



OUR CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE

Transitioning from Gas to Clean Energy

The Greens have a plan for a carbon neutral Canberra

The ACT Greens have an ambitious plan for a carbon neutral Canberra and zero net emissions by 2030, 100% renewable energy by 2020, and a transition from gas to clean energy.

The ACT's clean energy targets are leading the nation, and the ACT Greens are committed to achieving 100% clean energy electricity by 2020 and zero net emissions by 2030. However, to get there, we must shift away from using gas to heat our homes and hot water as we build new suburbs.

The burning of gas contributes 376,000 tonnes of CO₂, and is the third largest contributor of emissions after electricity use and transport fuels. Gas emissions increased by nearly 7% between 2014 and 2015.

The good news is that electrical appliances are so much more efficient than they once were, and with the rise in gas prices, much more cost effective.

And, by 2020, electricity in the ACT will be 100% renewable.

Building gas infrastructure in new suburbs is a costly and unnecessary exercise, and will mean that all gas consumers across the city will pay for the installation and maintenance of the new network through higher network prices.

Many Canberrans are already locked into gas heating and appliances across the city. The Greens want to ensure that households are supported to transition away from expensive and polluting gas as electricity becomes cheaper and cleaner. We also want to make sure that low income households receive the support they need to upgrade to electric heating, as they should not bear a disproportionate burden in the transition to a clean energy future.

That means committing to no new gas infrastructure in new suburbs, and providing incentives for households to shift away from gas in existing dwellings if they choose to.

That's why the ACT Greens will invest \$15 million over 4 years to:

- » Stop the rollout of expensive new gas infrastructure in all new suburbs;
- » Remove all ACT Government incentives that encourage householders to install gas appliances (for example, through the EEIS and wood heater replacement program);
- » Set a minimum gas standard of 5 stars for all new gas appliance installations;
- » Mandate that replacement hot water systems must not be gas; and
- » Change the Building Code of Australia requirements to prohibit gas hot water services in new houses.

The ACT Greens will also encourage households to transition away from gas by:

- » Providing a 20% rebate on up to \$10,000 spent upgrading gas appliances to energy-efficient electric appliances, such as split system heating systems and efficient hot water systems (solar or heat pump) for households earning less than \$100,000 per annum; and
- » Replacing gas heating appliances with energy efficient electric heating for those in low-income households.