoria Delivers is our first freight plan where a key pillar is supporting emission reductions in freight. The plan provides a clear and aligned roadmap for investment confidence in low emissions vehicles and technology, and prepares freight transport networks for expansion of zero and low emission operations over the next five years. The plan sets out how the Victorian Government will work with industry to develop a framework for net zero freight to operate in our towns and cities, and support industry as it invests in cleaner technology. This includes moving more freight by rail due to the benefits it provides in terms of reduced carbon emissions. At the same time, it means encouraging development and uptake of clean technologies through trials, partnerships and innovation co-investments. Under the plan, the Victorian Government will develop a **Freight Charging Framework** supporting industry investment in reducing emissions of road freight. To support industry to begin transitioning to low emissions freight vehicles, we are providing $8 million over two years in a co-investment model with small and medium transport operators. Significantly, the Victorian Government will seek to endorse the Drive to Zero Memorandum of Understanding as a sub-national government, working

Party	Policies
	collaboratively to enable, accelerate, or incentivise the transition to zero emission freight vehicles. Victoria has already joined the Australia-Singapore Green and Digital Shipping Corridor partnership, giving our ports and industries a leading role in shaping the rules, fuels and technologies that will drive low emission shipping. This creates certainty for industry, supports investment in green bunkering hubs and positions Victorian ports to capture new trade opportunities in a changing global supply chain. Move freight by rail The road freight sector is responsible for approximately one third of transport sector emissions, equating to about 9% of Victoria's overall emissions. There's significant potential to reduce emissions in freight, however, zero emission heavy vehicle technology is still emerging. Moving freight to rail in the short-to-medium term can support lower emissions while parallel work supports emerging technology to achieve heavy vehicle emissions reduction in the future. It also reduces the number of trucks on local streets and supports productivity in our regions – a 50-wagon grain train is the equivalent of around 70 B-Double trucks. To support shifting freight from road to rail, we're: • Developing an extended freight rail network that includes a Port Rail Shuttle Network and the Port Rail Transformation Project. • Rezoning land in the inner-west to encourage the logistics industry to locate closer to existing rail links. The 10 Year Plan for Industrial Land will help protect and unlock industrial land connected to freight rail corridors and creating jobs closer to public transport infrastructure. • Planning and developing interstate freight terminals including the $12 million Western Intermodal Freight Terminal co-funded with the Australian Government. • Capital investment in the regional freight network, including $103.1 million in 2025–26 State Budget to deliver major periodic and routine maintenance works on Victorian freight rail corridors to maintain the sustainability of freight rail infrastructure to accommodate longer and heavier trains with faster travel and increased capacity. • Leasing the Footscray Road Old Melbourne Market site to the Port of Melbourne for container storage and logistics businesses. This will reduce the number of truck trips to and from the port to container park businesses in Melbourne's inner-west. Reduce transport sector emissions through better integrated planning An effective way to reduce transport sector emissions is by avoiding car trips where possible. We're taking action across land use planning and the transport network to reduce our need for private vehicle travel. These actions reduce emissions, lower the cost of living for Victorians, increase our housing choices and better connect our communities. The **Plan for Victoria** and the **Suburban Rail Loop** will have a significant impact on travel patterns as activity centres are developed. These new activity centres will deliver affordable, well-designed homes nearer to everyday activities and public transport. They'll increase local active transport trips, make public transport more attractive and reduce the distance to activities when cars are used.

Party	Policies
	Promote active transport We've set a target for 25% of trips to be made by active transport by 2030. **Victoria's Active Transport Plan** provides the framework for: • improving planning and land use settings • implementing active transport networks • adopting a place-based approach to investments and interventions • enabling behaviour change though a systems approach. The plan is supported by our ongoing investment in active transport infrastructure – we have delivered 410 kilometres of new and upgraded walking, riding paths and lanes since 2015. Launch of Melbourne Zero Emission Bus Franchises Our bus network is a vital part of our transport system. In the 2021–25 transport sector pledge, the Victorian Government committed to purchasing ZEBs for public transport services from 2025. Following the successful delivery of our low-floor ZEB trials and the release of our **Zero Emission Bus Transition Plan**, the **Metropolitan Zero Emission Bus Franchise** went live on 1 July 2025. This is the first of Victoria's bus franchise packages to begin the full ZEB transition with others to follow as new contracts are awarded. The new services represent approximately 30% of the metropolitan bus network and over the contract term, we will see around 600 diesel buses transition to ZEBs. Every year our buses transport over 135 million passengers and over a third of those journeys connect to trams and trains. Each ZEB takes the equivalent of 50 cars off our roads. As part of our ZEB Transition Plan, we're prioritising the development and growth of a Victorian ZEB manufacturing industry, actively encouraging investment in a highly-skilled local ZEB workforce and running regional ZEB trials to test the application of high-floor ZEBs in regional areas. Shift travel to public transport We're capitalising on new public transport investments to increase services that connect the state and encourage public transport use. In the 2025–26 Victorian State Budget, we committed to: • A $98.7 million package to deliver more frequent services on metropolitan and regional lines. • Switching on the Metro Tunnel with new 'turn-up-and-go' services – more frequent services without needing a timetable – for the Cranbourne, Pakenham and Sunbury lines as part of a $727 million package to operationalise the Metro Tunnel. This will also free up more capacity in the City Loop for other lines, further improving the quality and efficiency of the train network. • An additional $162 million to deliver new and upgraded bus services for Melbourne's growing communities and realign bus services with future trains to improve bus and ferry services. This package also continues delivering buses and ferries that offer quick and reliable connections so people can go where they need to go faster and with certainty. • Continuing investment in our public transport network through our major infrastructure program that includes Suburban Rail Loop, Melbourne Airport

Party	Policies
	Rail Link, Sunshine Superhub, level crossing removals, new metro trains and trams, and • Victoria's first dedicated electrified busway. Make public transport free for under 18s and seniors on weekends From 1 January 2026, public transport will be free for everyone under 18, everywhere in Victoria. Families will save up to $755 a year per child – the cost of an annual student myki pass. Children under 18 can get a Youth myki to travel on public transport. Free statewide travel for seniors on weekends will also reduce their financial burden and encourage lower use of private vehicles. This measure further helps to alleviate cost-of-living pressures along with the regional fare cap we introduced in March 2023. Continue the ZEV transition As we continue toward our target of 50% of new light vehicle sales being ZEV by 2030, we're working with industry and the Australian Government to reduce the emissions of the vehicles we travel in. This includes working with the Commonwealth which, for constitutional and federation funding reasons, has the primary responsibility for policy measures (such as the National Vehicles Emissions Standard) which will be crucial to driving this transition. It also includes taking action in the energy system to remove barriers to the roll-out of EVs: for example, measures to make it easier to connect EV chargers to the distribution network, measures to ensure that fair tariffs are provided to EV owners, and measures to enable the roll-out of vehicle-to grid – which can allow EV owners to earn income by using their cars as batteries when the grid needs it most. These measures involve a combination of state and federal government responsibility and developments in the National Electricity Market. Purchase ZEBs for all new public buses As part of the 2021–25 transport sector pledge, we committed to all new public transport buses purchased from 1 July 2025 being ZEBs. Victoria's **Zero Emission Bus Transition Plan** provides the pathway for making the shift to a cleaner, smarter bus fleet as part of a modern bus network that meets the needs of customers across the state. The plan sets out how we'll partner with the bus industry to transition approximately 4,500 diesel buses to ZEBs in a balanced, fair and sequenced manner. The ZEB fleet will join our metro trains and trams which are already powered by 100% renewable energy. Work nationally to progress the uptake of cleaner passenger vehicles We'll continue to work with the Australian Government and other jurisdictions on national action to reduce transport sector emissions by: • supporting delivery of the National Electric Vehicle Strategy • advocating for strong fuel efficiency standards • participating in national forums that support reducing transport sector emissions. *EV Charging Regulatory Statement* (released April 2026) Message from the Minister (page 1) … As EV adoption increases, Victoria's public charging network must grow with it. In the beginning of our EV transition, a lot of the EV charging infrastructure was

Party	Policies
	funded by the Victorian and Australian governments – support that was vital in the early years to establish the industry and build consumer confidence. Five years later, the private market for EVs and EV charging infrastructure has come forward in leaps and bounds, and the Victorian Government has an important role to play in enabling a growing EV market in Victoria. This means removing barriers slowing down charging deployment. We need EV chargers to be widely available through a healthy private market, and we need to identify and remove barriers to that. This is why I'm releasing this statement, to set out new steps that I'll be taking to unlock the rollout of more EV chargers, and drive the transition to EVs to save households money … Barriers to EV charging infrastructure could slow the transition (page 4) Some experts estimate that Australia will require a six to tenfold increase in fast charging plugs by 2030 to support the Net Zero Plan target of 2 million EVs on Australian roads by 2030. For Victoria, this would translate to approximately 6,000 to 10,000 fast charging plugs, requiring a substantial scale-up from today's network. Meeting this will require a vibrant market for EV charging infrastructure, and many companies are already operating in Victoria to deliver that – and want to do more As the private market for EVs goes from strength to strength, the Victorian Government has an important role to play in removing some of the key obstacles in the way of this expansion of EV charging infrastructure that might otherwise act as "handbrakes" on the explosive growth in EVs … Making EV charging accessible, affordable, reliable and safe for all Victorians This statement identifies four priority objectives to deliver EV charging that is accessible, affordable, reliable and safe for all Victorians. It outlines what role the Victorian Government will play to support the deployment of more EV charging infrastructure for light EVs, complementing the Government's investment in EV charging to date, as well as efforts by the private sector, local councils, and the Australian Government as part of the National EV Strategy. Scope (page 5) The scope of this statement focuses on EV charging infrastructure for light vehicles to help meet the government's 2030 ZEV sales target for new light vehicles. However, many of the actions will have a positive impact for the rollout of charging infrastructure for heavy vehicles as the transition ramps up … Objectives (pages 7 – 13) Government action is focused on four priority areas to prepare Victoria for the EV transition: 1. EV charging at affordable rates … keeping charging fair, accessible and affordable is essential to easing cost-of-living pressures. To achieve this, the Victorian Government is improving the electricity tariff framework that underpins public charging, with a clear focus on network tariffs. These charges are applied by distribution businesses and materially affect the cost and commercial viability of public charging infrastructure. Our goal is to lower costs for drivers and support continued private investment in EV charging across the state.

Party	Policies
	… the Victorian Government has updated the **Victorian Energy Compare** website to include EV specific offers, making it easier for households with EVs to identify electricity offers that align with their lifestyle and energy needs. … current network tariff settings in Victoria do not provide clear or efficient price signals that reward charging when it benefits the grid (e.g. during daytime solar-soak periods). The Victorian Government would like to see network tariffs that reward public charging during the day when solar generation is abundant, providing cheaper charging for Victorians. This should be paired with stronger price signals during genuine evening peaks, to help drive demand to times when charging will be cheaper and cleaner. Reforming network tariffs to be more cost-reflective is essential to enabling CPOs to offer smarter, lower-cost public charging. This will reduce operating costs for CPOs, deliver savings to drivers, and ease pressure on the broader electricity network. To achieve these outcomes, the Victorian Government has formally advocated for the AER to require distribution businesses to introduce EV charging tariff trials that cover all forms of public charging (including fast-charging) through the 2026–31 Electricity Distribution Price Review. **If appropriately designed tariff trials for public EV charging are not delivered** in the AER's final determinations in April 2026, the Government will implement regulatory reforms to ensure the tariff framework delivers better prices for drivers and supports the rollout of more public EV charging infrastructure in Victoria. Demand tariffs: Addressing barriers to affordable and accessible public charging CPOs report that network **demand tariffs** are significantly increasing the cost of operating EV charging sites – particularly ultra-rapid chargers … A Victorian Government Order in Council made in 2021 allows small-to-medium customers using under 160 MWh a year to opt out of demand tariffs … However, CPOs report that distribution businesses and retailers are not consistently applying the opt-out … The Victorian Government will implement regulatory reforms to ensure eligible CPOs are not unfairly paying for demand charges, and that tariff settings do not discourage investment in larger, higher-capacity charging sites. Avoiding tariff structures that penalise larger sites will prevent a fragmented network made up of smaller, under-sized sites and instead support the delivery of a robust, future-ready charging network across Victoria. 2. Connecting new EV chargers: faster, cheaper, more transparent … one of the key factors in the EV transition is the connection of new public EV chargers to the electricity network. Industry has flagged that change is needed to ensure that this can be done at a reasonable speed, at a reasonable price, and with consistency and transparency. Low voltage network data visibility … We've heard from industry that transparent and visible network data is a key area for improvement, to remove barriers to the EV transition … The Victorian Government will implement regulatory reforms in 2026 to require distribution businesses to provide the data needed to support a more efficient and more timely rollout of EV charging infrastructure in Victoria … Improving access to low voltage network data will assist with

Party	Policies
	connection timeframes by ensuring that connection applications are supported by evidence, reducing the time spent iterating requests to fit with opaque network capacity. Connection timeframes and cost reporting We've also heard from industry that more action is needed to ensure that when a company wants to install a new EV charger, it can be done at a reasonable speed and price, through a consistent and fair process … To further progress this, the Victorian Government will take regulatory action to ensure distribution businesses publish data on connection processes, timeframes and costs, and report publicly on their performance against these metrics. We anticipate this will provide greater visibility of whether or not further regulatory action is needed to ensure connections are not unreasonably delayed or expensive. Better technical requirements for new connections Alongside broader system-level issues, industry stakeholders have highlighted concerns about specific technical requirements imposed by distribution businesses that are creating barriers to the rollout of EV charging infrastructure … In 2025, the Victorian Government worked with industry to make improvements to the Victorian Services and Installation Rules (VSIR) to start addressing this issue. Following this, distribution businesses made substantial updates to the VSIR to clarify the rules for second point of supply connections and provide clearer guidance for CPOs … this work … highlighted broader issues: that the requirements of the EV charging sector have not always been well captured in technical rulemaking … To address these issues with the operation of Victoria's electricity networks, the Victorian Government has initiated a VSIR Governance Review in collaboration with distribution businesses and industry stakeholders, with the stated purpose of reforming the governance of the VSIR to give government more of a role and bring them into line with other states … 3. Removing barriers to kerbside EV charging Kerbside EV charging is crucial to help more Victorians who rent, live in apartments, or lack access to off-street parking to feel confident owning an EV … We've heard from industry that the rollout could be hastened by more clarity and standardisation of access fees to rent space on poles from distribution businesses … The Victorian Government supports strong competition in the public EV charging market, underpinned by transparent and consistent fees for access to shared infrastructure. The AER proposed reforms in September 2025 to introduce regulatory oversight for pole-mounted EV charging in Victoria from 1 July 2026 … The Victorian Government is monitoring these reforms closely to see to what extent they address the issues identified, and to evaluate whether Victoria also needs to regulate directly. 4. Slashing power and fuel bills with vehicle to grid (V2G) … V2G can enable EVs to become mobile battery energy storage systems that can store cheap electricity during low-demand periods (for example, when the sun is shining and rooftop solar energy is plentiful) and then use this energy during costly high-demand periods … In the near future, EV owners could make an average of $1,000 a year from exporting energy to the grid during high-demand periods, helping reduce energy bills while also supporting the grid and deferring costly

Party	Policies
	infrastructure upgrades … Three energy retailer-led V2G trials are currently underway across Australia, including many participants in Victoria. These trials will provide valuable data for energy retailers, distribution businesses and vehicle manufacturers, and ultimately help pave the way for greater uptake of V2G across the state … The Victorian Government is working with the Australian Government, other states and industry to resolve the remaining technical and regulatory barriers for V2G through the implementation of the National Consumer Energy Resources (CER) Roadmap. This includes developing nationally consistent standards for CER, as well as setting up a national regulator and regulatory framework to set and enforce standards. In addition, there may be potential for the Victorian Government to participate in V2G with its own fleet of electric vehicles, with the objectives of saving taxpayer money and leading the V2G transition. The Minister has asked the State Electricity Commission … to explore this further. The Victorian Government is supporting and participating in the Vehicle-Grid Information Network. This is a national collaboration network designed to accelerate the integration of EVs with the grid … Destination Charging Across Victoria Program (website 28 April 2026) The DCAV program is closed for applications. Applications have been assessed, providing: • grants to 32 applicants • $5.4 million in grant funding • the planned installation of 133 EV fast-charging stations located within 114 high-use areas and tourist spots across regional and metropolitan Victoria. On **28 April 2026**, recognising the need for additional public EV charging infrastructure, a further $688,500 in grant funding was allocated to the DCAV program to deliver more chargers across Victoria. Three organisations will share in the new DCAV funding to install an additional 22 charging stations, with 43 individual charge points, across 13 Victorian locations … The DCAV program makes it easier for Victorians to charge their EV. Establishing an EV fast-charging network at key tourist destinations and regional towns across Victoria … Creating an EV fast-charging network at key tourist destinations and high-use locations allows EVs to be charged while EV drivers go about their business. These chargers, depending on their power rating, can provide 100 km worth of range in as little as 10 minutes … Projects completed (30) … Projects in progress (4) … *Victoria's Zero Emission Bus Transition Plan* (released November 2024) The ZEB Transition: Making It Happen (page 19) … The transition to ZEBs is about more than replacing the existing fleet. The smooth operation of a statewide ZEB fleet requires investment in depots, charging equipment, energy grid upgrades, software systems and workforce skills. It also requires updated standards and specifications to ensure ZEBs operate safely and effectively. Operational changes may also be needed to integrate ZEBs into existing routes and timetables, and with the future bus network introduced under *Victoria's Bus Plan* … 1. ZEB Trials and Existing Metropolitan Bus Franchise

Party	Policies
	The Victorian Government invested $20 million to conduct three-year statewide trials of ZEBs, commencing in August 2022 … Lessons from the trials are supporting the full ZEB transition … 2. New Metropolitan ZEB Franchises One third of metropolitan public transport buses (approximately 600 buses, over 10 percent of the Victorian Public Transport bus fleet) will transition to ZEBs between 2025 and 2035 under five new Metropolitan ZEB Franchises (MZFs) … Sequenced rollout from 2025 (page 21) The ZEB transition will generally follow the existing diesel bus replacement program, however, reflecting advice from the bus industry and operators, and the availability of ZEB fleet types, allowances have been made for those parts of the industry early in the transition that will need more time to make the shift to ZEBs. This means from 1 July 2025, all orders for new public transport buses must be zero emission … Choice of ZEB technology (page 22) Two technology options are expected to support the ZEB transition in Victoria. **BEBs** have an onboard battery pack that is charged using an external electricity source … **HFCBs** refuel using hydrogen stored at a depot, which is pumped into a tank on board the bus. The hydrogen is used by a fuel cell stack to charge a battery that powers the electric motor … While BEB technology is currently more widely used, HFCBs may become more viable as the infrastructure to produce, distribute and store hydrogen matures … Depots and supporting infrastructure (page 23) A successful ZEB transition will require new investment in depots and supporting infrastructure and systems. The extent of investment needed by each bus operator will vary significantly, with some requiring substantial financial commitment and considerable time for planning, design and implementation, while others may require only limited investment and a shorter timeframe … It is up to operators to propose an approach that best suits their requirements, and then request approval from DTP to proceed … DTP will work with operators to plan for and sequence the depot conversion process to minimise disruption to bus services New standards and specifications (page 25) The Victorian Government has a key role to play in setting standards and specifications for ZEBs and ZEB infrastructure. This will ensure interoperability between ZEB assets … while retaining the flexibility to accommodate technology improvements and respond to an evolving modern bus network … See also: Zero emissions vehicles (website 16 April 2026), Zero Emissions Bus Trial and Transition Plan (website 9 June 2026) Bus Bonanza (media release 28 April 2026) … Labor is delivering more buses, more often – boosting services to better connect our suburbs. The Victorian Budget 2026/27 invests almost $100 million to: • Expand bus hours and weekend services

Party	Policies
	• Deliver new and upgraded routes in growing suburbs • Boost services connecting to universities Northern suburbs • Improving access to La Trobe Uni, with additional weekday and evening services (Routes 301, 551 and 561) • More evening services and Sunday trips extended between Roxburgh Park and Pascoe Vale (Route 542) • More services in the evening between Mernda Station and RMIT Bundoora (Routes 386 and 387) • More evening trips, improving connections to Sydney Road, Brunswick and Northcote stations (Routes 508 and 526) Western suburbs • Delivering a new bus network for Melton South with two new routes • A new connection to Woodgrove Shopping Centre and double the frequency (Route 454) • More services between Moonee Ponds and Watergardens Station (Route 476) • Longer operating hours and more Sunday services between St Albans Station and Highpoint (Route 408) • A more direct link between Laverton Station and Aircraft (Routes 496 and 498) Eastern and southeastern suburbs • Longer operating hours, more Saturday services and a new Sunday service between The Pines to Nunawading Station (Route 273) • An additional service during school times between Box Hill Station and Burwood via Surrey Hills (Route 766) • Longer hours during the week and more weekend services, and introducing Sunday trips (Route 885) • Upgrading, extending routes across Botanic Ridge, Casey Fields, Clyde, Junction Village, Devon Meadows • Extending the route to operate between Karingal Hub Shopping Centre and Seaford (Route 777) • Better connections from Dandenong to Chadstone and Monash Uni (Routes 802, 804 and 862) • Longer operating hours on weekdays, more Saturday services and new Sunday services (Route 236) • Increasing weekend frequencies for services between Carrum and Frankston (Route 833) • Longer operating hours between Berwick and Pakenham (Route 928) Regional Victoria • A new route connecting Drysdale and Ocean Grove • Adding an additional return trip every day between Castlemaine and Harcourt (Route 3) • More services on Bass Coast Coach routes from Cowes and Inverloch to Dandenong Have Your Say On Bendigo's Bus Future (Media release 14 July 2026) … the Allan Labor Government is asking locals to help shape the future of buses in Bendigo and surrounding communities. Community consultation is now open until 23 August … The Bendigo bus review is being delivered as part of a $162 million

Party	Policies
	investment to improve bus networks in the Victorian Budget 2025/26, which also backed recent reviews in Ballarat and Geelong … More Trains and More Services - And PT Is Cheaper All Year (Media release 20 April 2026) … More new trains The Victorian Budget 2026/27 invests $673.6 million to deliver 25 locally built X'Trapolis 2.0 trains. These new trains are bigger and better, more comfortable and more efficient – carrying around 1,225 passengers … In total, 50 X'Trapolis 2.0 trains have been funded by the Allan Labor Government. The first 25 are set to roll out on the Cragieburn, Upfield and Frankston lines in the coming months. More train services Labor has added 3,500 train services to the network and now we're delivering more. The Budget invests $77.5 million to deliver: Shepparton line: • nine return services every weekday – almost double the number of current services Belgrave and Lilydale lines: • trains every 20 mins to the end of the line on weekday evenings – up from every 30 mins • trains every 10 mins on the Ringwood corridor on weekday evenings – up from every 15 mins Glen Waverley and Alamein lines: • trains every 20 mins on weekday evenings – up from every 30 mins Mernda and Hurstbridge lines: • trains every 20 mins to Mernda and Eltham all weekend – up from every 30 mins in the evening and every 40 mins on Sunday morning • services every 10 mins between the city and Clifton Hill – up from every 15 mins on weekend evenings and every 20 mins on Sunday mornings into the city These new services meet growing demand for evening and weekend services. Time ranges listed are averages. Thanks to our investments, even more additional services are ready to hit the network in the coming months: • Werribee line: two additional trains per hour in the mornings and afternoons • Sandringham line: trains every 10 minutes between peak periods • Craigieburn line: trains at least every 20 minutes on the line, including late at night and on weekends • Upfield line: trains at least every 20 minutes on the line, including late at night and on weekends • Seymour line: trains every hour between 8:00am and 9:00pm on weekends • Shepparton line: five return services on Saturday and Sunday This is on top of more services now running on the Gippsland Line – with trains now running every 40 minutes. We're also slashing the cost of public transport, with free travel now and half-price fares from June 1 … Saving Money and Reducing Disruption on the Upfield Line (Media release, 28 September 2026)

Party	Policies
	… We have already made commonsense decisions to save the Budget money, like saving $2 billion on the SRL. Labor will go further, saving the Budget a further $686 million and reducing disruption for Upfield Line passengers. Works to remove the eight level crossing removals on the Upfield Line will be deferred and will instead be completed in 2033. This change will allow construction to align with works to duplicate the Upfield Line. Duplication of the Upfield Line will transform the line and deliver more services for locals. These future upgrades and the capacity they unlock will add to the 192 additional weekly services we've recently added to the Craigieburn and Upfield lines … See also: Only Labor Will Kickstart Upfield Line Duplication (Labor Media Release) Date Set for Bigger Warrnambool Line Trains (Media release 24 September 2026) … six-carriage VLocity trains will begin on the Warrnambool line from Friday 23 October for busy Friday and weekend services. The introduction of six-carriage trains is made possible by the recent completion of the Warrnambool Stabling facility, which allows more trains to be stabled overnight and supports longer trains … The six-carriage trains provide more capacity for passengers during the busy weekend periods, with data identifying these services as the ones that will best meet the needs of users. The increased capacity builds on the completion of the Warrnambool Line Upgrade which improved safety and reliability, delivered additional services, and allowed modern VLocity trains to travel on the line for the first time. Melbourne Airport Rail Stage 2 Set For Take-Off (Media release, 30 September 2026) The Albanese and Carroll Labor Governments are getting on with building Melbourne Airport Rail Stage 2, with work set to begin in the coming weeks. It will include a new 7.4-kilometre rail line from Albion toward the Airport precinct via a brand-new Keilor East station, as part of the $12 billion joint commitment from the Albanese and Carroll Labor Governments. The line will connect directly to the Metro Tunnel and feature the same high-capacity signalling to enable frequent services. Built alongside the Jacana freight corridor, the new line will feature a 500 metre rail bridge to carry trains over the Maribyrnong River. Site investigations, procurement and development works will begin in the coming weeks with community engagement and early designs to follow next year. Major construction on Stage 2 will start in 2028 and finish in 2031, when trains will take passengers to Keilor East for the first time. The Melbourne Airport Rail Steering Committee is continuing to work through options for the final stage of Airport Rail, Stage 3 which will include an above ground station at the Airport precinct. Once complete, Keilor East station will connect an estimated 5,200 passengers a day to the city. Another 6,600 passengers and airport workers are expected to use the new line every hour. The project will be delivered alongside the $4.1 billion Sunshine Superhub project – the first stage of Melbourne Airport Rail.

Party	Policies
	The project will transform Sunshine Station into a six-platform superhub and untangle six kilometres of track between West Footscray and Albion, creating capacity for 1,000 trains a day. Due for completion in 2030, Stage 1 will enable more trains, more often on the Geelong, Ballarat and Bendigo lines, and pave the way for the electrification of the Melton Line … Labor Will Cap Public Transport Fares at $30 A Week (Media release, 19 October 2026) When you're paying for the train five days a week, the cost adds up. That's why Labor will cap public transport fares at $30 a week. Labor's $30 fare cap saves regular commuters more than $1,400 a year. It will start Jan 1 when half-price fares are scheduled to end – and run for two years … Everyone who uses public transport can benefit from Labor's $30 fare cap. But full-time workers who use public transport every day will benefit most. They will save $27 a week – almost half the usual price of weekly fares. Concession holders save, too – their fares will be capped at $15 a week. Existing benefits like free weekend travel for seniors will stay in place. And kids are still free, forever. How much you'll save Under Labor's $30 fare cap, daily commuters like full-time workers save $27 a week. That's around half the usual price of weekly fares. And it works out to a saving of more than $1,400 a year … How we'll pay for it This two-year cost-of-living commitment will cost $206 million. A measure like this isn't sustainable long-term – but it's needed in the short-term. We can afford it because we've made common sense decisions to reduce spending … How we'll help you save further • Free PT for kids is saving parents thousands. • For people who have to drive, we'll cap tolls at $30 a week for 2027. You can save up to $5,000 … Labor Will Cap Tolls at $30 A Week (Media release, 18 October 2026) … a re-elected Carroll Labor Government will cap tolls at $30 a week in 2027. • Car, ute, van or motorbike • CityLink, EastLink or West Gate Tunnel • You won't pay more than $30 a week with Labor's toll cap • And you can save as much as $5,000 per vehicle … Labor's $30 Toll Cap will start on 1 January 2027, under a re-elected Carroll Labor Government. From this date, you'll continue paying tolls as normal. But every quarter, you can claim a rebate for what you've paid above $30 a week. The maximum you can claim for these rebates is $350 per week – or $5,000 over the full year … See also: Metro and Regional Buses (website 19 March 2024) Keeping Rail Freight on Track (Media Release 16 September 2026) The Carroll Labor Government is planning for Victoria's growing freight network to help drive investment, support new freight facilities and encourage more business to move their goods on a fast and safe rail freight network. Minister for Ports and

Party	Policies
	Freight Melissa Horne today launched Freight on Track: The Victorian Rail Freight Plan 2026-2036, providing long term planning and support for this critical industry … *Freight on track: The Victorian Rail Freight Plan 2026 – 2036* (released September 2026) Ministerial Foreword (page 5) … The Victorian Government has strongly supported the sector and has invested almost $600 million in Victoria's regional rail freight network since 2020. We now have heavier axle loads, increased track speeds, improved reliability, new and extended passing loops and increased capacity on key rail freight routes … This Plan is the next step in our commitment to supporting rail freight. A year on from our refreshed Victorian Freight Plan: Victoria Delivers 2025-30, the Rail Freight Plan builds on our efforts to meet the state's growing freight task and sets out a clear framework for increasing rail freight volumes over the next decade. The Plan aims to enhance network access, strengthening consideration of rail freight in transport decisions and supporting industry investment in rail freight growth in Victoria … Introduction (page 7) … The Victorian Rail Freight Plan supports increased use of rail freight through network investment and improved system management to support industry to invest in and use rail freight. Actions in this plan will provide increased confidence in the rail freight system for rail freight operators and customers … Our Plan for the Rail Freight System (pages 9 – 13) … The Victorian Rail Freight Plan supports greater use of rail freight by enhancing the capacity and resilience of the rail freight system as part of an integrated transport network. This reflects the growing role of rail in supporting freight task growth, decarbonisation and road safety objectives, supply-chain resilience and decreasing reliance on imported diesel fuel … Vision Victoria's rail freight system operates as a reliable, predictable and efficient part of an integrated transport network supporting economic productivity, emissions reduction and road safety … The vision will support growth in rail freight to reduce reliance on trucks for the State's increasing freight task, particularly in an increasingly fuel constrained environment … Objectives 1. Improve predictability and confidence in Victoria's rail freight network … 2. Strengthen consideration of rail freight access in network coordination and project delivery decision making … 3. Support industry to invest in the growth of rail freight in Victoria … The role of Government in Victoria's Rail Freight Sector (pages 14 – 16) The primary role of Government in the rail freight sector is through the State's ownership and development of the rail network the rail freight industry uses … Ensuring the rail freight network is predictably maintained to a good standard is a core function of the Government … In addition to developing and managing the

Party	Policies
	rail network, the Government also oversees the framework managing the terms and conditions of network access through a range of policy tools … • Minister setting maximum prices … Under … new provisions the responsible Minister is able to set prices having regard to the Government's rail freight policy and programs – allowing Government to use access pricing to support policy objectives such as the start-up of new services or encouraging changes in demand through higher prices to avoid peak times. • Statement of freight network capability … The purpose of the Statement is to assist rail freight operators in their planning and assessment for existing or new services through provision of detailed information on network standards and availability … • Rail access guidelines … The rail access guidelines: specify what an Access Arrangement should include … outline maximum prices for rail access … emphasize the principle of passenger priority … provide processes for resolving disputes … adopt a high-level principles approach rather than overly prescriptive directions … Victoria's Rail Freight Sector (pages 17 – 19) • Key rail freight corridors … • The Port Rail Shuttle Network – Government's plan for growing movement of imports by rail … The Port Rail Shuttle Network (PRSN) is a $58 million joint Federal and State Government initiative designed to connect the Port of Melbourne to existing or proposed intermodal terminals in Melbourne's west, north and south-east. Industry has committed to the PRSN by investing in complementary rail infrastructure at intermodal terminals … Port rail shuttle trains commenced operations from Somerton in November 2025 … Additional rail shuttle services are expected to progressively commence … • Ports of Geelong and Portland – key regional export gateways for bulk products … • The interstate rail network – connecting Victoria to domestic and overseas markets … • Dynon – Melbourne's primary rail freight precinct … Shaping Victorian Rail Freight (pages 21 – 23) … As Victoria's freight task grows, rail freight can play a key role in transporting export containerised and bulk freight, short haul domestic freight and longer distance interstate freight. Increased use of rail freight will reduce road maintenance costs, improve road safety and reduce emissions from freight transport, in accordance with the Government's objective of net zero emissions by 2045 ... Victoria's commitment to reduce carbon emissions to zero by 2045 (and its endorsement of the Global Memorandum of Understanding on Zero Emission Freight Transport) means rail will need to play a bigger role in transporting freight, given that rail freight produces 3-4 times fewer carbon emissions than trucks per tonne kilometre of freight moved … Our Action Plan for Victoria's Rai Freight System (pages 27 -32) Objectives [and Actions] 1. Improve predictability and confidence in Victoria's rail freight network …

Party	Policies
	• DTP will develop a 10 year plan for maintenance and upgrade of the regional rail network to achieve a minimum of 21 TAL across the network … • DTP will regularly monitor and publicly report on key indicators of progress and performance implementing the Victorian Rail Freight Plan … • DTP will continue to support work enhancing the harmonisation and integration of rail information and management systems … 2. Strengthen consideration of rail freight access in network coordination and project delivery decision making … • DTP will develop a Freight Rail Disruption and Service Continuity Management Framework ... • DTP will implement reforms to require reporting and performance monitoring of rail freight impacts through the next Metropolitan Rail Franchise (MR5) ... • DTP will review and update the Rail Access Guidelines and arrangements for Maximum Rail Access pricing in consultation with industry to leverage the changes introduced through the next metropolitan rail franchise ... • DTP will establish a cross transport agency committee to oversee freight rail network planning and performance. The scope of the new committee will include engagement with industry. 3. Support industry to invest in the growth of rail freight in Victoria … • DTP will establish a Rail Freight Concierge service to support industry to establish and grow rail freight services ... • DTP will partner with industry to prepare a long-term rail freight network vision that identifies rail freight opportunities by corridor. Work will identify, assess and prioritise opportunities such as upgrading major lines to 23TAL, the role of standardisation, benefits of new holding tracks and passing loops and reopening of booked out lines. The goal of the work will be to identify a shared direction that will support private investment in rail freight ... • DTP will continue to work with the Port of Melbourne and all Port Rail Shuttle Network (PRSN) rail services and terminal operators to ensure that rail access to the Port operates on an efficient and fair basis relative to road … Measuring our Success (page 33) … Key performance indicators Transparency of freight information continues to be a priority for government and industry to improve decision making, efficiency and productivity … • Proportion of freight services where access was provided on time, including paths lost to network disruptions. • Number of temporary speed restrictions on the rail freight network. • Percentage of rail freight network rated 21 TAL. • Emissions per tonne km per mode (including overall total, bulk and non-bulk). • Share of freight transported by rail to the Port of Melbourne and to the ports of Geelong and Portland. • Number of unplanned closures and number of days of unplanned closures of key routes … *Victoria Delivers: Victorian Freight Plan 2025-30* (undated, released August 2025)

Party	Policies
	Towards net-zero – Decarbonising supply chains (page 16) Without action, freight transport emissions could grow to 34 per cent of total emissions in the Victorian economy by 2035 (due to both an increase in the freight task and potential higher abatement of emissions by other sectors). While Low and Zero Emissions Heavy Vehicles (LZEHVs) offer a potential solution to reducing freight sector emissions, they face barriers to their widespread adoption. Their current limited availability, high upfront cost, access limitations due to their increased mass and scarcity of charging infrastructure have resulted in delays to more definitive action in reducing emissions associated with freight transport operations. Consistent and supporting regulations can encourage investments in cleaner technologies. Work is underway to address barriers to access, such as the development of pre-approved network maps for a range of LZEHVs. Facilitating the increased uptake and long term viability of these vehicles will be a continued focus of government. A greater shift of the relative freight task from road to rail would also provide significant climate-related benefits, particularly in the short-term, due to the lower emissions profile on a tonne-kilometre basis. While there is strong interest from freight customers in increasing the use of rail in supply chains, further action is needed to enable rail freight to remain competitive with road. Increasing cost pressures Industry faces ongoing financial burdens of increasing compliance requirements, fuel levies and the cost impact of technological advances. Coupled with an ageing workforce and global labour shortages, industry is faced with increasing costs for every day operations. The costs of decarbonising freight transport operations and achieving net-zero by 2045 will contribute further to these challenges … How the Victorian Freight Industry will Look in 2030 (page 20) … Rail freight is a key movement mode across the Victorian network, providing for new terminal capacity and a higher number of services available to freight operators … Decarbonisation of the freight industry has progressed, providing availability to low carbon liquid fuels and open recharging facilities for zero-emissions freight vehicles … Strategic Objectives and Actions (pages 24 – 53) Objective 3: Supporting climate and sustainability goals and liveable communities and places (pages 42 – 47) … For many years, governments across Australia have supported the growth of freight on rail due to the benefits it provides in terms of reduced carbon emissions, lower road trauma, lower road maintenance costs and reducing road congestion. More direct action by governments is now needed to grow rail freight. This is a core action we can take in the short to medium term to lower freight sector emissions, while the conditions are created in parallel to support heavy vehicle emissions reduction. While rail is currently a lower emitter of carbon emissions than road vehicles, the rail sector will also need to look at alternative fuel options to decarbonise for long term outcomes. Changing the current trajectory of freight transport emissions will require transformational investment by the private sector to reduce its emissions profile in coming years. There are a range of ways this could be achieved, for example by

Party	Policies
	using low carbon liquid fuels, retrofitting technology to reduce emissions, or through investing in new zero emission trucks (ZETs) … Decarbonising road freight, through measures such as the electrification of trucks, hydrogen fuel cell technology, or use of low carbon liquid fuels, and in the case of air freight, further developments in the production of Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF), can have a substantial impact on reducing freight sector emissions. Continued government investment will be crucial to facilitating the increased uptake and longterm viability of these vehicles and low carbon liquid fuels. Additionally, future development of consistent and supportive regulations will encourage investments in cleaner technologies. Priority actions 2025-30 • Reducing freight sector externalities, including emissions o Area: Fleet emissions profile o Measure: Emissions per tonne km per mode (including overall total, bulk and non-bulk). o Area: Heavy Freight Vehicle Activity Index o Measure: Index based on three heavy vehicle inputs; incidents, vehicle kilometres travelled in passenger car equivalent units, and emissions. • Increasing rail's share of freight o Area: Rail mode share o Measure: Share of freight transported by rail at the Port of Melbourne Create certainty for industry to invest in decarbonisation … Industry is now investing in transitioning to low and zero emissions trucks including charging facilities. Whilst this investment is enabling new zero-emissions delivery, there is an opportunity to enable a more robust network for freight operators to recharge vehicles at open facilities whilst they are out on the road. There is an opportunity to share facilities already being funded by government … Low carbon liquid fuels can be produced sustainably from waste biomass such as agricultural feedstock, or renewable hydrogen. The Commonwealth Government is supporting development of Australia's growing domestic Low Carbon Liquid Fuels (LCLF) industry through its Future Made in Australia program … There is an opportunity to leverage Victoria's existing bio-diesel production capacity to achieve immediate emissions reductions, and utilise liquid fuel infrastructure to produce 'drop-in' fuels like renewable diesel … Additionally, Government support towards emerging technologies, such as zero-emission AAM and drones will contribute to Victoria's clean energy future. The uptake of these technologies will accelerate breakthrough developments in electric and hydrogen propulsion technologies … To achieve decarbonisation of freight and supply chains, we will facilitate information sharing to support the industry to make informed decisions that contribute to decarbonisation. The Victorian Government acknowledges the leadership the Commonwealth is showing in this space through its development of the net-zero pathway and seeks to harmonise with the Commonwealth by designing supportive actions that align with this work … Strategic Objectives and Actions

Party	Policies
	• Bring industry and government together to set a clear pathway for the freight industry contributing to Victoria's climate action targets … Actions (19.1 – 19.7) • Continue to support the growth of rail freight, including through delivery of the Port Rail Shuttle Network program … (Actions 20.1 – 20.3) • Support international efforts towards lower emissions from commercial shipping and improving information exchange, including to support the introduction of alternate low and no carbon fuels … (Action 21.1) Mitigate impacts to surrounding communities … • Make use of smart technologies to support more effective monitoring and management of the impacts of heavy vehicle operation on local communities, starting in Melbourne's inner west … (Actions 21.1 & 21.2) • Improve how government understands and measures the impact of heavy vehicle operation through local communities … (Action 23.1) Key Performance indicators – What Success Looks Like (pages 54 – 59) … Objective 3: Supporting climate and sustainability goals and liveable communities and places • Emissions per tonne km per mode (including overall total, bulk and non-bulk) • Index based on three heavy vehicle inputs; incidents, VKT, and emissions. • Share of freight transported by rail at the Port of Melbourne … Victorian Freight Decarbonisation Co-Investment Program (website 18 June 2026) … The $8 million Victorian Freight Decarbonisation Co-Investment Program aims to help the freight industry reduce emissions, with grants of up to $300,000 available. Eligibility Small to medium freight operators who move goods by road or rail can apply for a grant … Eligible projects To be eligible for funding, projects must support the shift to zero and low-emissions freight vehicles and cleaner technologies. Eligible activities include: • buying or leasing low or zero-emission freight vehicles • fit-outs /retrofits that customise a new vehicle for its freight task (e.g. refrigerated bodies, tail-lifts, specialised equipment) • installing charging or refuelling infrastructure (e.g. electric chargers, depot upgrades) • the cost of charging or refuelling new low or zero-emissions vehicles • adopting low-carbon liquid fuels such as renewable diesel or biodiesel • trying new technologies or innovative business ideas that reduce emissions • other proposals that contribute to program objectives which support reducing emissions Available funding Applications must meet all project milestones within 18 months of contract signing. • Maximum grant amount: $300,000 (ex GST)

Party	Policies
	• Minimum co-contribution: 1:5 For example, applicants can request a grant of $300,000 (excluding GST) only if they co-contribute a minimum of $60,000 (excluding GST) towards their project. • Co-contributions must be cash (not in-kind) • Government funding from another program cannot be used as the co-contribution … Key application dates … • Applications open (by invite only): June 2026 • Applications close: 4pm, 6 July 2026 • Application assessments: June-August 2026 • Notification of application outcomes: October 2026 See also: Freight Transport Decarbonisation (website 23 March 2026) Cutting Emissions And Costs For Freight Operators (Media release 15 July 2026) … Minister for Ports and Freight Melissa Horne today announced that Cahill Transport will be the first participant in the Victorian Electric Heavy Vehicle Trial. The two-year trial will help the sector integrate electric heavy vehicles into their day-to-day operations and collect data on operational data and user feedback. Whether it be testing charging infrastructure, understanding vehicle maintenance and driver training – this is about making it easier and cheaper for businesses to transition to net zero with practical experience with a zero emission freight vehicle. The $1.5 million Victorian Electric Heavy Vehicle Trial is being delivered in partnership with the Victorian Transport Association. These programs are part of the Labor Government's plan to work with industry to decarbonise Victoria's $36 billion freight sector … Partnership To Reduce Freight Vehicle Reliance On Fuel (Media release 11 May 2026) … the Allan Labor Government is backing a global agreement to transition to zero-emission freight vehicles. This will help businesses save more money and become less reliant on fuel. The signed global Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) will focus on cutting freight fuel use and drive sustainability in the sector. The MoU brings together 43 countries and more than 295 subnational governments, manufacturers, finance institutions, fleet owners and operators, and utility and infrastructure providers working to decarbonise the freight sector and reduce transport emissions. Under the MoU, signatories are working towards 100 per cent zero-emission new truck and bus sales by 2040, with an interim target of 30 per cent of new sales being zero-emission by 2030. This includes a national plan for high-capacity freight charging and supporting the Sydney to Melbourne "Hume Zero" corridor. It will also target small and medium operators – while delivering new policies to strengthen market certainty … Endorsing the MoU will allow Victoria to access an international network of jurisdictions and industry to work towards the Labor Government's goal of 50 per cent zero-emission on new light vehicle sales by 2030. The MoU is a key step towards decarbonising the freight industry and shifting freight from road to rail. Labor has recently introduced two new programs that will help freight operators invest in low and zero-emission vehicles, infrastructure and technology. This

Party	Policies
	includes the $8 million Victorian Freight Decarbonisation Co-Investment Program and the $1.5 million Victorian Electric Heavy Vehicle Trial … Green Triangle Plan To Support Future Growth (Media release, 7 October 2026) The Carroll Labor Government and Malinauskas Labor Government are working together to ensure a safer, more efficient freight network to deliver agriculture goods, critical minerals and plantation timber. The refreshed Green Triangle Freight Action Plan will support infrastructure upgrades to the freight network, helping to create new jobs, business opportunities and investment into regional communities. The 2026 Plan refresh looks ahead five years, supporting long-term planning that gives industries certainty. The Green Triangle is a major forestry region in south-west Victoria and south-east South Australia that supplies large volumes of plantation hardwood and softwood timber for new housing and infrastructure projects. New and emerging industries will generate significant freight growth in the region over the next five to ten years, including renewable energy, mineral sands, and critical minerals. This also includes growth in agricultural products, including grain, dairy and fertilisers, further highlighting the region's role in the national economy. The Green Triangle Freight Action Plan was created in 2009 to support ongoing investment in freight routes across the region, ensuring supply chains are efficient and support community, business and the introduction of new, modern heavy vehicles … *Victoria's Active Transport Plan* (released November 2025) Executive Summary (pages 6 – 16) Victoria's Active Transport Plan (the Plan) aims to get more Victorians using active transport to move around … What we aim to achieve The Plan aims to remove key barriers to active transport by focusing not only on physical infrastructure but also behaviour change, integrated transport systems, and safety and accessibility for all. By setting a unified framework for action, the Plan outlines how the Victorian Government will partner with local government and other key stakeholders to improve coordination, get more people to make more trips by active transport, and boost liveability … We are aiming for 25 per cent of all trips to be made by walking or riding by 2030. Pillars … Five key pillars that represent priority areas that were identified by the community, and provide the basis for a comprehensive action plan aimed at making active transport a common component of everyday life, improving liveability, increasing transport options, and reducing car dependence. • Accessibility and inclusion: All Victorians have access to inclusive active transport options that meet the diverse needs of individuals and communities. • Places and neighbourhoods: Well designed places and neighbourhoods enable walking and riding that support local connectivity and enhance community liveability.

Party	Policies
	• Integrated transport and safe street environments: Integrated transport and safe street environments enable everyone to walk or ride for short everyday trips. • Health and wellbeing: By improving active transport networks, we will provide more opportunities for people to be physically active. • Climate response: Victoria is building climate resilient places and networks that enable people to choose active transport to reduce emissions. Responses … • Embed active transport as a core component in the planning and delivery of thriving and liveable suburbs and towns … o Strategic planning to prioritise active transport movements when selecting site locations for key destinations … o Support a diverse range of housing so that households of different types and sizes can live in well-designed, liveable neighbourhoods with good access to walking and riding … o Walkability and rideability assessments will be required for large-scale developments with developer contributions helping to address gaps… o Review and update planning policies to better support environments that make walking and riding easier, safer and more attractive. • Consistently adopt the implementation principles of attractive, safe and connected active transport networks to increase the number, diversity and frequency of people using active transport to meet their daily needs. o Introduce Neighbourhood Active Transport Networks to help shape future planning, investment and decision making … o Create attractive, well-connected walking and riding routes … o Continue to create a safe environment and to support all users to make safe choices … • Prioritise investment by targeting locations across Victoria with the greatest uplift potential to achieve our 25 per cent mode share commitments. o Prioritise funding to target locations with the greatest potential to increase walking and riding and tackling disadvantage … o Partner with local councils to identify a number of precincts … targeting schools, key activity centres, public transport stops and interchanges … o Embed active transport infrastructure connections as core scope in all Big Build and other major state infrastructure projects … o Work with local councils to identify opportunities to streamline their approach and timelines … • Address barriers to active transport through a whole-of-system response that aligns with the five pillars and supports behaviour change. o Target investigations to better understand barriers and opportunities … o Work across government to better coordinate projects, policies and funding … o Clarify roles and responsibilities in planning, delivering and maintaining active transport infrastructure. o Lead and work with partners to ensure active transport data is collected …

Party	Policies
	○ Work with relevant partners to ensure design guidance and standards remain fit for purpose to promote positive active transport outcomes … Victorian Active Transport Improvements: Existing and in delivery … More than 410 kilometres of walking and riding facilities have been delivered with hundreds of kilometres still to come … • improvements to riding networks across the State … • extensive improvements, including partnerships with most councils across the state, through road safety programs … • pedestrian crossing upgrades and intersection improvement projects delivered across Metropolitan and regional Victoria … • the St Kilda Road Bike Lanes Upgrade Project delivered fully protected, accessible bike lanes … • transitional infrastructure delivered on bike routes in Darebin, Yarra, Moonee Valley, Maribyrnong and Port Phillip which will now be upgraded to make key routes permanent • investing in our growth areas with significant investments from the Growth Area Infrastructure Contributions fund supporting extensive local network delivery … • significant improvements in Regional Victoria including Sturt Street Shared Path in Ballarat … through the heart of the city and in Bendigo including the Mundy Street Corridor. Creating safer conditions to attract more people across the State to walk or ride, including: • giving councils flexibility to set appropriate speed limits • introducing minimum passing legislation to improve safety for bike riders • getting children safely to school via active modes through programs including the Kids Active Travel and the Safe Routes to School Programs • working with local governments, as road managers and key partners in driving road safety, through the Safe Local Roads and Streets Program to fund and support projects that improve local road safety • improving the safety of signals at urban intersections with high numbers of pedestrians • using compliance and enforcement to target high risk behaviours on our roads • delivering new signalised crossings, speed management treatments, upgrade traffic signal operations and many other safety measures across Victoria … Embedding Active Transport into Major Projects Every new major transport project – from North East Link to the Suburban Rail Loop – now includes new or upgraded infrastructure for walkers and riders … • The West Gate Tunnel Project has delivered over 14 kilometres of new and upgraded walking and riding paths … • North East Link, Eastern Freeway Upgrades and M80 Ring Road Completion are delivering more than 34 km of active transport improvements. • The Suburban Rail Loop (SRL) will support the delivery of more homes and housing choice where people want to live – on the doorstep of world class

Party	Policies
	public transport, services, jobs, schools, parks and cafés. The project will deliver active transport improvements such as: ○ six new stations will feature almost 3500 bike parking spaces and 15 kilometres of new and upgraded walking and cycling paths in the broader station precincts ○ Box Hill locals will ride along a brand new cycling path in a new linear park being built alongside Whitehorse Road – leading straight to the SRL station ○ a spacious 3m cycle path will give Burwood locals a connection from Gardiners Creek Trail to Deakin University … ○ the existing Waverley Rail Trail will be linked to Glen Waverley Station, and there'll be a new path … ○ new cycle paths in Clayton will link Lillian Street to the Monash Medical Centre, and the Djerring Trail will be upgraded ○ Cheltenham cyclists will have a path along the Frankston rail line connecting across Bay Road and safe cycle lanes separated from the street … ○ SRL is also planning for cycling links in the neighbourhoods surrounding each station as part of draft structure plans for each precinct. • The Level Crossing Removal Project is creating more than 70 kilometres of new cycling and walking paths as part of level crossing removals …
Liberals	*Our Plan to Deliver for Victorians* (2026) More PSOs (page 8) A Liberal and Nationals Government will restore safety across Victoria's public transport network. We will return Protective Services Officers (PSOs) to train stations … Investing in roads (page 17) Investment in Victoria's road and transport network has been neglected under Labor … We will make Victoria's transport network work for you by: • Investing $5 billion to rebuild, repair and resurface roads • Eliminating one million potholes across our road network • Building new and upgraded roads to reduce congestion Delivering the roads you deserve … Our Plan will invest $5 billion to rebuild, repair and resurface roads across Victoria, and do it properly. This will include preventative road maintenance to stop potholes developing eliminating one million existing potholes, fixing dangerous hazards and reducing the road maintenance backlog. We will establish Better Roads Victoria as a new agency, rebuilding the technical and engineering expertise lost when Labor abandoned VicRoads and axed Regional Roads Victoria. Improving road conditions will reduce vehicle damage, saving you money, and will improve safety and travel times. We will also build new and upgrade existing roads to reduce congestion, like the complete duplication of Donnybrook Road, saving you time in traffic and getting you where you're going faster. More homes for Victorians (page 18 – 19)

Party	Policies
	… Our Plan will expand the Capital City Zone into targeted parts of the inner city surrounding the CBD to enable additional, well-connected housing growth. The Capital City Zone expansion will build on the principles of certainty, streamlined approvals and mixed-use flexibility and enable residential growth in inner city areas already serviced by public transport and strong connectivity … Put Victoria back on top (page 37) … Our Plan will support major events with free public transport for events … [Note: No reference to zero emissions vehicles] More trains, more seats and greater capacity for Melbourne's West (Media release 1 September 2026) … A future Liberal and Nationals Government will invest $1.7 billion to deliver 25 new hybrid electric trains for the Melton and Wyndham Vale lines. This investment will finally deliver suburban rail services for these communities and means additional, potential City Loop services every hour during peaks on the Melton and Wyndham Vale lines, increasing passenger capacity by more than double. Labor promised to electrify the Melton and Wyndham Vale lines in both 2018, and 2022 - yet eight years later, these communities are still reliant on V/Line diesel trains. Under our team's plan, the trains will be electric, with hybrid capability allowing them to operate on existing electrified and non-electrified lines across the suburban network. Importantly, this commitment doesn't preclude electrification of the Melton and Wyndham Vale lines upon completion of the upgrades to Sunshine station, but delivers electrified train services to these communities sooner. A Liberal and Nationals Government will also establish a new and independent Public Transport Victoria (PTV) board to ensure Victoria's public transport system is fully focused on better service delivery for commuters and taxpayers … "Our plan will deliver metro-quality train services to Melbourne's west sooner - meaning more trains, more seats and greater capacity." … More trains and more seats for Regional Victoria (Media release 2 September 2026) Regional Victorians will get greater train capacity under the Liberals and Nationals' plan to deliver more trains and more seats across Victoria. Introducing new hybrid electric trains on the Melton and Wyndham Vale lines will free up 25 three car set V/Line trains to be deployed across the regional network, delivering more seats for regional passengers. This will boost capacity across the regional network, helping to reduce crowding and keep regional communities better connected. It is part of our plan to deliver more trains and more seats for passengers across Victoria … Under the Liberals and Nationals plan: • Gippsland: Five additional V'Locity sets (providing 1,110 seats overall) will be allocated to Traralgon and Bairnsdale to run longer trains with more seats in busier periods. All additional sets will be used multiple times every day.

Party	Policies
	• North East Victoria: Five additional V'Locity sets (providing 1,110 seats overall) will be allocated to Seymour and Albury to run longer trains with more seats in busier periods. • Northern Victoria: Five additional V'Locity sets (providing 1,110 seats overall) will be allocated to Echuca and Bendigo to run longer trains with more seats in busier periods. • Western Victoria: Four additional V'Locity sets (providing 888 seats overall) will be allocated to Ballarat, Ararat and Maryborough to run longer trains with more seats in busier periods. • South West Victoria: Five additional V'Locity sets (providing 1,110 seats overall) will be allocated to Warrnambool and Geelong, to run longer trains with more seats in busier periods. • Network reserve: One V'Locity set will be retained as a network reserve to deploy as required across the network. Melbourne's north-west has missed out for too long. (Jess Wilson Facebook post, 1 October 2026) Melbourne's north-west has missed out for too long. Our plan will deliver a new Keilor East Train Station by 2031, giving locals in Keilor East and Airport West the public transport connection they deserve. It's time for a fresh start for Victoria. *Our Ten Year Plan to secure Victoria's economic future* (May 2026) No reference to transport.
One Nation	*The Real Deal for Victoria* (Policy Platform, October 2026) Stronger Regions (page 39) Labor has treated regional Victoria as an afterthought for years. While billions were wasted on Melbourne projects that run over time and over budget, regional roads have been left dangerous, rail has been left unreliable … Rail Labor has poured billions into the Suburban Rail Loop, a project that returns only 60 to 70 cents for every dollar spent and will not open until 2035, while regional rail remains unreliable and the Inland Rail project has been delayed and scaled back. Victorians were promised better freight and passenger connections. What they got was waste in Melbourne and neglect everywhere else. What we will do: • Cancel the Suburban Rail Loop and redirect funding to infrastructure that actually delivers. • Finish the freight and commuter track duplication across regional Victoria so trains can run reliably and efficiently. • Support the full completion of the Melbourne-to-Brisbane Inland Rail project after Labor's delays and cutbacks. • Electrify the Melton line. • Complete the Airport Rail Link so all Victorians finally have easy and reliable access to Melbourne Airport. Finish the projects that matter. Stop the ones that do not.

Party	Policies
Animal Justice	Land Transport Policy (website, accessed 26 October 2026) Vehicles, roads and internal combustion engines have disastrous side effects for animals, the environment and people. The Animal Justice Party (AJP) recognises that Australia needs a national shift away from road transport and toward other more environmentally-friendly modes, including all forms of rail and mass transit, together with walking and cycling. This shift needs to be concurrent with changes in urban and inter-city planning and development, with the wellbeing of animals and people factored into the design (see our Human Population Policy). In addition to long term goals, we have an urgent need to rapidly decarbonise Australia's transport system. Powering vehicles with alternative energy sources such as hydrogen or electricity is a good start, but it is not enough to slow climate change or environmental destruction, or keep us within climate carbon budgets. This will require not only different vehicles but also far fewer. **Key Objectives** **1.** Encourage the growth of efficient, low carbon transport and steep reductions in private vehicles, particularly in urban areas. **2.** Rapidly transition away from the internal combustion engine towards hydrogen, electric vehicles and other clean technology with better emissions standards (possibly including offsets) in the interim. **3.** Provide financial incentives to both producers and consumers to switch to more eco-friendly land transport solutions. **4.** Ensure that public transport is affordable, reliable, accessible and safe for all people, and animal-friendly. **5.** Prioritise walkability, active transport and public transport in town planning while minimising travel time. **6.** Support the technologies and practices that will allow for remote work where appropriate. **7.** Reduce animal deaths and injuries on roads by modifying vehicles and existing roads, including wildlife infrastructure. **8.** Cease the expansion and widening of road networks that destroy ecosystems and encourage urban sprawl and car-dependent communities. **9.** Reduce inner-city traffic by reallocating road and car park space for native habitats, cyclists, pedestrians and social connectivity and connections with nature. **10.** Ensure the adoption of automated, self-driving vehicles provides a net benefit for animals and nature and does not lead to heavier road use and urban sprawl.
Tom Ward Independent for Eildon	No policies on effective reduction of transport emissions.
End Mass Immigration	
Family First	Energy Policy (website, accessed 28 September 2026) … Family First will ensure Australia's energy needs are met by … • Increasing the petroleum reserves to ensure transport security;

Party	Policies
	• Removing all restrictions and penalties on diesel vehicles; • Removing all subsidies and incentives on EV's (electric vehicles). Family First Policy (website, accessed 28 September 2026) No further reference to transport.
Freedom	
Legalise Cannabis	
Libertarians	**The Libertarian SRL Policy** **Cancel the Suburban Rail Loop Debt Bomb** The Suburban Rail Loop (SRL) will overload Victorians for decades with a debt heading toward half-a-trillion dollars. We can't afford it. It must be stopped. The Libertarian Party in government will cancel the Suburban Rail Loop. **Cost** • In 2018, the original projected cost of the Suburban Rail Loop was $50 billion. • Today, the cost of just 2 parts alone (North and East) is now estimated at $216 billion. Then add another $13 billion for the Melbourne Airport Rail link. • If the existing parts of the SRL are any guide, we can calculate another $8 billion, for Werribee to Tullamarine , giving a current total of $223 Billion! • Include inflation over the next 20 plus years and the cost will likely exceed $400 **billion!** **What will we get for that money? And when will we get it?** • The East section of the SRL will take nearly a decade to build if it's on time. • The North section won't be online for nearly 30 years IF it's on time. • The West section, including the link to Tullamarine doesn't even have a projected start date. A 30-year-old today will be lucky if they travel on the northern and eastern SRL by the time they are 60 or more, even if everything goes to plan – and it never does. If they live in Werribee or Tarneit they may not see it at all. The Suburban Rail Loop, if built, is something most of us will likely never live to see. **Debt bomb** The simple equation shows that the Suburban Rail Loop is an irresponsible debt bomb. • Current government debt is $167 billion set to rise to $194 billion within 3 years. • That's $23,700 debt for every Victorian. • $23 million in interest payments EVERY DAY. $36 billion over the next 4 years. • By 2028 Victoria's debt burden will reach almost $200 billion. This debt is BEFORE the SRL debt 5 **What does this mean? Higher taxes. Cost of living up even more**. The Suburban Rail Loop is irresponsible. It's an unaffordable mortgage on the future of every Victorian. The interest payments on this atomic debt bomb mean the actual loan principal can't be paid off. Not within 50 or even 100 years.

Party	Policies
	The SRL will burden generations to come with crushing debt for a hugely expensive train line that most Victorians will not live to use! That debt will have to be paid in higher taxes. Higher taxes means higher cost of living. And then China. **China and the Victorian SRL debt.** With Victoria's debt currently rated among the world's worst by international credit agencies our state government has created a massive debt problem. The government is now reliant on foreign lenders as local funders won't loan Victoria more money. It's too risky. Victorian Premier Jacinta Allan went to China. Many analysts think that the trip was to beg for loans from Beijing! Think about what we know in a logical manner: • Major companies contracted to build the SRL are Chinese owned or controlled. • The massive tunnel boring machines were bought from Chinese companies. • The details of the SRL contracts have been kept secret from the Parliament and Victorian people. • Without such disclosure it cannot be known if the government is paying way more for the work than needs to be paid. Is it possible that the government have mortgaged Victoria to China for the sake of loans to stave of Victoria's debt disaster? **CFMEU and the SRL** The SRL and infrastructure projects have been dominated by CFMEU, corruption, crime infiltration, Public mismanagement and Violence. The victims have been small business, independent contractors and the Victorian Public with no accountability for tax payers funds. The Victorian Public need answers about the CFMEU, outsourcing projects to China and funding the Labor party. **The $6 billion SRL cancellation trap** The Victorian government has signed long term forward contracts for the SRL. Best advice is that to cancel these contracts will require a $6 billion payout to the contractors. The signing of such lock-in contracts is irresponsible. It's reckless … with our money. But Labor has form when it comes to cancelling programs. When the government cancelled the Commonwealth Games Victorians were hit with almost $600 million in compensation payments. When the government cancelled the East-West Link road project, the payout totalled close to $1.2 billion. **The horrible choice** A future Victorian Government is faced with a horrible choice. Continue the ticking Suburban Rail Link debt bomb and drop a massive tax burden on every Victorian now, or take the short term hit of $6 billion in SRL contract cancellation costs and spare ourselves, our children and grandchildren from being crushed by arguably $300 billion or more of future debt. We're really faced with no choice at all. The SRL must be cancelled to save Victoria from catastrophe. It'll be a hard pill to swallow in the shorter term, but it will put Victoria back on the path to financial health and prosperity. The Libertarian Party, in government, will cancel the Suburban Rail Loop. No mention of effective action to reduce transport emissions.

Party	Policies
Shooters Fishers Farmers	
Socialist Alliance	
Sustainable Australia	
Victorian Socialists	Accessible and Sustainable Transport (Policies webpage, 2026) … Victorian Socialists believe transport should be a public good, not a source of private profit. That means free, frequent, publicly owned public transport; safe and connected cycling infrastructure; roads free of private tolls; and genuine investment in regional connectivity. It means redesigning our cities so that people are not forced into car dependency by the absence of alternatives. And it means ensuring that the transition away from fossil fuel vehicles does not place new financial burdens on working-class people who have no choice but to drive. What we think • Access to reliable, safe, efficient and fare-free transport is a human right. • Transport infrastructure should be built, owned and operated by public bodies. • Our transport systems must be environmentally sustainable. New investment must prioritise low- and zero-emission, energy-efficient, affordable modes of transport. • Fossil fuel reliant vehicles and freight must be phased out without causing disadvantage to working-class people. • Car dependency is the result of decades of planning decisions that prioritised roads and private vehicles over public and active transport. Reversing this requires not just investment in alternatives but a fundamental change in how we plan and build our cities and suburbs. • Transport infrastructure, planning and development must be democratic, and decisions must be guided by social equity and ecological sustainability. We'll fight to Public Transport and Infrastructure • Reverse the privatisation of Victoria's train, tram and bus system and infrastructure, returning it to full public ownership, without compensation to private operators. • Make all public transport permanently free, funded by ending private operator contracts and redirecting the current subsidies to running and expanding a publicly owned network. • Build a genuinely usable network by establishing a turn-up-and-go model on all high-frequency routes, extending services so key lines run through the night, increasing bus, tram and train frequency across the network, and establishing a high-frequency orbital bus network connecting suburbs to each other rather than only to the city. • Significantly upgrade regional rail services, replacing coach substitutions with genuine train services, increasing frequency on all regional lines, and extending rail to regional centres currently unserved by the network. • Construct new and extended public transport routes to improve public transport access and frequency in suburban and growth corridors, particularly by extending rail to the northern and western growth corridors.

Party	Policies
	• Ensure all public transport infrastructure, vehicles and services are fully accessible to people with disabilities, with a funded programme to upgrade all stations, stops and vehicles that do not currently meet accessibility standards. • Replace Authorised Officers and Protective Services Officers with trained customer service and community safety staff whose role is to assist passengers rather than enforce fares … Cyclists and Pedestrians • Build a connected, protected cycling network across metropolitan Melbourne and major regional centres by prioritising protected bicycle paths and lanes over street parking, ensuring protected lanes continue through intersections rather than merging with traffic, and completing missing links in the existing network. • Introduce a free bike share scheme for the Melbourne CBD and inner suburbs. • Invest at least $140 million per year (approximately $20 per person) in cycling infrastructure — figure based on Victoria's ABS-estimated resident population of roughly 6.9 million. • Expand secure bike parking at public transport hubs such as train stations. • Abolish fines for cyclists riding without a helmet while encouraging the use of protective gear. • Upgrade pedestrian infrastructure across Victoria, including footpaths, crossings, lighting and shade, with priority given to areas near schools, hospitals and public transport stops. Roads and Cars … • Build a publicly owned network of charging stations for electric vehicles, including in regional areas currently underserved by the private charging network. • Initiate a scheme to subsidise low- and moderate-income motorists who upgrade to electric vehicles. Infrastructure … • Evaluate the likely health and environmental effects of all major transport infrastructure projects in planning stages, with any identified negative effects to be considered in assessing the suitability of the project. Addressing Climate Change and Protecting our Environment (Policies webpage, 2026) … We'll fight to … • Electrify Victoria's transport system and commit to 100 percent electric new car sales by 2035, establish a comprehensive fast-charging network across the state including regional and rural areas, electrify the public bus fleet, and end all subsidies and concessions for fossil-fuel vehicles … A Fair Go for Rural and Regional Victoria (Policies webpage, 2026) … We'll fight to … • Provide incentives for electric vehicles to be manufactured at the old Ford factory site in Geelong …

7. Greater community protection from climate change impacts

Party	Policies
Greens	End Coal and Gas (Platform, website accessed 12 October 2026) End coal & gas, build renewables The Greens will … • Make big polluting corporations fund clean-up for communities hit by climate disasters, and legislate to make gas companies pay to clean up the mess they leave behind in our oceans. • Make polluters pay by legislating to enable everyday people who have been affected by climate disasters to sue the coal and gas companies who caused them. • Establish a $1 billion climate adaptation and mitigation seed fund, for communities impacted by climate disasters … Planning for Liveable Cities and Towns (Platform, website accessed 12 October 2026) … Rewrite the planning rules Local communities need to be empowered to build the housing that we need, not just what will make developers big profits. The Greens will rewrite the planning rules to increase density around transport hubs and properly protect green wedges, while restoring power to councils and communities, strengthening environmental protection, and conserving public space. More trees and parks to cope with heat waves Our cities are getting hotter. The Greens will rewrite the planning rules to require more green space and with a target of 40% tree canopy cover in urban areas, because they bring down the temperature in a heat wave. More sustainable homes Labor's recent planning changes have reduced sustainability requirements. The Greens will rewrite the planning laws to strengthen these requirements, so that future homes are comfortable and cheap to heat and cool … Protecting our environment Right now in Victoria, too often the environment is just an afterthought in planning decisions. The Greens will rewrite our planning laws to strengthen environmental protection in all planning decisions. We will also support urban rewilding and greening initiatives that reconnect city residents with living ecosystems. Protect & Restore Nature (Platform, website accessed 12 October 2026) … Green Our Cities Trees, parks, wetlands, and green corridors in our cities and suburbs make our lives better. They reduce heat, improve mental health, manage stormwater, and support biodiversity. Labor's planning system, however, treats trees and habitat as an obstacle to development.

Party	Policies
	The Greens will rewrite the planning rules, returning the requirement that planners need to take into account the environmental impacts of a development, and with a target of 40% tree canopy coverage in urban areas. We will also support urban rewilding and greening initiatives that reconnect city residents with nature, through planting programs in parks, nature strips, along creeks and in backyards … Rural & Regional Victoria (Platform, website accessed 12 October 2026) … Money for disaster clean-up The Greens want to see proper funding to help communities recover from fires, floods and extreme weather, paid for by the people who caused the problem – big polluters, like BHP, Woodside and ExxonMobil … Bushfire and Flood Victims Could Sue Coal and Gas Giants for Climate Change Damage Under Victorian Greens' Bill to 'Make Polluters Pay' (Media release 28 September 2026) The Greens have introduced laws in Victoria to make coal and gas companies legally liable for their share of damage from the climate crisis, granting victims of extreme bushfires, heatwaves and storms the right to sue for financial damages and even force polluting facilities to reduce emissions or shut down entirely. Leader of the Victorian Greens Ellen Sandell says that it's fundamentally unfair that everyday communities bear the costs of climate disasters like rising sea levels, the Black Summer bushfires, or recent glacial flooding in Nepal, while private coal and gas giants continue to rake in billions in profits making the crisis worse with more fossil fuel projects. The Victorian Greens' 'Liability for Climate Change Damage (Make Polluters Pay) Bill 2026' addresses this injustice by imposing liability for climate change damage on major emitters of greenhouse gases in Victoria. To do this at a state level, the Bill would create a new duty of care on major fossil fuel producers and owners and operators of coal-fired power plants whose total emissions have been greater than 1 million tonnes in any 12-month period since 1 September 1990 (when the first Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report was released, after which all emitters should have known the consequences of their pollution). Courts would then have the ability to impose financial damages - based on how much their historic emissions contributed to climate change damage - as well as injunctions forcing facilities to reduce their emissions, stop emitting entirely, and even stop new polluting projects from going ahead. The Victorian Greens will also double coal and gas royalties and cancel all subsidies and tax exemptions for fossil fuel projects. This would fund $3000 Greens Power voucher for renters and homeowners to slash energy bills and make their homes climate resilient with solar, batteries, insulation, and efficient electric products. The Greens have a costed plan to transition out of coal and gas and replace them with publicly-owned renewables, while ending the corporate stranglehold we're seeing in governments by banning donations from fossil fuel corporations. Climate Disasters are Making the Housing Crisis Worse (Media release, 2 September 2026)

Party	Policies

	The Victorian Greens say new figures showing climate disasters are forcing us to effectively "build homes twice" have exposed the staggering cost of Labor's failure to invest in climate resilience …
	Despite climate disasters already costing Victoria more than $2.7 billion every year, Labor rejected key recommendations from the Greens-initiated climate resilience inquiry, including a dedicated Resilient Homes Fund and stronger investment in climate adaptation …
	The Greens are calling on Labor to urgently implement the climate resilience inquiry's recommendations, establish a permanent fund to help households protect and adapt their homes, and make fossil fuel corporations pay for it …
	
	Climate Change Policy (website, dated 4 October 2025)
	Principles …
	• Climate change adaptation and mitigation measures should not discriminate or treat anyone unfairly on any basis including gender, age, race, ethnicity, vulnerability, religion, disability, sexual orientation or membership of a minority group …
	Adaptation
	• Government support for adaptive actions to protect the environment and key public assets, and to manage major public risks.
	• The implementation, through public and private action, of Victoria's climate change adaptation action plan, and ongoing review with community and expert involvement.
	• Assisting the agriculture sector to adjust to reduced water availability and to make itself more energy self-sufficient.
	• Ensuring that planning regulations allow for expected impacts of climate change such as rising sea levels, storm surges and other extreme weather events.
	• Implement adaptation measures that take account of those groups disproportionately impacted by climate change and resulting disasters and emergencies.
	
	Energy Policy (website, dated 4 October 2025)
	…Transition and Adaptation
	• Programs to assist Victorian communities to transition to more diverse and sustainable sources of economic prosperity, particularly if they are affected by:
	  ○ decline in fossil fuel or other carbon-intensive sectors
	  ○ loss of major industries or employers
	  ○ broader structural changes in the economy
	• Providing structural adjustment assistance for rural and regional consumers.
	• Ensuring the provision of effective fuel poverty alleviation measures.
	
	Climate Resilience (Final Report Legislative Council Environment and Planning Committee March 2026)
	Minority Report: Victorian Greens
	Foreword

Party	Policies
	… The highest priority of governments at all levels should be ensuring that communities are safe, with comfortable housing, energy and water security, reliable communications, and access to essentials like food and healthcare. As the world continues to warm relentlessly due to the abject failure of governments to stop the burning of fossil fuels despite decades of warnings about the consequences, it is clear that business as usual approaches to planning, building, maintenance, and renewal of physical infrastructure cannot continue. The inquiry identified that the Victorian government actually has many strategies that identify steps that need to be taken to prepare for and mitigate the impacts of climate change on the built environment. The problem is not a lack of plans - it is a lack of action. The majority report makes clear that the scale of the changes required are immense, and will require strong leadership and coordination across government and communities. Crucially, climate resilience needs to be embedded as a high priority in every aspect of government activity and adequately funded. … We cannot afford for this to be yet another inquiry report that is acted upon slowly or in a piecemeal fashion. Or worse, not at all. Action needs to be immediate and comprehensive. While we are largely supportive of the findings and recommendations of the majority report, it fails to recommend actions for the government in several key areas despite strong support in submissions and evidence presented at hearings. This minority report will make several further recommendations … 1. Make polluters pay There was strong and widespread support for the concept of establishing a climate adaptation fund and resilient homes scheme, reflected in the recommendations of the majority report. However, despite a substantial proportion of submissions - over a third - arguing that climate adaptation funding should be sourced from those who contribute the most to climate change, particularly the fossil fuel industry, the majority report failed to recommend this … Recommendation: That the Victorian Government adopts a 'polluter-pays' approach to raising revenue to fund climate adaptation, including by applying a Climate Response Levy to the fossil fuel industry (such as Victoria's coal-fired power stations). 2. Support access to safe housing Governments have failed to act meaningfully on climate change for decades - both in terms of emission reduction and adaptation. They must take responsibility for the consequences of this, including ensuring that people continue to have access to safe housing in a changing climate. Submitters and witnesses argued for the establishment of a resilient homes scheme, akin to those in NSW and QLD, in order to help communities recovering from disasters. While the majority report recommended Victoria establish such a scheme, it stopped short of recommending the scheme also provide for governments purchasing homes at high risk …The grim reality of climate change is that while some homes can be modified or moved, some areas will become effectively uninhabitable … Buying back homes is a contentious subject - it can be expensive and complex to administer.

Party	Policies
	Recommendation: That Victorian Government investigate buying back homes in high risk areas as part of a suite of climate adaptation policies. 3. Lift Environmentally Sustainable Design Standards … The Victorian Government is currently embarking on substantial planning reforms. This has included removing the capacity for councils to stipulate local environmentally sustainable design (ESD) requirements for some types of planning applications. While the government has argued that this is necessary to ensure standardisation across the state, in doing so, 28 councils that are part of the Council Alliance for a Sustainable Built Environment (who collectively cover around two thirds of the Victorian population) have had their ESD standards lowered. As noted in their submission, the CASBE councils developed their higher standards based on sound evidence and had successfully applied them for years … Recommendation: That the Victorian Government promptly review and improve the environmentally sustainable development standards in clause 55 of the Victoria Planning Provisions with a view to ensuring the statewide standards meet the higher standards set by 28 CASBE councils in their local policies, as recommended in the report from the Select Committee Inquiry into Victoria Planning Provisions Amendments VC257, VC267 and VC274.
Labor	Victoria's draft Adaptation Action Plans 2027-31 (website, undated) Have your say on Victoria's draft Adaptation Action Plans 2027-31 The Victorian Government is preparing Adaptation Action Plans 2027–31 for 8 statewide systems that are vulnerable to the impacts of climate change or vital to building Victoria's climate resilience. The Adaptation Action Plans 2027-31 are to be prepared by the 31 October 2026 in line with the Climate Action Act 2017 … The plans will build on the strong foundations set in the first Adaptation Action Plans 2022-26 and outline actions that the Victorian Government will take over the next five years to continue to strengthen the state's resilience. The draft plans are guided by the adaptation priorities in Victoria's **Climate Change Strategy 2026-30**, which are shaped by public consultation in 2025. They are also informed by findings from recent inquiries such as the **Parliamentary Inquiry into Climate Resilience** and the **Parliamentary Inquiry into the 2022 Flood Event in Victoria** … **The consultation period has finished**. The feedback provided will be considered in the finalisation of Victoria's Adaptation Action Plans 2027-31. A summary of the feedback received will be published on this page by the time the final Adaptation Action Plans 2027-31 are released. The final plans are expected to be released in 2027. See also: *Victoria's Climate Change Strategy 2026-30* and *Land use, land use change and forestry sector emissions reduction pledge 2026-30*

Party	Policies
	Built Environment Adaptation Action Plan 2027–31 Draft for Consultation June 2026 Building resilience requires different types of adaptation action (page 6) … The Victorian Government is implementing the priorities of the *Climate Change Strategy 2026-30* by committing to adaptation actions that: • Ensure climate change is considered in decision-making processes and operations, and that practitioners across government have the knowledge and skills to act • Use the latest climate science to understand risks and opportunities, draw on the lived experience of communities, and use structured risk assessments to identify adaptation options and priorities • Support others to adapt by providing information, resources and training, while working with other jurisdictions and the private sector so everyone plays their part • Directly reduce risks to those Victorians who are most vulnerable, to Victoria's public assets and services, and to Victoria's natural environment, including by preparing for and recovering from emergencies. The built environment system provides people with safe, comfortable places to live and work (page 7) System scope Victoria's built environment system … includes our cities, towns and regional areas, and how people use and interact with services, infrastructure, buildings, natural and cultural features, and public places. The system is closely interconnected with other systems, including energy and transport … Roles and responsibilities (page 8) Adapting Victoria's built environment requires coordinated action across government, industry and delivery partners … Climate change brings risks and opportunities (page 9) … Climate change will continue to affect Victoria's built environment in diverse ways. The location of built environment and infrastructure assets strongly influences their exposure to climate risks. Direct impacts include damage to buildings, homes, infrastructure, recreation facilities, parks, natural areas, and cultural and heritage assets, including Traditional Owner and Aboriginal Victorian spiritual and archaeological sites. Secondary impacts extend beyond physical damage to include disruption to service delivery, business operations, construction activity, and the movement of goods and people. These impacts have flow-on effects for economic productivity and community health and wellbeing … Our current adaptation action (page 12) Building for the future The Victorian Government has integrated climate-responsive planning across Victoria's planning system to support sustainability, urban greening, cooling and renewable energy uptake. Initiatives including: • amendments to all **planning schemes** in Victoria to strengthen requirements for greener and cooler urban environments through the Townhouse and

Party	Policies
	Low-Rise Code, Single Home Code and Mid-Rise Code (Amendments VC267, VC283 and VC300). • adoption of a **30% tree canopy cover target** in urban areas and new planning policy highlighting the need to consider measures to reduce risks from urban heat as part of planning for the future (Amendment VC289, VC283). • amendments to the **Planning and Environment Act 1987**, that includes a new climate change objective for the planning framework and embed a requirement for all planning decisions to consider climate change. The Victorian Government has also strengthened climate resilience in the planning, design and construction of new assets and services by improving the use of up-to-date climate data and embedding climate risk considerations into building standards and regulatory frameworks. Victoria strongly advocates for a climate-responsive national construction framework informed by contemporary climate data and modelling … Protecting communities (page 13) The Victorian Government is committed to helping Victorians understand their climate risks and the steps they can take to mitigate these risks … A range of resources is available to support communities, including homeowners, to plan for and respond to extreme weather emergencies. These include: • Country Fire Authority's Plan and Prepare resources, which provide localised information on bushfire risks across different Victorian environments and practical actions to reduce risk. • Victoria State Emergency Service (SES) Local Flood Guides that assist communities to understand their local flood risk and support preparedness, response and recovery. Support self-determination (page 14) … the Victorian Government has committed to supporting Traditional Owner self-determination by embedding First Nations land management practices and leadership into climate resilience and adaptation efforts. Work is underway to better reflect Traditional Owners' rights and interests across Victoria's planning system … We are committed to further action (pages 15 – 17) **Action 1**: Embed climate risk in built **environment decision-making processes** to ensure government and development outcomes respond to current and future climate hazards … This action focuses on improving the resilience of at-risk assets and infrastructure and ensuring planning, design, location and procurement standards minimise climate risks … The priorities over the next 5 years include: • implement planning and building reforms and supporting tools to ensure built environment **decisions respond to future flood, bushfire, landslide and coastal climate risks**: o adopt locally specific coastal and marine data, including hazard modelling, where available, consistent with state policy o implement a new risk-based flood hazard rating system with corresponding planning and building controls to clearly identify and plan for land that is at extreme, very high, high, moderate and low flood hazard

Party	Policies
	○ strengthen all Planning Schemes to ensure that decision making prioritises the safety of human life in areas of high, very high and extreme flood hazard ○ carry out new bushfire modelling that includes future climate conditions ○ deliver policy guidance and tools to support the practical implementation of planned retreat for property and assets impacted by coastal hazards and sea level rise ○ continue to update the *Victorian Government's Asset Management Accountability Framework*, to improve the climate resilience of government assets ○ deliver planning guidelines to support resilient design to reduce risk so that it may be safely permitted in areas impacted by flood hazard. • promote **urban cooling and greening provisions** through implementation of Environmentally Sustainable Development (ESD) initiatives: ○ implement landscape and design measures to reduce urban heat impacts and tree canopy standards for commercial, industrial and non-residential developments and provide guidance on urban heat reduction strategies for urban developments ○ use, develop and adapt spatial modelling techniques and tools to support further analysis of greening and cooling. ○ support local councils to clarify statutory powers where landslide hazards present a risk to community safety: ○ support clarifications of the powers of local councils to protect the community in circumstances where private land is susceptible to landslides. ○ develop a Whole of Victorian Government strategic land use planning policy toolkit ○ for better risk management of natural hazards in a changing climate including existing highest-risk settlements. **Action 2**: Improve climate risk and emergency management **guidance and information** so households, communities and industry better understand climate risks and resilience … This action focuses on providing information and advice to households and communities and improving guidance to industry, including focusing on the most at-risk individuals and communities … The priorities over the next 5 years include: • provide **accessible multi-hazard information and advice** that enables self-directed action to enhance the climate resilience of Victorian homes • in addition to the significant community preparedness work already led by Victoria's emergency service agencies, deliver an all hazards **Get Ready program** that provides tools, knowledge and supports to help communities understand and manage extreme weather risks. **Action 3**: Continue to review and prioritise emergency management initiatives which support **improved recovery and reduce future exposures** to climate hazards … This action focuses on improving emergency management and preparedness … The priorities over the next 5 years include: • strengthen emergency management policy, preparedness and recovery to **support community-led resilience**, local government capability and Traditional Owner participation:

Party	Policies
	○ review investment processes and funding decisions following major emergencies to ensure Victoria continues to deliver core relief and recovery programs that are scalable, address the needs of impacted communities and eligible for cost-sharing with the Commonwealth ○ prioritise strategic actions and reforms through annual updates to the Victorian Emergency Management Strategic Action Plan to help Victorian communities understand and reduce their risks and to prepare for and recover well after emergencies ○ identify opportunities to support local government facilitate community-led emergency preparedness and recovery so that most at risk groups, individuals or industries are better prepared and able to recover from emergencies ○ work with First Peoples and Traditional Owners to increase their inclusion in emergency management **Action 4**: **Advocate to the Commonwealth Government** for building reforms, insurance and infrastructure funding to strengthen all-hazard climate resilience across development, infrastructure, households and communities … This action focuses on improving the resilience of at-risk assets and infrastructure and ensuring planning, design, location and procurement standards minimise climate risks The priorities over the next 5 years include: • advocate for climate resilience as an additional objective of the ***National Construction Code*** and for associated standards for new residential and commercial buildings to embed climate resilience in the building system • advocate to the Commonwealth Government to fund more **resilient telecommunications infrastructure** across the State • advocate for greater Commonwealth **investment to drive risk reduction** and reduce un-insurability for households • advocate to the Commonwealth to increase investment in longer-term resilience through the **Disaster Recovery Fund** and Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (such as build back better or planned retreat) to support emergency preparedness and recovery for communities. *Education and Training Adaptation Action Plan 2027-31 Draft for Consultation June 2026* Building resilience requires different types of adaptation action (page 6) As per *Built Environment Adaptation Action Plan 2027–31 Draft* above The education and training system provides quality learning opportunities for all Victorians (page 7) System scope The education and training system comprises the services and assets primarily engaged in the planning, development, provision and support of education and training, including future workplace skills and needs. Roles and responsibilities (page 8) The Victorian Government plays many roles … directly providing education in government schools and Early Learning Victoria centres, monitoring and enforcing compliance … providing support, guidance, oversight and assurance. We work closely with partners and key stakeholders to provide education and training opportunities for all Victorians.

Party	Policies
	Climate change brings risks and opportunities (page 9) … Extreme weather and long-term shifts in weather patterns pose risks to: • the health and wellbeing of children, students and staff in the education and training system • continuity of learning and service delivery through disruption and increasing demand for supports • infrastructure and places that help keep people safe and support delivery of quality learning outcomes … Our current adaptation action (pages 12 - 13) Support the most at risk people and communities The Victorian Government developed the **Recovery and Resilience Model** to help schools recover after disasters. We set up a team of specialist **Recovery Champions** across the state. These champions provide specialist training to our regional workforce and targeted support to schools after emergencies. The Victorian Government has invested in enhanced wellbeing support for government school staff affected by floods and fires. We analysed data to understand the impacts of heat on the health and wellbeing of our school workforce. The Government is partnering with researchers to deliver the **Climate Resilient Education Project.** Researchers will assess the long-term impacts of climate-related disasters on Victorian education communities. Provide information and advice to industries and communities The Victorian Government developed an Environmental Sustainability in Schools Policy. This policy supports schools to act on climate change and reduce their environmental impacts … [THIS IS PRIMARILY ABOUT MITIGATION, NOT ADAPTATION] The Australian and Victorian governments partnered to establish the Future of Housing Construction Centre of Excellence. This Centre builds skills in 'modern methods of construction' across Victoria's construction industry. Environmentally responsible construction practices are promoted through this initiative. Design of a new facility is underway to further support training … [MORE ON MITIGATION] [NB COULD ARGUE AWARENESS & SKILLS EDUCATION ARE RELVANT – SEE ACTIONS BELOW] Focus on the most at-risk assets and services The Victorian Government completed climate risk assessments of government-owned early childhood education, school and TAFE assets. We updated policies and guidance related to infrastructure and facilities. This will support schools to consider climate change risks. We set up systems to monitor how extreme weather is impacting government school assets. This will help inform climate adaptation planning and responses. We progressed work to use information about climate risks to inform our infrastructure design, planning and asset management processes Support emergency management and preparedness

Party	Policies
	The Victorian Government works with schools and early childhood services across Victoria to help plan, prepare, respond and recover from emergencies. We are working with the CSIRO to update the bushfire risk assessment process. This process applies to all schools and early childhood education centres in Victoria. Using the best available science will help us prepare for increasing bushfire risks caused by climate change. Support self-determination (page 14) … The Department of Education's *2025-29 Strategic Plan* has been refreshed to better reflect our commitment to prioritise self-determination and strengthen cultural safety … [NO SPECIFIC ADAPTATION ACTIONS] We are committed to further action (page 15 – 18) … Action 1: Deliver guidance, training and programs to support the education system to prepare for, respond to, and recover from climate-related emergencies … We will: • expand the Recovery and Resilience Model to support Victorian Government schools to manage the psycho-social impacts from climate disasters • continue to deliver the Climate Resilient Education partnership project to improve knowledge about the climate risks to early childhood education and school sectors • improve access to data about climate hazards, risks and impacts and use this to inform decision-making • continue to strengthen emergency management capacity and capability of the system … Action 2: Provide support to schools and early childhood education providers to manage the impacts of extreme temperatures on health, wellbeing and learning outcomes … The Government will: • develop an evidence-based 'preparedness and closure' framework to support early childhood education providers to manage impacts of heat and other types of extreme weather • provide practical guidance to schools to support them to reduce the impacts of extreme temperatures on wellbeing and learning outcomes • support our workforces to be safe and well in extreme temperatures … Action 3: Embed use of information about climate risks to improve how we plan, design, procure and construct government-owned education and training infrastructure … We will build on existing climate risk assessments and: • continue to embed information about the vulnerability of education infrastructure to climate hazards in asset management • incorporate evidence of climate risks into decisions about the location, planning and development of new government-owned education facilities • continue to support asset managers of government schools and government-owned early childhood centres to respond to climate risks • embed climate resilience outcomes in upgrades of Department of Education offices

Party	Policies
	• integrate innovative technologies and materials designed to mitigate climate risks into construction projects on TAFE campuses … Action 4: Share resources to help educators and teachers to teach about sustainability and climate change … The Government will: • support environmental education providers to update resources to align with the Victorian Curriculum F–10 Version 2.0 and Victorian Teaching and Learning Model 2.0 • support teachers to use climate change and sustainability-focused lesson plans • develop and deliver resources to support the early childhood workforce to embed climate adaptation into their practice in line with the Early Years Frameworks. Delivery of this action will support Victoria's adaptation priority to provide information and advice to households and communities to manage climate risks and seize opportunities. Action 5: Invest in building a skilled and inclusive workforce and build capacity in climate-ready careers to support Victoria's transition to a net zero and climate-resilient economy … We will: • deliver targeted education and training to support tertiary learning and workforce development in the renewable energy and construction sectors • support TAFEs to deliver practical, hands-on training to build skills in clean economy careers • build opportunities for apprenticeships that support diverse climate-ready career pathways • support secondary school students to explore career opportunities that support a clean economy. Delivery of this action will support Victoria's adaptation priority to focus on the most at-risk critical industry sectors and workforces and support them to reduce their vulnerability and exposure to climate impacts. *Energy Adaptation Action Plan 2027-31 Draft for Consultation June 2026* Building resilience requires different types of adaptation action (page 6) As per *Built Environment Adaptation Action Plan 2027–31 Draft* above The energy system provides an essential service to power our lives (page 7) System scope The energy system spans generation, production, transmission, storage and distribution of energy (electricity, gas and liquid fuels) and how people use and rely on energy as an essential service ... Roles and responsibilities (page 8) The energy sector is a complex, human-made system involving multiple participants across Commonwealth and State governments, market bodies, private sector, communities, Traditional Owners and First Peoples … Climate impacts on the energy system (page 9)

Party	Policies
	… the electricity transmission and distribution system are particularly vulnerable to physical damage from storms, bushfires, heatwaves and flooding. Extreme heat also drives up electricity demand, putting increased strain on our electricity networks. Both factors can lead to outages or increase the risk of supply shortages … There is also an emerging risk from periods of low wind and/or solar output or 'lulls', which may increasingly affect future electricity supply … As we shift away from fossil fuels, we also need to manage the transition risks that come with this change. This will help make sure the transition to renewable energy is orderly and continues to provide reliable, affordable and sustainable energy … Our current adaptation action (page 12 – 14) Support emergency management and preparedness • Providing energy resilience where it is needed most … The **Energy Resilience Solutions** and the **Community Microgrids and Sustainable Energy Programs** are helping communities to act now and adapt to increasingly frequent and severe climate-related disruptions to energy infrastructure. Through these programs, 27 towns that experience significant power outages were supported to install backup energy systems at community hubs, essential service sites and key local businesses … Support for communities to generate, store and consume their own renewable energy will continue through the **100 Neighbourhood Batteries Program** and **First Peoples Solar and Storage Initiative**. This program has expanded its scope to support energy resilience, resulting in 28 backup energy systems to be delivered … • Building the energy network's resilience to climate events Following the severe storms in June and October 2021, the Victorian Government initiated the *Electricity Distribution Network Resilience Review* … Key improvements implemented include changes that require distribution businesses to better invest in and prepare for extreme climate events, such as: • changes to the National Electricity Rules requiring the Australian Energy Regulator to explicitly consider resilience factors … • enabling distributors to add expenditure related to Stand-Alone Power Systems to their regulatory proposals • requiring five-yearly network resilience plans … • reviewing the life support framework Following the February 2024 storms, the Victorian Government initiated the independent *Network Outage Review* … It made 19 recommendations to help these businesses better prepare for and prevent outages, and to restore power and support communities more effectively … Focus on the most at-risk individuals and communities • Making homes more resilient … The **Energy Efficiency in Social Housing Program** … is installing energy-efficient appliances and thermal shell upgrades to existing social housing dwellings to increase residents' comfort and safety … The Program will deliver up to 50,000 individual energy efficiency upgrades, across 23,600 homes. As of 31 January 2026, over 25,000 upgrades have already been completed, with the electrification of over a thousand properties. The **Victorian Energy Upgrades** program … supports households and businesses to cut energy use and emissions through

Party	Policies
	discounted energy-efficient products … The Victorian Government will continue to expand and strengthen the program to deliver more upgrades … • Raising Standards In 2025 new Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards for rental homes were announced … The new standards will be phased in from 1 March 2027 and cover the most cost-effective measures for improving climate resilience in the home, including insulation and draught proofing, as well as ensuring there is efficient electric cooling in the main living area … Support self-determination … We continue to support Traditional Owners and their climate action goals through initiatives such as the First Peoples' Solar and Storage Initiative, with the Victorian and Australian Governments providing up to $12.2 million … We will keep taking further action (pages 15 – 18) Action 1: Improve the energy resilience of existing homes to protect those most vulnerable to extreme heat … Many homes across Victoria, particularly older and poorly insulated dwellings, do not meet modern energy standards and are unable to maintain safe indoor temperatures during prolonged heat events … Our programs, policies and standards will focus on improving the energy efficiency and thermal performance for existing homes. This includes actions such as implementing the **Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards** for rental properties and adding ceiling insulation incentives into the **Victorian Energy Upgrades** program. It also includes partnering with Homes Victoria to deliver further upgrades to public, community and Aboriginal housing through the **Energy Efficiency in Social Housing Program**, in collaboration with the Health and Human Services Adaptation Action Plan … Action 2: Enhance the resilience of energy infrastructure by driving greater investment in climate resilient solutions … Much of Victoria's energy infrastructure was not designed to withstand the increasing frequency and intensity of extreme weather, such as storms and bushfires. Targeted investment to strengthen the resilience of our electricity system is required to reduce the likelihood and duration of outages and strengthen the system's ability to withstand and recover from extreme weather events … The *Electricity Distribution Network Resilience Review* and *Network Outage Review* identify key opportunities to improve the resilience of energy infrastructure. We will continue to implement the recommendations from these reviews, including introducing network resilience plans for distribution businesses, a new obligation to improve parts of AusNet's distribution zone most at risk of prolonged power outages, and directly supporting place-based energy backup solutions through the **100 Neighbourhood Batteries Program**. Action 3: Strengthen energy system emergency management frameworks and related plans to implement opportunities to effectively plan, mitigate, respond and recover … Energy emergency events caused by extreme weather are becoming more frequent, causing significant social and economic disruption, with communities bearing the impacts of delayed power restoration. We will continue to strengthen sector and community preparedness, by ensuring our emergency management

Party	Policies
	and critical infrastructure planning considers future climate risks. This includes updates to the State Emergency Management Energy Sub Plan and the annual Energy Sector Resilience Plan. We will also strengthen the obligations of the electricity distribution businesses and retailers by implementing the Electricity Distribution Network Resilience Review and Network Outage Review recommendations, improving emergency management planning, customer communications, priority restoration processes and life support customer protections. Action 4: Provide households, businesses and communities with clear energy resilience information, advice and tools to better understand climate risks and improve their ability to take self-directed action Victorians are increasingly taking proactive steps to protect themselves from climate change, with many households and businesses preparing for extreme weather events by building their understanding of climate risks and improving their own resilience. To support this, we will deliver clear and accessible information that helps people understand the climate risks they face and the actions they can take to reduce them … By improving awareness, communities and businesses will also be better positioned to benefit from programs such as **Solar Homes** and **Victorian Energy Upgrades** Action 5: Support Traditional Owners and First Peoples to self-determine and lead energy resilience initiatives that protect Country, culture, and community wellbeing … Finalising the relevant actions in the *First Peoples' Renewable Energy Strategic Plan* will provide culturally safe opportunities for First Peoples to self-determine strategies to mitigate, adapt and respond to climate impacts … *Health and Human Services Adaptation Action Plan 2027–31 Draft for Consultation June 2026* Building resilience requires different types of adaptation action (page 6) As per *Built Environment Adaptation Action Plan 2027–31 Draft* above System scope (page 7) … the health and human services system is defined as: a) the services and assets primarily engaged in protecting human health from disease resulting from or associated with communicable disease, food, water or the environment; and b) the services and assets which provide human physical and mental health care, social support and assistance. Roles and responsibilities (page 8) The Department of Health and the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (including Homes Victoria) deliver policies, programs and services that support the health, wellbeing and safety of all Victorians … VIDA Health [is] the responsible authority for the planning and delivery of the Victorian Government's health infrastructure program … Our current adaptation action (pages 12 – 15) Focus on most at-risk individuals and communities

Party	Policies
	Existing initiatives strengthen the resilience of communities, particularly children, families and groups disproportionately affected by climate impacts … This includes for example: • delivering programs focussed on minimising public health impacts associated with climate-sensitive hazards such as extreme heat and heatwaves, thunderstorm asthma, and mosquito-borne disease vectors • public health monitoring and surveillance • administration of public health legislation. Focus on the most at-risk critical industry sectors and workforces A skilled, prepared and climate literate workforce is essential to safeguarding health, wellbeing and service continuity as the climate changes … During the 2022-26 period, the Department of Health developed a climate risk toolkit for Victorian health organisations and is now working with the sector to apply the toolkit to better identify and manage climate risks. Resources to support planning and preparedness by organisations have also been published by the Department of Health such as the *Heat Health Preparedness Guidance for Health and Community Services* … Support emergency management and preparedness The Department of Health also works to minimise the impacts of emergencies with major health consequences on individuals, communities and the Victorian health system … The *State Emergency Management Plan Health Emergencies Sub-Plan* outlines responsibilities for health emergencies in Victoria, across mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery, helping to ensure the system is ready for more frequent and severe climate related emergencies … Ensure new assets and services seek to minimise climate risks During the 2022-26 period, VIDA Health and the Department of Health worked with the Australasian Health Infrastructure Alliance (AHIA) to develop the *AHIA Climate Resilience and Adaptation Guide*. VIDA Health also integrated climate risk in its property acquisition processes … Ongoing work continues to align capital delivery with industry guidance … Support self-determination Climate change adaptation must support self-determination for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, including the right to care for Country and culture in a changing climate and to benefit from the transition … We are committed to further action (pages 16 – 19) Action 1: Identify public health portfolio infrastructure most at risk to climate hazards and act on opportunities to improve resilience This action will strengthen the resilience of public health infrastructure by identifying assets most exposed to climate hazards and prioritising adaptation responses. Building on existing climate risk assessments and toolkit … The action will guide investment decisions, integrate climate risk into asset management processes, and identify opportunities to build back better or support managed transition where required …

Party	Policies
	Action 2: Expand and integrate climate and health data, surveillance and reporting to enhance data-informed decision making and improve health outcomes for Victorians This action will enhance the surveillance of key climate-sensitive public health hazards, improve data-driven preparedness and response, and reduce associated health impacts for Victorians. It is a continuing action that builds on an action in the *Health and Human Services Adaptation Action Plan 2022-26* … Action 3: Develop a toolkit to standardise climate adaptation processes across the health infrastructure project lifecycle The purpose of the action is to standardise climate adaptation processes into the design and delivery of healthcare infrastructure. The immediate priorities are to map climate adaptation inputs across the project life cycle, collate existing resources and identify any gaps requiring additional resources … Action 4: Improve supply chain resilience and assurance of supply for critical health goods and services This action responds to climate related risks to health supply chains … It addresses identified system risks relating to supply chain disruption and cascading service impacts. Initial priorities focus on improving visibility of climate sensitive supply chain dependencies and strengthening assurance and risk monitoring mechanisms … Action 5: Leverage digitally enabled models of care, including virtual care, where clinically appropriate, to support continuity of healthcare delivery during extreme climate events This continuing action supports continuity of healthcare delivery during extreme climate events by maintaining access to care when travel, physical access or face-to-face service delivery is disrupted … Consistent with Victoria's *Digital Health Roadmap*, this action focuses on ensuring the system has strong digital foundations to support safe, coordinated and reliable care during periods of disruption … Action 6: Build the capacity of the mental health and wellbeing system to respond to communities experiencing stress, anxiety and trauma related to environmental changes This action leverages work underway to reform the mental health and wellbeing system … It supports the 'protecting kids, families and communities' focus in Victoria's *Climate Change Strategy 2026-30* and aims to tackle both the mental health and wellbeing impacts of disaster events and community anxiety about future climate change projections … Action 7: Strengthen preparedness for climate related health emergencies by prioritising highest risk climate driven hazards and embedding a strengthened evidence base into emergency management planning, monitoring and early warning systems This new action will strengthen the evidence base for climate driven hazards that are the highest risk for Victorians' health and the Victorian health system. The evidence base for these hazards will inform the emergency management planning

Party	Policies
	undertaken for these hazards, as well as any monitoring or early warning systems established to provide an early notification … Action 8: Manage and reduce the social housing portfolio's exposure to climate hazards This continuing action will improve portfolio climate risk assessment and management processes. It will build on the data and lessons learnt from the outgoing Adaptation Action Plan's climate risk modelling pilot … It will inform asset decision making processes to mitigate investment risks, support managed transitions where required and identify opportunities to build back better … Action 9: Improve the climate resilience of existing social housing … The action builds on the 19,000 social housing upgrades delivered in the first phase of the Energy Efficiency in Social Housing Program. The program has been vastly scaled up, supported by a total $346.6 million joint investment with the Commonwealth that aims to deliver a total of 60,000 upgrades including 5,000 full home electrifications by June 2029, including a new $120 million commitment from the Australian government agreed in April 2026. Action 10: Embed climate resilience in new social housing This continuing action will embed climate resilient design strategies into the planning and delivery of new social housing. Select developments will commit to Green Star certification, including via the Social Housing Growth Fund. To date the Big Housing Build has established high sustainability standards with nine large developments consisting of 1,827 homes achieving a Five-Star Green Star rating … *Natural Environment Adaptation Action Plan 2027–31 Draft for Consultation June 2026* Building resilience requires different types of adaptation action (page 6) As per *Built Environment Adaptation Action Plan 2027–31 Draft* above System scope (page 7) The natural environment consists of land-based ecosystems such as grasslands and forests; aquatic ecosystems such as rivers, estuaries and wetlands; and coastal and marine ecosystems such as mangroves and sea-grass meadows. Ecosystems include animals and plants and the interactions they have with each other and their physical environment including waterways, rocks and soil. The natural environment system spans public and private land … Roles and responsibilities (page 8) A diverse range of people contribute to managing the natural environment. As a group they can be referred to as the 'natural environment sector'. State government departments and agencies and local councils – in partnership with Traditional Owners – develop policy, make plans and undertake on-ground actions. Traditional Owners have legislative rights and cultural responsibilities to care for Country.

Party	Policies
	Volunteers, community groups and private landholders play an important role in managing parks, reserves and private properties. Various non-government organisations undertake on-ground actions and advocacy … Climate change brings risks and opportunities (page 9) … the rate of change in climate we are experiencing is unprecedented. With conditions changing so quickly, this brings the risk that for some plants and animals the associated impacts will be beyond their ability to cope and adapt to the changes … Changes to the natural environment (page 10 - 11) … Some changes to the natural environment will occur slowly while others will be more sudden. Gradual changes and sudden events can each trigger tipping points, leading to permanent irreversible changes to ecosystems. We know that climate change is likely to result in changes to the distribution, composition, structure and function of ecosystems. Knowing which ecosystems will be affected, when and how is more difficult … Climate related hazards, such as altered temperatures and increased fire or drought, will directly and indirectly impact ecosystem function, which rely on a complex set of relationships … If any of these relationships is altered, there may be flow on affects to species not directly impacted by the climate related hazard … Different locations will be exposed to different hazards … [T]he specific pattern of this exposure will affect the ability of plants and animals to respond to or withstand future climate hazards … Contribution to broader risks and opportunities The *National Climate Risk Assessment 2025* estimates that by 2050, the sustainability and prosperity of all natural systems will be challenged, with severe impacts expected on ecosystems, high risks of resource depletion, loss of species, and the almost certain collapse of some ecosystems … Climate change poses significant risks to Victoria's Traditional Owners and First People's communities … Our current adaptation action (pages 14 – 15) … Here we provide a small sample of government and non-government projects to demonstrate the breadth of adaptation actions occurring in Victoria. Support emergency management and preparedness Emergency Management Victoria (EMV) is building adaptation capability by trialling the Resist-Accept-Direct (RAD) framework. The Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) is piloting the deployment of Natural Values Officer emergency roles to uplift biodiversity and natural asset knowledge within the emergency response space. Forest management and community focused projects, like the Resilient Forests Project, are piloting adaptation pathways … Guidance and tools are being developed by DEECA, funded through the Disaster Resilience Fund, to help plan for the need to retreat property, assets and ecosystems from impacts of coastal hazards and sea level rise. Implement strategies to maximise biodiversity conservation and support ecosystem services

Party	Policies
	The Victorian Government is using a climate change adaptation lens and associated principles in the *Victorian Waterway Management Strategy* … Research initiatives undertaken by the Victorian Government are increasingly designed and focussed on efforts to support adaptation in the natural environment. This includes actively monitoring for changes such as part of the **Nutrient Network Global Grassland Experiment, Western Treatment Plant Monitoring, Semi-arid woodlands Condition Monitoring, Monitoring Peatland Vegetation Condition in Alpine and Sub-alpine Victoria**. Catchment Management Authorities (CMAs) have been applying adaptation concepts in the natural environment management context. For example, using the Room to Move concept to guide on-ground projects that are helping prepare for the risk of sea-level rise and the protection of environmental values in the Gippsland Lakes. Support nature-based solutions **Victoria's Resilient Coast Adapting for 2100+** is a state-wide approach to long-term coastal hazard resilience and adaptation. This plan includes the development of a framework, guidelines, and funding program to support local government, land managers and communities to adapt to the impacts of climate change on the coast. In our marine and costal environments work is underway to support restoration efforts for Victoria's blue carbon ecosystems - mangroves, saltmarsh and seagrass and proactively plan for managing future changes to the coastline through the Cape-to-Cape Resilience Project. Support self-determination Country that provides a healthy ecosystem in which the living world thrives is central to Traditional Owners wellbeing, and identity … The Victorian Government is committed to working in partnership with Traditional Owners and Aboriginal Victorians to support their right to self-determination, including under Statewide Treaty … We are committed to further action (pages 16 – 18) … **Incremental adaptation** is about maintaining the essence of existing systems while making small adjustments in response to climate change. **Transformational adaptation** changes the fundamental attributes of a system in response to climate change and its cascading impacts. Transformational adaptation is likely to be needed where tipping points may be reached. The Climate Adaptation Lens Climate Adaptation Lens is a tool for practically incorporating adaptation into project planning and design. The Climate Adaptation Lens was introduced in the first *Natural Environment Adaptation Action Plan* released in 2022. It has been updated in this plan to include two new components – 'empower communities' and 'embed a learning approach' … The Climate Adaptation Lens (Figure 8) Adaptation in project planning and design means that decision makers should consider the following: • Decision context … • Decision lifetime …

Party	Policies
	• Empowering communities … • Futures approach … • Trade-offs … • Uncertainty … • Transformational change … • Learning … Over the next 5 years, actions will focus on building adaptive capacity across the sector and increasing the breadth of programs that use the Climate Adaptation Lens … Actions will support adaptation priorities … including: • focussing on climate-related risks to Victoria's natural environment and implementing strategies to maximise biodiversity conservation and support ecosystem services, • supporting nature-based solutions that connect Victorians to the natural environment, reduce emissions and build climate resilience, and • supporting emergency management and preparedness for more frequent and intense climate-related events … Action 1: Improve guidance and ensure availability of resources to build adaptation knowledge and capacity of managers across the natural environment system … New information will showcase how DEECA's decision support tools can be applied in the context of climate change and provide an overview of locations at greatest risk of climate impacts and compounding impacts. A dedicated natural environment adaptation webpage will be developed including guidance material and other relevant resources … Action 2: Pilot a more structured approach to adaptation in natural environment planning and decision making within government to further embed adaptation approaches … The Victorian government will pilot the use of the Climate Adaptation Lens in key projects, including: • the delivery of the Victorian Waterway Management Program • the implementation of action 8.1 of the *Victorian Koala Management Strategy* • delivering policy guidance and tools to support the practical implementation of the planned retreat for property, assets and ecosystems impacted by coastal hazards and sea level rise, and • continuing to support Victoria's critical renewable energy transition and exploring new approaches to landscape-scale environmental action. Action 3: Elevate Aboriginal self-determination across projects and actions delivered in this plan … This action will develop an approach and share knowledge to elevate Aboriginal self-determination in adaptation across DEECA … Action 4: Strengthen sharing and knowledge networks to improve adaptation practice … Sharing and knowledge networks within DEECA and to partner agencies will be strengthened, this will include establishing adaptation champions to support adaptation uptake. Adaptation champions will facilitate learning, knowledge

Party	Policies
	sharing and application of best practice climate adaptation within the natural environment system … *Primary Production Adaptation Action Plan 2027–31 Draft for Consultation June 2026* Building resilience requires different types of adaptation action (page 6) As per *Built Environment Adaptation Action Plan 2027–31 Draft* above System scope (page 7) The primary production system incorporates agriculture, plantation forestry, productive fisheries and the infrastructure, workforce and communities supporting them. It covers the full value chain, comprising key inputs, growth and harvest, production and processing … Roles and responsibilities (page 8) The Victorian Government supports primary industries through policy and legislation, biosecurity systems, emergency management and recovery arrangements, adaptation guidance, research investment, coordinated national action and access to independent climate advice. Primary industry bodies, businesses and individuals also play a strong role … Climate change brings risks and opportunities (page 9) … Climate change is intensifying production challenges across the primary production system … These changes are affecting human and animal wellbeing and undermining the long-term productivity and profitability of primary producers the communities and economies that depend on them … Climate impacts extend well beyond the farm gate. Combined with non-climatic risks, these impacts extend across supply chains, infrastructure, transport, workforce, natural resources and communities … A changing climate is also creating opportunities for new approaches … Our current adaptation action (pages 12 – 13) Focus on critical industry sectors and workforces The Victorian Government support the primary production system through a range of initiatives… This includes strengthening the tools and data that underpin farmer decision-making and delivering targeted, region-specific training to increase uptake and adoption of adaptation measures. The government undertakes targeted research in partnership with universities, industry and community groups, and disseminates findings through communities of practice, public forums and webinars, as well as through applied, on-farm trials at its **SmartFarms**. The government also partners with primary industries through programs focused on drought and seasonal support, biosecurity and emergency animal disease preparedness, and farm and community resilience … The **Farming Safe and Well Program** improves on-farm safety culture, supports mental health services, and partners with organisations such as the National Centre for Farmer Health. Support nature-based solutions The Victorian **Trees on Farms Program** supports rural landowners to integrate trees into farming systems, improving both climate resilience and farm

Party	Policies
	productivity … Complementing this, the **Trees on Farms Incubator Program** offers in-depth training and tailored planning support to help farmers adopt smarter farming practices … Farm business capability is strengthened through targeted programs such as the **Farm Business Resilience Program** … In parallel, the Government works closely with industry and supply chain partners to address systemic climate risks. This is delivered through broad industry networks … These networks enable coordinated planning and response by identifying and managing emerging climate risks to critical assets and services … We are committed to further action (pages 14 – 17) … Over the next five years, the Victorian Government will take further action to build the climate resilience of Victoria's primary production system. This Plan outlines four priority areas … Action 1: Drive strategic adaptation research and science, co-designed and delivered in partnership with industry, to enable long term climate adaptation and transition … This action aims to: • partner with industry to deliver applied climate, social and economic research that improves production outcomes, enables technological advancement, and supports safer, more productive practices in response to climate change • translate research into practical adaptation and transition solutions that strengthen long-term resilience across the primary production system. … This action will be supported by established partnerships between government, universities and industry. For example, Agriculture Victoria is undertaking climate focused research through its **SmartFarm** network to better prepare farmers for climate change and extreme weather events …. This action aligns with the *Water Sector Emissions Transition Plan's* circular economy innovation priority … Action 2: Collaborate with industry and supply chains to support the uptake of adaptation-focused solutions to achieve greater climate capability and enhance business and workforce climate readiness across Victoria's primary production system … This action aims to: • strengthen operational capability and business planning across industries and supply chains by delivering practical services, targeted technical advice, and innovative decision-support tools • train, upskill and retain a climate-ready workforce equipped with the skills needed for long term transition to new climate-smart business models • improve workforce health, safety and psychological wellbeing across the primary production system, through risk-based climate stress management planning and targeted, place-based workforce interventions. This action builds on initiatives, including **the Future Drought Fund** … As part of this work, Phase Two of the **Farm Business Resilience** and **Regional Drought Resilience Planning Programs** will deliver new tools, data and technical climate services … Mental and physical health support for climate-exposed workforces, particularly during periods of climatic stress and disaster recovery, will be delivered through initiatives such as the **Farming Safe and Well Program**. Supported by a $2.1 million investment over three years …

Party	Policies
	The Victorian *Biosecurity Strategy* (2023) and Implementation Plan (released for public consultation in 2026) set out the Government's priority to position biosecurity as a shared responsibility … Action 3: Embedding climate risks and adaptation into policy and delivery, supporting continuous access to key natural resources, assets, inputs and markets supported by cross- sector partnerships … This action aims to: • establish focused, deliberate collaboration across government portfolios, regional bodies and industries to use the latest data to understand cross-sector climate risks, and to align responsibilities and resources to achieve transformational adaptation • embed climate change adaptation principles across policy, program and regulatory settings to strengthen preparedness for, and recovery from, increasingly frequent and extremes weather events • integrate climate action in Victorian Government investment decisions to stimulate innovation and enable long-term transformational change across the primary production system. … This action supports evidence-based decision- making, enabling government and industry to better anticipate and manage climate risks and improve preparedness for extreme weather events … Initiatives such as **Strategic Agricultural Land and Development 2.0** will provide improved data and guidance to inform climate-based land use decisions. The coexistence of multiple land uses will be enabled through initiatives such as the **VicGrid Strategic Land Use Assessment** and the **Victorian Minerals Roadmap**, supporting coordinated and transparent planning. Reforms to animal industry planning, alongside farm forestry programs and improved ecosystem management, will further strengthen landscape resilience, environmental outcomes and long-term industry adaptation. The Victorian Government will continue to deliver strategic water infrastructure projects in partnership with communities, water customers and government stakeholders. This includes modernising and reconfiguring irrigation and water supply systems to improve water efficiency, strengthen supply reliability … Action 4: Support First Peoples' self-determination in climate resilience initiatives that protect Country, culture and community wellbeing … Traditional land management approaches - often described as Caring for Country - offer valuable insights into sustainable landscape management, water stewardship and biodiversity protection … Across government, initiatives such as Cultural Burning programs, partnerships through catchment management authorities, and collaborative land and water planning are demonstrating how Traditional Owner knowledge can complement modern agricultural and environmental management … This action aims to build a shared understanding of Traditional Owner views on Caring for Country, particularly in relation to climate risks and opportunities to strengthen climate resilience … Through initiatives such as the Future Drought Fund Regional Drought Resilience Plans, the Victorian Government and Traditional Owners will collaborate to build drought resilience on Country and develop shared approaches to managing climate risks …

Party	Policies
	Transport Adaptation Action Plan 2027–31 Draft for Consultation June 2026 Building resilience requires different types of adaptation action (page 6) As per *Built Environment Adaptation Action Plan 2027–31 Draft* above System scope Page 7) Victoria's transport system, defined under the Transport Integration Act 2010 and the Climate Action Act 2017, includes infrastructure, services, and operations that enable the movement of people and goods … Roles and responsibilities (page 8) Adapting Victoria's transport system requires coordinated action across multiple stakeholders … Climate risks to the transport system (page 9) Victoria's transport system faces rising climate risks from heatwaves, bushfires, floods, storms, high winds, and drought. These hazards compromise connectivity, public transport and emergency response. They also create cascading impacts across energy, water and built environment systems, for example by disrupting access to critical facilities, and affecting infrastructure that communities and supply chains rely on … Our current adaptation action (pages 12 – 14) … Between 2022-26, the Victorian Government advanced foundational measures to embed climate resilience across the transport system. Initiatives included: • planning and assessment of rail and road infrastructure to better manage climate risks • targeted land stabilisation and drainage works to reduce vulnerability to landslip and flooding • trials of climate-resilient infrastructure design, including cool pavement treatments, greening, and shading interventions. Climate considerations were also increasingly incorporated into infrastructure planning, design, and procurement processes to inform future investment decisions … Focus on most at risks critical assets and services The Victorian Government has been focusing on strengthening the resilience of Victoria's transport system to support the ongoing movement of people and goods during climate-related disruptions. Key initiatives include contributing to the development of the *National Freight Resilience Plan* and assessing climate exposure along major transport routes to inform future upgrades and emergency planning … Focus on the most at risk individuals and communities Transport climate adaptation efforts have focused on supporting emergency preparedness and maintaining safe, accessible services during extreme weather events. Key initiatives include: • improved bushfire and grassfire risk modelling and mitigation planning through enhanced roadside assessment and mapping

Party	Policies
	• collaborative programs with Emergency Recovery Victoria to strengthen emergency response and recovery capability • engagement with critical infrastructure operators through the Transport Sector Resilience Network to support coordinated responses to climate events … Support self-determination … Through the Department of Transport and Planning and associated agencies, the Victorian Government is building thriving places and connecting communities by integrating Traditional Owners' knowledge into transport and land use planning … We are committed to further action (pages 15 – 16) Action 1: Integrate climate-adaptive principles into planning and design of transport infrastructure to enhance the long-term resilience of Victoria's transport network. … Priorities include applying climate-informed design standards and resilience considerations into transport projects. Initiatives to support this action will incorporate climate risk assessments at the planning and project approvals stage, investing in upgrades and maintenance that address identified network vulnerabilities and trialling place-based measures, such as green infrastructure, where they improve asset performance and resilience. Other initiatives will enable design guidance and climate data to inform decisions early … Action 2: Embed climate risk management into procurement, delivery and asset management to minimise exposure to heat, flooding and other extreme weather events. … Priority initiatives for this action include updating asset management systems to capture relevant data and considering how to apply climate risk assessment considerations into procurement processes and franchise agreements. Other initiatives to support this action will explore how transport operators can assess and manage climate risks and how targeted monitoring, maintenance and infrastructure renewal can help address system vulnerabilities. This action also strengthens workforce and industry resilience through initiatives that seek to reduce worker exposure to heat and extreme weather … Action 3: Strengthen transport system readiness and response to climate events to improve safety, service continuity and recovery for Victorian communities. … Initiatives supporting this action include enhancing early warning tools, strengthening emergency management coordination, identifying high-risk locations, and improving disruption support for at-risk commuters. Other initiatives will help households, individuals, communities and industries to better understand climate risks and how to respond effectively. Through initiatives which will consider the governance frameworks, build on established emergency management arrangements and apply lessons from past events, the action will promote continuous improvements in preparedness, response, recovery, and service continuity … *Water Cycle Adaptation Action Plan 2027-31 Draft for Consultation June 2026*

Party	Policies
	Building resilience requires different types of adaptation action (page 6) As per *Built Environment Adaptation Action Plan 2027–31 Draft* above System scope (page 7) The water cycle system spans water supply, sewerage, drainage and flood management services … Roles and responsibilities (page 8) Climate change adaptation is a shared responsibility. Government, industry and communities all have important roles to play in effective adaptation across the water cycle system … The water cycle system is under pressure to do more with less (page 9) Victoria's highly variable rainfall and streamflow are now occurring against a backdrop of climate change. When coupled with anticipated population growth, climate change is putting significant pressure on our water system. Despite an overall drying trend, the intensity of extreme, short duration (hour long) rainfall events is increasing. These kinds of events are more likely to overwhelm stormwater systems, increasing the risk of flash floods and damage to surrounding properties and structures. Climate change is also amplifying the risks our water system is facing from more frequent, more intense and overlapping extreme events … Our current adaptation action (pages 12 – 14) Provide information and advice to households and communities In a hotter and drier climate, water efficiency is both effective cost-of-living relief and the lowest cost water security measure. **Victoria's Community Rebate Program** helps vulnerable households to cut water use and, as a result, cut their water bills. The program also helps reduce power bills, with water efficient fittings and appliances using less hot water. Over 22,000 water efficient households have saved an average of $110 a year on their bills through this program. Government recently consulted on enhanced water efficiency standards for showers, taps and toilets in all buildings across Victoria … Having cool, green public spaces is increasingly important as backyards shrink and more people live in apartments. Across Victoria, the use of recycled water and stormwater — known as integrated water management — is growing … Victorians understand the value of water. While permanent water savings rules are being reviewed to make sure they are still appropriate, the community is being supported to adapt by the Make Every Drop Count campaign. Focus on the most at risk critical industry sectors and workforces Water corporations play an important role in helping Victoria adapt to a changing climate … The *Victorian Water Sector Emissions Transition Plan* will help the sector stay a leader in Victoria's move to a clean economy by building the right conditions and workforce capabilities to support innovation … Victoria is also increasing options for large water users, including industry, agriculture, and new urban developments. This includes using more recycled water and improving water efficiency … Key actions include expanding 'Class A' recycled water for irrigation and industrial cooling, using 'purple pipe' dual-reticulation systems in suitable areas and using digital tools to find leaks and reduce demand for drinking-

Party	Policies
	quality water … Many water corporations have set targets to increase recycling, and some aim to reuse all the wastewater they produce … Focus on the most at risk assets and services … the Victorian Government has set up a Water Security Taskforce and developed *Victoria's Water Security Plan*. These measures will allow us to identify ways to reduce demand and increase supply, including options that do not rely on rainfall, such as purified recycled water … The **Victorian Water and Climate Initiative** helps us understand how rainfall and runoff may change in the future, informing guidance such as DEECA's *Guidelines for Assessing Climate Change Impacts on Water Availability*. Victoria's water entitlement and planning framework sets out how water is shared and used … Urban water corporations also prepare 50-year water strategies using climate science and demand forecasts … Catchment Management Authorities also help protect our catchments so clean and safe water keeps flowing through our communities. They do this through programs like the CMA's **Water Cycle Adaptation Action Program**. Support emergency management and preparedness … Complex emergencies - like the January 2026 bushfires, heatwave and flash flooding - mean emergency and business continuity plans need constant updating. Safe drinking water and reliable wastewater services are vital for community health, the environment and the economy. The Victorian Government works closely with water corporations, Catchment Management Authorities and the Victorian Desalination Plant to continually review and strengthen our approach, guided by an annual *Sector Resilience Plan* … The water industry continues to strengthen mutual aid arrangements so staff, equipment and expertise can be shared during major events, as seen during Victoria's floods in 2022. Flooding in low-lying coastal areas is expected to increase … **Victoria's Resilient Coast – Adapting for 2100+** provides a long-term strategy to manage these risks, offering a framework and guidelines to help councils, land managers and communities plan effectively … Work is also underway to give Victorians the most up-to-date flood risk information. A new risk-based flood hazard rating system is being introduced … The *Victorian Floodplain Management Strategy* is being updated to strengthen accountabilities for our increasing flood risk, and new risk-based planning and building controls will help Victorians make informed choices about where to build, what to build and how to build safer, more resilient homes. Support self-determination … Since 2022, implementation of *Water is Life: Traditional Owner Access to Water Roadmap* has been underway. The roadmap aims to strengthen Traditional Owner decision-making, better resource Caring for Country and waters, and improve access to water for Traditional Owner groups … We are committed to further action (pages 15 – 16) … Action 1: Identify the Victorian water infrastructure, assets and services most at risk from climate change to get the timing and options right for investment … This action will identify the most at-risk water system assets and services and help the water sector to identify risk mitigation strategies. It will support consistent, coordinated, efficient and evidence-based investment to retrofit or

Party	Policies
	plan for new assets and services with the right safeguards to reduce the risks posed by climate change. Action 2: Review and update guidance so water infrastructure and asset investments are suited to future conditions … The Victorian Government will build on Water Cycle Adaptation Action Plan 2022-2026 action with Victoria's Catchment Authorities and water corporations, working toward clear and consistent guidelines for assessing and managing climate risk. This action will address the state adaptation priority to provide information and advice to industries and businesses to manage climate risks … This action will help the sector to develop water efficiency programs and long term, flexible plans for climate resilient infrastructure that deliver reliable water services and protect communities at the lowest possible cost. Action 3: Support new ideas to reduce climate impacts on the water cycle and create new jobs and business opportunities Victoria's water sector produces around a third of the Victorian Government's greenhouse gas emissions each year. As we work to make our water systems more climate resilient, we also need to reduce these emissions and be ready to seize opportunities in the transition to a clean and circular economy. To meet these challenges, the water sector will need new technology and nature based approaches. This is essential not only to cut emissions, but also to keep up with rising demand for water services as Victoria grows. The shift to a low carbon economy can increase water needs—for example, for reforestation and renewable energy projects. Without strong local expertise in climate risk management and lower emissions technology, water services could become more costly and less reliable … In alignment with the *Victorian Water Sector Emissions Transition Plan*, this action focuses on building the research, skills and practical solutions needed to accelerate delivery of the water sector's emissions reduction priorities while improving climate resilience. This action … will provide information and advice to industries and businesses, helping them seize opportunities for a climate resilient economy. This action will identify key research priorities and foster partnerships between the water sector, researchers, businesses and Traditional Owners … *Victorian Government Response to the Parliamentary Inquiry into Climate Resilience* (February 2026) … The Final Report contains 93 findings and 82 recommendations. Of these 82 recommendations, 80 are addressed to the Victorian Government … Of these 80 recommendations: • 37 are supported in full, • 40 are supported in principle, and • 3 are supported in part … Recommendation 8 Support in part That the Victorian Government work with First Nations communities to support First Nations fire management practices, through accredited training programs, to upskill individuals on topics including Indigenous land, fire, and water management and incorporate insurance for cultural burning activities.

Party	Policies
	Commentary The Victorian Government strongly supports First Nations fire management practices with FFMVic actively partnering with Traditional Owners in the delivery of planned burning on public land, including cultural fire, cultural and bushfire suppression activities where appropriate arrangements are in place … Under current arrangements, organisations including Traditional Owner groups are required to hold their own insurance to participate in planned burning, including where Traditional Owners deliver cultural burning activities. As a result, Government is unable to support the recommendation to incorporate insurance for cultural burn activities … Recommendation 43 Support in part That the Victorian Government update minimum standards reflected in building codes and standards to reflect climate-resilient design based on climate projections, with evidence-based future climate scenarios rather than historical climate data and modelling. Commentary The Victorian Government supports the need to ensure that minimum standards for building design consider climate resilience and account for future climate scenarios. The Government contributes funding and policy input into the development of new or amended standards in the NCC. In June 2024, all state and territory Building Ministers agreed to include a new objective of 'resilience' into the NCC … The timing for inclusion of any future updates to reflect climate resilient building standards into future editions of the NCC is subject to agreement by the Commonwealth and all states and territory Building Ministers … Recommendation 52 Support in part That the Victorian Government clarify the legal tools that will be used to support climate resilient environments and how they will be deployed under the Built Environment Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan 2022–2026. Commentary The Victorian Government recognises the role of legal tools as part of the suite of measures to respond to climate change and supports this recommendation in part. The Built Environment Climate Change AAP 2022-2026 includes an initiative to review legal mechanisms to support climate-resilient urban development (Action 19). The Government's changes to the Planning and Environment Act 1987 made by the Climate Change and Energy Legislation Amendment (Renewable Energy and Storage Targets) Act 2024 came into effect on 26 March 2025. The updates made two significant legislative changes to support greater consideration of climate change in the preparation of planning schemes and planning scheme amendments. Further consideration of other legal tools may be progressed subject to resources being available and as needed … Victorian Planning Provisions (as at 9 October 2026) 12.06 02/09/2025 VC283 SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT 12.06-1S 02/09/2025 VC283 Urban forests Objective To protect and enhance tree canopy in urban areas.

Party	Policies
	Strategies Contribute to achieving an overall 30 per cent tree canopy target for urban areas by: Encouraging the retention of existing canopy trees. Promoting the planting of new canopy trees: • Within the public realm and open space (excluding areas dedicated to biodiversity or native vegetation conservation). • On private land. Ensuring that canopy tree species are appropriate for the locality, available space, growing conditions and future climate conditions … Investing in Regional Drought Resilience (Media release, 2 October 2026) Minister for Agriculture Michaela Settle today announced grants are now open for Phase 2 of the Future Drought Fund's Regional Drought Resilience Planning program, jointly funded with the Federal Government. Phase 1 delivered Regional Drought Resilience Plans for all nine regions supported by $3.42 million for more than 47 activities to develop those plans. Nine regions will each have access to up to $1.55 million to deliver local drought resilience projects. These regions include Barwon, Central Highlands, Gippsland, Goulburn, Great South Coast, Mallee, Loddon Campaspe, Ovens Murray and Wimmera Southern Mallee. The funding will turn Regional Drought Resilience Plans into action, building on $3.42 million already invested in more than 47 activities across the nine regions. Agriculture Victoria is seeking expressions of interest from regional organisations and businesses to coordinate the program in each region. Up to $5 million will also support projects tackling drought challenges shared across regions. The program is part of more than $66.8 million jointly invested by the Victorian and Federal Governments in drought preparedness and resilience for Victorian farmers and communities through to 2029. It builds on the Caroll Labor Government's $146.5 million Drought Support Package, helping farmers and regional communities manage dry conditions now while preparing for future drought. Expressions of interest for Regional Drought Resilience Plan Coordinator roles close Monday, 16 November.
Liberals	*Our Plan to Deliver for Victorians* (2026) No explicit reference to climate adaptation (here or elsewhere?) Conserving our environment (page 36) … Under Our Plan we will … • Protect our public land Making our parks accessible and enjoyable A Liberal and Nationals Government will restore public confidence in public land management by prioritising the core maintenance functions of Parks Victoria. We will ensure public walking tracks are open and safe, upgrade campsite amenities, and improve accessibility for all Victorians. By empowering local management teams, we will rebuild community confidence that our public lands are being managed responsibly and transparently …

Party	Policies
	Protecting and preserving our environment We will safeguard our public lands from degradation and preserve their beauty for the next generation. Under Our Plan a Liberal and Nationals Government will implement proactive, science-backed land management practices that meet fire mitigation targets and control feral pests while protecting native flora and fauna. A Liberal and Nationals Government will invest $15 million to establish the Nursery & Garden Industry Victoria Horticulture Centre of Excellence, building workforce capability, strengthening food production, and developing solutions to restore Victoria's urban tree canopy. *Climate Resilience* (Final Report Legislative Council Environment and Planning Committee March 2026) Minority Report of the Liberals and Nationals The Liberal and Nationals support the majority of the Committee's recommendations and thank all those who contributed evidence to this important inquiry … The Liberal and Nationals recognise that building Victoria's climate resilience requires strong, coordinated action, and we acknowledge the constructive insights provided by communities, industries, councils and experts across the state. The Liberal and Nationals EPC members fundamentally support efforts to strengthen Victoria's resilience in the face of continued climate change. The Allan Government talks a big game on climate resilience — but its delivery is riddled with bureaucracy, political spin, and buck-passing. Regional communities are being left behind, emergency services are being politicised, and councils in particular rural and region councils are being loaded with responsibilities without resources. This is not leadership — it is cost shifting dressed up as reform … This Minority Report identifies key areas where the Allan Labor Government has neglected and or mismanaged Victoria's climate adaptation response, particularly in rural and coastal areas. From outdated coastal erosion strategies to opaque renewable energy planning, the Government has failed to deliver timely, transparent, and effective solutions. Emergency services funding has been politicised, and planning regulations lack coordination, inflating costs and stalling housing delivery. The government's renewable energy strategy neglects agricultural impacts and lacks end-of-life planning, risking new environmental burdens. 1. Coastal Erosion Coastal erosion poses a profound threat to communities, particularly when it undermines critical infrastructure and public safety … Coastal erosion requires a coordinated response supported by consistent funding and shared urgency. A balanced strategy combining appropriate engineered infrastructure with ecosystem-based adaptation (e.g. dune restoration, wetlands) to provide both immediate protection and long-term resilience. Solutions must be site specific, adaptable and flexible to accommodate future climate scenarios … MINORITY RECOMMENDATION: That the Victorian Government implements a coordinated response to coastal erosion that integrates site-specific engineered solutions combined with ecosystem-based adaptation as appropriate. This

Party	Policies
	strategy is flexible to future climate scenarios and developed collaboratively with communities, experts, and all levels of government, guided by best practice. 2. Politicisation of Emergency Services The Liberals and Nationals opposed the inclusion of any reference to the politically divisive Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund (ESVF) legislation in the Majority report. The committee did not receive a single submission or hear any evidence that supports this section … MINORITY FINDING: Labor members politicised the inquiry process by using it to endorse the Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund (ESVF), a major funding reform that falls outside the scope of the Committee's terms of reference. This undermines the integrity of the inquiry and diverts attention from evidence-based climate resilience strategies. MINORITY RECOMMENDATION: The Liberals and Nationals in Government will scrap Labor's Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund (ESVF) and reinstate the fairer Fire Services Property Levy to fund the CFA and provide secure funding for the SES transparently through the State Budget. 3. Cost vs Benefit: Resilience Without Transparency Stakeholders consistently raised concerns about the economic viability of adaptation measures. Despite this, no formal cost-benefit analysis was provided for most recommendations … MINORITY RECOMMENDATION: That the Victorian Government ensures stakeholders are informed of the cost versus benefit of implementing climate resilience initiatives by conducting a Regulatory Impact Statement for all applicable recommendations it adopts from the Majority and Minority reports. 4. Bushfire Risk: A Need for Proactive Fuel Management The Victorian Labor Government's bushfire management policy is flawed in its practical application. While it promotes community engagement and risk-based planning, it has failed to deliver adequate levels of fuel reduction through planned burns and mechanical methods. This shortfall leaves vast areas of vegetation unmanaged, increasing the likelihood of intense bushfires and undermining the core objective of protecting communities … Renewable energy developments have the potential to further impact bushfire-prone landscapes through increased ignition risks, restricted emergency access, and disruption to natural firebreaks, without sufficient bushfire risk mitigation … MINORITY RECOMMENDATION: That the Victorian Government abandon its 'Safer Together' policy and adopt Recommendation 56 of the 2009 Victoria Bushfire Royal Commission which called for fuel reduction of 5% of treatable forest (rolling average). This target would incorporate increasing application of First Nations' Forest fire management practices, where appropriate. 5. Planning and Building System Reform Under this Government, red tape has become a substitute for real reform. The layering of uncoordinated environmental rules onto Victoria's already strained planning system is stalling new housing, inflating costs, and putting home ownership further out of reach … The Committee heard compelling evidence that local councils are increasingly burdened by unfunded state mandates, leaving

Party	Policies
	them financially ill-equipped to meet growing infrastructure and climate adaptation demands … Stakeholders call for coordinated state and federal support to bridge the adaptation financing gap. Yet the Victorian Government continues to pass responsibilities down the line without adequate funding—classic cost-shifting masked as climate reform … MINORITY RECOMMENDATION: That the Victorian Government improve transparency around planning and building regulation changes, and work with industry, local councils, and the community to reduce unnecessary costs and delays —making housing more affordable and accessible for Victorians. 6. Agriculture and the impact of renewable energy Landholder rights The rush to install wind and solar infrastructure is leaving regional communities behind … Renewable energy projects lack oversight and threaten agricultural operations. Regional communities are excluded from planning decisions … MINORITY RECOMMENDATION: That the Victorian Government: a) reinstate the right of appeal to the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal for planning decisions around renewable energy projects, ensuring that community voices are heard in the planning process. b) ensure that major transmission and large-scale wind and solar generation projects face a rigorous and independent planning panel assessment. c) reinstate 2 km turbine buffer. d) repeal legislation which would authorise forced entry on private land for the purposes of electricity transmission work. Solar Developments Regional communities, particularly in agricultural areas like Colbinabbin, have raised valid concerns about the potential microclimate impacts of large-scale solar developments—such as the “heat island effect” and altered growing conditions. Despite these concerns, no research has been conducted, and expert testimony confirms the issue remains unstudied … MINORITY RECOMMENDATION: That the Victorian Government commission independent research to consider the heat island effect of large-scale solar panel projects in regional areas and any associated microclimate effects on surrounding agricultural and horticultural activities. Renewable recycling in a circular economy Victoria’s rapid transition to renewable energy is outpacing its planning for what happens when that infrastructure reaches the end of its life. Solar panels, wind turbines and batteries all have limited operational lifespans — yet no coordinated recycling or disposal plan currently exists … At the same time, the resilience of Victoria’s transmission and energy infrastructure — particularly in regional and agricultural areas — remains under-assessed. Road, rail, and port systems vital to the farm economy also lack a coordinated climate resilience strategy … MINORITY RECOMMENDATION: That a climate-resilient infrastructure strategy be developed for Victoria’s road, rail, and port systems, with clear priorities to support agricultural production. 7. Infrastructure: Build Back Better

Party	Policies
	While retrofitting infrastructure is essential to protect communities from future climate events, it remains out of reach for many councils due to prohibitive costs and restrictive disaster recovery funding rules. Councils are often forced to rebuild damaged roads, levees, and bridges to outdated standards — setting the stage for repeat failures and wasted public money. The lack of government flexibility, particularly around levee maintenance on Crown land, undermines community safety and resilience. Despite the clear need, no dedicated or legislated funding pathway exists … MINORITY RECOMMENDATION: That the Victorian Government ensure that levees on crown land be immediately restored where there is a community benefit and then maintained through a legislated inspection and maintenance program. Conclusion … The Government's approach to climate resilience is top-heavy, overly bureaucratic, and riddled with duplication. It lacks proper economic scrutiny, pushes responsibility onto already stretched councils, and leaves too many Victorians — especially in rural and coastal areas — out of the conversation. The Liberal and Nationals members have set out constructive, community- and industry-led direction … Liberal and Nationals to introduce new measures to have Victoria Bushfire prepared (Media release, 17 October 2026) Liberals and Nationals to introduce new measures to have Victoria bushfire prepared The Liberals and The Nationals will double prescribed burning and work towards the Bushfire Royal Commission's recommendation to treat 5 per cent of treatable public land annually, building a safer and more resilient Victoria. Shadow Minister for Public Land Management, Melina Bath, said an elected Liberal and Nationals Government would adopt a whole-of-landscape approach that combines strategic burning and, targeted fuel reduction. Last summer's fires burnt more than 440,000 hectares across Victoria, a larger area than Black Saturday, and destroyed 451 homes. The Parliamentary inquiry into the 2026 summer fires heard repeated evidence that Victoria entered the fire season underprepared, despite years of warnings about declining planned burning, rising fuel loads and inadequate roadside vegetation management … The plan will also: • Expand cultural burning in partnership with Indigenous Victorians, combining traditional knowledge with modern fire management to reduce bushfire risk and care for Country. • Put more boots on the ground and less bureaucracy in Melbourne, backing the people who know the land, forests and fire risks. • Restore transparency by publishing fuel management plans, targets and results, so communities can see what is promised and what is delivered …
One Nation	*The Real Deal for Victoria* (Policy Platform, October 2026) Environment (page 61)

Party	Policies
	… Good environmental policy is practical. It prioritises prevention of bushfires, protection of water quality, responsible land management, and continued public access to forests and parks. Bushfire and Land Management What we will do: • Reintroduce proper fire breaks and back-burning as core bushfire prevention tools … • Strengthen early warning systems and floodplain management. • Support practical, on-ground management by the people who live and work in these landscapes.
Animal Justice	*Climate Policies* (website accessed 27 October 2026) • Protect, regenerate, expand, rewild and enhance all ecological systems including forests, grasslands, freshwater and marine habitats, in part by reserving at least 50% of the planet for nature. • Develop and fund comprehensive plans and actions to assist all animal species and vulnerable human populations to adapt to a changing climate. • Reimagine urban design to be climate-friendly and climate-resilient, and incentivise research and development into net zero carbon building materials and practices. • Adapt to climate change by welcoming nature back into our suburbs, making towns and cities cooler with better designs, less concrete and more green spaces. Implement biodiversity-sensitive urban design (BSUD) to support the local ecosystem rather than replace it. • Work towards a food-secure future by rapidly transitioning from animal agriculture to plant-based agriculture. Human Population and Planning policies (website accessed 27 October 2026) • The primary goal of Australia's human population strategy must be to reduce resource use and adverse ecological impacts. Necessary changes include protecting wildlife habitat, adopting plant-based agricultural systems to replace animal agriculture, and an end to urban sprawl. • Significantly reduce the Australian population's climate and ecological impact by rapidly phasing out animal agriculture and fossil fuels, among other initiatives addressing harmful consumption. • Educate the public about ecological 'overshoot' and the negative impacts of unsustainable population growth on animals, the environment and humans. • Create human settlements in harmony with wildlife and nature through biodiversity-sensitive urban design (BSUD), transport and infrastructure, while stopping urban sprawl.
Tom Ward Independent for Eildon	Fire, Insurance and Recovery Policy (website, accessed 28 October 2026) • Phase out stamp duty on home and contents insurance. • One case manager for every fire-affected household, from week one to the finished rebuild. • Fast-tracked rebuild permits and BAL assessments, fees waived for people rebuilding their own home. • Roadside fuel management funded and published by road before each season.

Party	Policies
	• Equipment, training and recruitment for CFA and SES volunteers, paid for from the levy, with local volunteers exempt from paying it and the money spent in the shire it comes from.
End Mass Immigration	
Family First	Family First Policy (website, accessed 28 September 2026) No reference to protecting the community from climate impacts.
Freedom	
Legalise Cannabis	
Libertarians	No acknowledgement of climate change impacts (apart from negative effects of government regulations on energy prices, and restrictions on extraction), therefore no need to protect community from climate change impacts. Argument that Australia's role in global warming is minimal, and that renewable technologies don't work. Libertarian Energy Policy Briefing (website, accessed 28 October 2026) • The real climate truth politicians won't tell you: Australia produces less than 2% of global carbon emissions. Victoria's share is a fraction of that 2%. Even if Victoria went to zero emissions tomorrow, it would make ZERO difference to global climate while destroying your living standards. Meanwhile: China opens new coal plants every week, producing more emissions in a month than Victoria produces in a year. The climate extremists want to destroy your lifestyle for virtue-signalling that accomplishes nothing for the planet. • Why government 'green energy' is a scam. Wind and solar are expensive and unreliable. They only work when the wind blows and sun shines. Require massive backup systems (usually gas plants). Cover huge areas of land with industrial machinery. Kill millions of birds and create toxic waste from batteries Plus: They're only "cheap" because of massive government subsidies paid for with your taxes.
Shooters Fishers Farmers	
Socialist Alliance	
Sustainable Australia	
Victorian Socialists	Addressing Climate Change and Protecting our Environment (Policies webpage, 2026) … Policy should be focused on mitigation of the crisis rather than adaptation … We'll fight to … • Fund research into adaptation strategies to protect biodiversity, water resources and agricultural yields. • Develop a comprehensive urban heat adaptation strategy — including mandatory tree canopy targets, green roofs and walls, shading requirements in new developments, cool corridors in areas of high heat stress, and publicly funded cooling centres accessible to vulnerable communities.

Party	Policies
	• Require all new public buildings and public housing to be built to standards that protect residents from extreme heat without reliance on air conditioning, and fund retrofitting of existing public housing stock to the same standard. • Develop a managed retreat framework for communities facing unacceptable risk from rising sea levels, flooding and fire, with full financial support for affected working-class residents, no forced relocations without genuine community consent, and particular attention to renters and low-income households with no capacity to relocate … Making our Cities More Liveable (Policies webpage, 2026) … What we think • The places we live must be designed and retrofitted so that their inhabitants can lead comfortable, connected and fulfilling lives. • Existing public space and community facilities must be protected from private developers and new spaces and facilities acquired and constructed … We'll fight to … • Mandate increases in social infrastructure such as public transport, cycle lanes, walking paths, schools, hospitals, parks and playgrounds, and charge private developers a social infrastructure levy … • Mandate developer responsibility for ensuring 30 percent canopy tree coverage in all suburbs and impose a developer levy to fund urgent planting to at least double the canopy tree coverage in western suburbs … • Extend the 'Green Wedges' within Greater Melbourne and permanently prevent any rezoning, so as to protect crucial farmland, wetlands and native green spaces, including the restoration and expansion of native grassland reserves in the city's west. • Increase green space, canopy tree coverage and the number of linear parks and urban farms … A Fair Go for Rural and Regional Victoria (Policies webpage, 2026) We'll fight to … • Introduce a properly funded, paid fire and emergency service for rural Victoria … • Retrofit low-income rural housing in bushfire-prone areas to meet Bushfire Attack Level standards, paid for by fossil fuel companies …