

2019 Climate Election Scorecard: **How do the parties' policies compare on climate action and nature protection, in detail?**

ACF's independent analysis of the parties' policies on phasing out coal, ramping up renewables, stopping Adani and protecting nature

About the Australian Conservation Foundation

We are Australia's national environment organisation. We are half a million people across the country who speak out for the air we breathe, the water we drink and the places and wildlife we love. We are proudly independent, nonpartisan and funded by donations from the community.

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Contents

Methodology	2
How do the parties compare on rapidly ramping up renewables?	3
How do the parties compare on phasing out burning coal?	13
How do the parties compare on stopping Adani's coal mine?	21
How do the parties compare on protecting nature?	22

Methodology: How did we assess these scores?

The 50 key tests

ACF measured the policies of the Liberal/National Coalition, the Labor Party and the Australian Greens against 50 key tests set out in ACF's 2018 National Agenda, launched in 2018. The tests are grouped under four broad headings: ramping up renewables, phasing out coal, stopping Adani and protecting nature.

Together, these are the priority policy commitments we believe are required to get Australia on the right path, addressing climate change and protecting the people, places and wildlife we love.

The total score is our assessment of the strength of the party's overall policy offering as it relates to the issues in ACF's National Agenda. We have not assessed policy which falls outside our agenda.

Assessing policies

We have ranked the 50 tests into three categories: critical issues (worth 10 points), priority issues (worth 5 points) and important issues (worth 1 point).

For each of the 50 tests, we assessed how comprehensively each party fulfils the test criteria, and awarded a score from the total available marks. To award points to a policy, we required a formal statement (eg. a press release, official website content) or commitment in writing to ACF, approved by the party or signed by the portfolio holder. We have also credited official policy sighted under embargo with a guarantee of future announcement, in acknowledgement that our early release dates may require us to close content before all parties' official announcements are made.

We have analysed prospective policy commitments, as well as existing party policies or positions that remain current.

In some cases, such as where a policy unwinds existing environmental protection or actively seeks to harm the environment or exacerbate climate change, we awarded negative marks.

We have only included policy commitments that were announced or formally communicated to us by 5 pm on Thursday April 25 2019.

We tallied each party's overall score, then calculated it as a percentage of total available points.

We sent the parties ACF's National Agenda in 2018 and the list of scorecard tests in February 2019. We then analysed the parties policies against the tests and provided this analysis to the parties in March, with a deadline for their final input by 25 April 2019. All parties have had the opportunity to point out and offer corrections to any errors or omissions in this analysis.

To see how independent candidates and minor parties compare, visit www.acf.org.au/scorecard-independent

How do the parties compare on rapidly ramping up renewables?

Key policy tests	Points	Coalition	Labor	Greens
1. Set fair policies to remove barriers to clean energy and ensure clean energy powers 100% of Australia's electricity by 2030, and 100% of Australia's overall energy needs well before 2050	10	3	6	10
2. Ensure all Australians benefit from the transition to clean energy – including low-income households, renters, and remote Aboriginal communities	10	1	6	10
3. Retain the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) and the Clean Energy Finance Corporation (CEFC) until 2030 with a continued focus on ramping up renewable energy and energy efficiency, and restore the \$1 billion cut from ARENA's budget	5	0	3.5	5
4. Drive the establishment of a clean energy export industry to assist the clean energy transition in our region and grow new clean export opportunities	5	1	5	5
5. Reform the National Electricity Market (NEM) with climate pollution reduction as a priority objective	5	1	4	5
6. Stop fossil fuel subsidies, including the diesel fuel tax credit, and end tax breaks that incentivise environmental damage	10	0	0	10
7. Set vehicle emissions standards, to be fully phased in by 2025, that are at least as stringent as American standards and align over time with the stronger EU standards, while accelerating electric vehicle uptake	5	1	4.5	5
8. Phase out uranium mining and export	1	-1	0.5	1
9. Advance a new approach for the responsible and transparent management of Australia's radioactive waste	5	-1	2.5	5
10. Stop new uranium sales and nuclear agreements	1	0	0	1
11. Advance the signing, ratification and implementation of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons	5	-1	3.5	5

Each test in detail:

1. Set fair policies to **remove barriers to clean energy** and ensure clean energy powers 100% of Australia’s electricity by 2030, and 100% of Australia’s overall energy needs well before 2050

	Performance	Score
Coalition	<p>The Liberal-National Coalition have made piecemeal promises for large-scale storage from pumped hydro, more connection to Tasmania and small grants and trials but have almost no policies for large-scale solar or wind. The party has almost no plans or policies to get Australia well above 23% renewable electricity.</p> <p>Their mixed bag of commitments include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$56 million to accelerate the delivery of Marinus Link, a second interconnector between Tasmania and the mainland. It is unclear how or if this project will be fully funded, as the build cost is estimated at \$1.3B - \$3.1B. • Up to \$1.38 billion in an equity investment for Snowy 2.0, with the remainder of the project to be financed by Snowy Hydro Limited. • \$13.5 million for their Underwriting New Generation Investments Program to support new ‘firm’ energy. The program is open to renewable energy plus storage as well as fossil fuel projects. Shortlisted projects include gas and one coal plant upgrade. • \$50 million in grants for businesses and community organisations to embark on energy efficiency projects. \$17m to help building owners benchmark their energy use, plus \$11.6 million for a Business Energy Advice Program and small grants for businesses and community groups to save energy. • \$9.6 million funding towards integrating distributed energy resources (DER) with pilots and small trials; \$7.4 million Toyota Australia Hydrogen Centre project to develop integrated hydrogen for transport. (\$3.1 of this is from ARENA.) <p>(source) (source)</p> <p>These measures are useful, but nowhere near enough to put Australia on the path to 100% renewables by 2030.</p>	3 / 10
Labor	<p>The Labor Party has fairly good policies to shift Australia to at least 50% renewables by 2030 – although this only gets us halfway to 100%.</p> <p>The ALP has committed to a 50% renewable energy target for 2030, and achieving net zero climate pollution across the economy by 2050. To meet this 50% target, the ALP Energy Plan commitments include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Double the original investment in the Clean Energy Finance Corporation (an additional \$10 billion in capital over five years from 2019-20) to support investments in large-scale storage and generation projects like solar and wind farms, 	6 / 10

	<p>concessional loans for household purchases of solar and battery systems, and commercial community renewables projects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$5 billion to upgrade energy transmission and distribution systems, plus an independent Energy Security and Modernisation Fund to improve system stability by upgrading energy networks. • A new Energy Productivity Agenda to lift productivity and efficiency so businesses can get more out of each unit of energy. Includes \$31 million for grants to manufacturing companies to reduce energy use; expanding ARENA to support energy efficiency projects; and training programs for energy consultants. • A national target of 1 million household battery installations by 2025, supported by a rebate of \$2000 for 100,000 lower-income households. \$100 million in a Neighbourhood Renewables Program for renters and social housing. • \$1.1 billion investment in a renewable hydrogen industry, with a hub in Gladstone. • Pursue a bipartisan market mechanism such as a National Energy Guarantee. <p>The party has also committed up to \$1.5 billion for proposed gas pipelines across Queensland's Galilee and Bowen Basins with another line connecting the Beetaloo Basin to Darwin and across to the East coast. This massive gas infrastructure investment would work against commitments that support a transition to clean energy.</p> <p>(source) (source) (source)</p>	
<p>Greens</p>	<p>The Greens have a comprehensive suite of policies that will drive the transition to a 100% renewable energy sector by 2030 and emissions to negative zero by 2040, using a range of policy mechanisms to achieve this goal.</p> <p>The party's commitments include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restoring and extending the Renewable Energy Target. • Setting an Energy Storage Target to help meet the total 419 GWh of dispatchable power required by 2030. • Establishing a new authority to manage the clean energy transition. • Providing further funding support for ARENA and CEFC. • Investing in electricity infrastructure including a \$6B Grid Transformation Fund and creating renewable energy zones. • Establishing a government owned public retailer to deliver low cost energy and contract new renewables projects. • \$1.2 billion solar for all program to support landlords and apartment dwellers to install or access solar. • \$2.2 billion household battery storage fund. • \$25 million community renewables program to support regional and community renewables hubs. <p>In addition, the Greens Small Business Renewables plan includes:</p>	<p>10 / 10</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A public owned not-for-profit energy retailer to offer low priced renewable energy. • A Small Business Clean Energy Fund with initial funding of \$200 million, to provide grants to reduce fossil fuel use and improve energy efficiency. • Re-establishing the Clean Technology Program, with a \$200 million investment to support the innovation of products, processes and services by business and industry. • Investing \$100 million from ARENA to support specific research, development and commercialisation into industrial substitution and electrification programs in the chemical and other manufacturing and fabrication industries. • Small business loans for battery storage. • Clean Energy Solution Centres to support businesses implement audits and develop energy efficiency plans. <p>(source) (source) (source)</p>	
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2. Ensure all **Australians benefit from the transition to clean energy** – including low-income households, renters, and remote Aboriginal communities

	Performance	Score
Coalition	<p>As part of its energy efficiency program, the Liberal-National Coalition has committed \$50 million to an Energy Efficient Communities Program with grants for businesses and community organisations to save energy.</p> <p>The coalition has also committed \$50.4 million to support feasibility studies for micro-grids in remote and regional areas, including off-grid and 'edge of electricity grid' areas where local distributed generation and demand management is used to ensure supply.</p> <p>These measures are useful but very limited and provide no support for low income households, renters or Aboriginal communities to access clean energy. (source) (source)</p>	1 / 10
Labor	<p>The ALP has committed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A national target of one million household battery installations by 2025, with a household battery rebate program of \$2,000 for 100,000 households on incomes of less than \$180,000 per year to purchase and install battery systems. • Concessional loans for household purchases of solar and battery systems from CEFC. • \$100 million for a Neighbourhood Renewables Program for renters and social housing. • Community power hubs to support local community programs, such as solar gardens on apartment rooftops, community wind farms and energy efficiency upgrades for 	6 / 10

	social housing. (source) (source) (source)	
Greens	<p>The Greens have committed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-establishing a government-owned public electricity retailer with a mandate to work in the public interest to deliver low cost renewable energy. • A \$1.2 billion Solar for All program to support landlords and apartment dwellers installing rooftop solar or local solar gardens. • \$100 million for an Indigenous and remote communities power fund, administered by ARENA, to create solar, storage and microgrids. • \$25 million for a community renewables program to support regional and community renewable hubs. • A \$2.2 billion battery storage fund providing household battery storage incentives of up to \$7000 per battery. <p>(source) (source)</p>	10 / 10

3. Retain the **Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA)** and the **Clean Energy Finance Corporation (CEFC)** until 2030 with a continued focus on ramping up renewable energy and energy efficiency, and restore the \$1 billion cut from ARENA’s budget

	Performance	Score
Coalition	The Liberal-National Coalition has not committed to retain and further fund ARENA and CEFC. The Coalition has recognised the accomplishments of these bodies but has not committed to their future. (source)	0 / 5
Labor	<p>The Labor party has committed to an additional \$10 billion in capital for the CEFC over 5 years, to support large-scale renewable energy generation and storage, a household battery program, energy efficiency projects, commercial renewables and industrial transformation. (source)</p> <p>Mark Butler said the ALP remains committed to ARENA: “ARENA will play a crucial role in delivering Labor’s climate and energy policies, from supporting energy efficiency in business, to developing the hydrogen industry of the future, to pushing out the frontiers of renewable and other technologies.” (source)</p> <p>However, the party has made no commitment to restore funding to ARENA despite the ALP’s climate policy stating they will require ARENA to allocate \$10 million of its funding to establish hydrogen refuelling infrastructure across Australia and allow ARENA to invest in energy efficiency. (source)</p>	3.5 / 5
Greens	The Greens have committed to reinstate ARENA funding, investing \$500 million in the first year of the forward estimates, with a rolling	5 / 5

\$300 million annual budget. They will allocate an additional \$10 billion in funding to Clean Energy Finance Corporation.
[\(source\)](#) [\(source\)](#)

4. Drive the establishment of a **clean energy export industry** to assist the clean energy transition in our region and grow new clean export opportunities

	Performance	Score
Coalition	The Liberal-National Coalition has committed to develop a national hydrogen strategy but has not committed detail or funding. The party states this will take a 'technology-neutral' approach that does not favour hydrogen produced from either renewables or fossil fuels, and noted previous investment of \$50m in Latrobe valley hydrogen trial, which has focused on burning coal. (source)	1 / 5
Labor	The ALP has committed to kickstarting Australia's Hydrogen Economy. The party will invest more than \$1 billion in a National Hydrogen Plan to make Australia a world leader in the burgeoning hydrogen industry. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research, development and commercialisation (funded by \$90 million from ARENA's investment budget, and a funding priority of the Australian Research Council). • Hydrogen deployment and industry development (\$1 billion funding from CEFC for clean hydrogen; \$40 million from CEFC Clean Energy Innovation Fund; plus \$10 million from ARENA for hydrogen refuelling infrastructure). • Hydrogen regulatory reforms, including 'Guarantee of Origin' carbon neutral certification, international export agreements, and hydrogen vehicle regulation harmonisation. • A National Hydrogen Innovation Hub in Gladstone. (source) (source) (source)	5 / 5
Greens	The Greens have committed to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investing an additional \$1.66 billion in ARENA to establish a clean energy export development fund to facilitate the development of a renewable powered hydrogen export industry. • Creating 'solar fuels' export hubs in strategic locations around Australia. • Revising the Export Finance and Insurance Corporation's mandate to facilitate the development of an Asian Renewable Energy Hub in Northern Australia, to export renewable energy via High Voltage DC transmission cables. (source)	5 / 5

5. **Reform the National Electricity Market (NEM)** with climate pollution reduction as a priority objective

	Performance	Score
Coalition	The Liberal-National Coalition has made no commitment to reform the NEM with climate pollution reduction as a priority objective. They have committed \$3.2 billion to establish a Priority Transmission Taskforce to speed up delivery of transmission projects. (source)	1 / 5
Labor	The ALP has committed to introducing an emissions objective into the National Electricity Objectives but there is little detail about this commitment. The party has committed to \$5 billion in capital to future-proof Australia's energy network – building and upgrading Australia's energy transmission and distribution systems. (source)	4 / 5
Greens	The Greens have committed to establishing Renew Australia, a national public authority, to lead the energy transition and to make pollution reduction an objective of the National Electricity Market. (source)	5 / 5

6. **Stop fossil fuel subsidies**, including the diesel fuel tax credit, **and end tax breaks** that incentivise environmental damage

	Performance	Score
Coalition	No commitment.	0 / 10
Labor	No commitment.	0 / 10
Greens	The Greens have committed to scrapping the tax-free fuel rebate and introducing a price on carbon. (source) (source)	10 / 10

7. Set **vehicle emissions standards**, to be fully phased in by 2025, that are at least as stringent as American standards and align over time with the stronger EU standards, while accelerating electric vehicle uptake

	Performance	Score
Coalition	The Coalition says it is committed to developing a National Electric Vehicle Strategy to ensure a planned and managed transition to new vehicle technology and infrastructure. They have provided no details or commitments except they will include consultation on whether mandating an electric vehicle (EV) plug type could improve consistency. (source)	1 / 5

	The Coalition has ruled out committing to a mandatory vehicle emissions standard. (source)	
Labor	<p>The ALP has committed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A national electric vehicle target of 50% new car sales by 2030. • A government EV target of 50% of new purchases and leases of passenger motor vehicles by 2025. • Growing private EV fleets. • Electrifying Australia's national road networks with a \$200 million fund to roll out charging infrastructure, especially targeting rural and regional Australia and critical road corridors. • Regulatory reforms including requiring all federally funded road upgrades to incorporate EV charging infrastructure, all refurbished commercial and residential developments to include EV charging capacity, and setting national standards for EV charging infrastructure. Labor will also establish an EV COAG agenda to improve coordination and infrastructure planning. • An EV Innovation and Manufacturing Strategy to support EV transport manufacturing, assembly and retrofitting capability, plus infrastructure and services. • Introduce vehicle emission standards to reduce pollution consistent with US standards and Climate Change Authority advice, but will consult on the phase-in timeline and coverage. Standards will be applied on an average emission basis and be subject to real world testing. <p>(source)</p>	4.5 / 5
Greens	<p>The Greens' commitments include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ending the sale of petrol and diesel cars from 2030, ensuring 100% of all new vehicles sales are electric or zero emission. • A 17 per cent tax on luxury fossil fuel cars to help cover most costs for eliminating registration fees, import tariffs, GST and stamp duty on electric vehicles, reducing the cost of electric vehicles by up to 20%. • Requiring major car manufacturers to sell a set percentage of EVs each year. • \$150 million for fast charging infrastructure. • Legislating strong vehicle pollution standards. <p>(source) (source)</p>	5 / 5

8. Phase out **uranium mining and export**

	Performance	Score
Coalition	The Coalition strongly supports expanding Australia's uranium sector, not phasing it out. (Source) It has facilitated project approvals, including the Yeelirrie project on day the Federal Election was called.	-1 / 1
Labor	The ALP has made no policy commitment to exit the uranium sector. The party's National Platform states "Labor accordingly will allow the mining and export of uranium only under the most stringent conditions" (section 148). Labor remains committed to retaining EPBC oversight of uranium mining. The ALP is committed to working with Traditional Owners to advance the rehabilitation of the Ranger Mine in Kakadu	0.5 / 1
Greens	The Greens support phasing out mining and export of uranium. (source)	1 / 1

9. Advance a new approach for the responsible and transparent management of **Australia's radioactive waste**

	Performance	Score
Coalition	The Coalition is pushing to advance the current contested National Radioactive Waste Management Project. (source) (source)	-1 / 5
Labor	The ALP's conference platform references the party's commitment to responsible radioactive management' but lacks clarity around detail (s155 – source)	2.5 / 5
Greens	The Greens support extended interim storage at existing federal sites and an open review of future management options (source)	5 / 5

10. Stop new **uranium sales and nuclear agreements**

	Performance	Score
Coalition	The Coalition supports new uranium sales, including to India, Ukraine, Russia and the United Arab Emirates (source)	0 / 1
Labor	The ALP has expressed some concerns through the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties process, but has not taken effective action to halt uranium sales. (source)	0 / 1
Greens	The Greens oppose new uranium sales (source)	1 / 1

11. Advance the signing, ratification and implementation of the **Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons**

	Performance	Score
Coalition	The Coalition opposed the treaty formulation process and is opposed to signing and ratification. (source)	-1 / 5
Labor	At its National Conference, the ALP committed to sign and ratify the treaty (source) but currently a timeline and detail on implementing this commitment is lacking.	3.5 / 5
Greens	The Greens are committed to the prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons. The party has committed to sign and ratify the nuclear weapons ban treaty and limit Australia's role as a global arms dealer. (source)	5 / 5

How do the parties compare on phasing out burning coal?

Key policy tests	Points	Coalition	Labor	Greens
12. Rapidly phase out Australia's coal-fired power stations, starting with the dirtiest, most inefficient and polluting stations	10	-5	5	10
13. Properly resourced plans and a comprehensive transition package for communities impacted by coal and gas closure – managed by a statutory authority, with regional hubs, and support for jobs in new, sustainable industries	5	0	4	5
14. Putting Australia on a path to achieve zero net climate pollution well before 2050 and set targets for 2025 and 2030 to get us there	10	3	6	10
15. Commit to effective policies that reduce climate pollution to meet our emissions reduction targets	5	2	4	5
16. Set policies to be easily scaled up to meet increasing targets	1	0	0.5	1
17. Ensure the largest source of climate damage, the electricity sector, leads the way in cutting pollution	1	0	0	1
18. Not rely on international offsets to achieve Australia's climate pollution reduction	1	0.5	0	1
19. Provide climate finance to support the international community to cut pollution and adapt to a warming world – a minimum \$3.2 billion annually, in addition to existing aid obligations; and share Australian skills, expertise and resources	1	0	0.5	1

Each test in detail:

12. Rapidly phase out Australia's coal-fired power stations – starting with the dirtiest, most inefficient and polluting stations

	Performance	Score
Coalition	<p>The Liberal/National Coalition has not developed or committed to develop a plan to phase out coal. Rather, it has considered ways to keep old coal plants open longer and get new ones built. (source) (source). This includes a push to keep Liddell from closing as planned in 2022. (source) (source)</p> <p>The Coalition has expressed support for new coal generators, including support for coal in its 'Underwriting New Generation Investments' program. The program appears to be technology neutral</p>	-5 / 10

	but open to supporting new coal, coal retrofits and gas projects. (source)	
Labor	<p>The ALP has made no commitment to rapidly phase out coal. The party states, “coal will continue to be part of our energy mix into the future, and coal mining will continue to be an important industry for the Australian economy.” (source)</p> <p>However, the ALP acknowledges that ageing coal-fired power stations will soon reach the end of their operating life and 75 per cent are already operating beyond their original design life. (source)</p> <p>Bill Shorten has stated that Labor’s higher emissions reduction target will drive a faster rationalisation. (source)</p> <p>The ALP has also committed to a long-term plan to ensure impacted workers are supported and are first in line for new job opportunities when coal closes, which includes requiring all large generators to provide at least three years notice of closure. (source)</p>	5 / 10
Greens	<p>Under the Greens’ policy, it would no longer be legal to dig, burn or ship thermal coal by 2030.</p> <p>The party’s commitments to phase out burning coal include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing a timeline for phasing out coal-fired power stations. • A new public authority, Renew Australia, to lead the transition in consultation with communities and industry, map Renewable Energy Zones and support coal dependent communities. • A nationwide ban on new coal mines, fracking and conventional onshore and offshore gas and oil fields. • 100% renewable energy by 2030. <p>(source) (source)</p>	10 / 10

13. Ensure **properly resourced plans and a comprehensive transition package for communities impacted by coal and gas closure** – managed by a statutory authority, with regional hubs, and support for jobs in new, sustainable industries

	Performance	Score
Coalition	No commitments.	0 / 5
Labor	<p>The ALP has committed to implement a long-term plan to ensure workers are supported and are first in line for new job opportunities when coal closes including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$10 million for a Clean Energy Training Fund to train workers in clean energy industries. • A new independent Just Transition Authority to help plan for and coordinate response to the closure of coal-fired power stations, with a cost of \$8.5 million over the forward estimates. 	4 / 5

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requiring all large generators provide at least three years notice of closure. • Taking a proactive approach to economic diversification. <p>Further detail and funding will be required given the size of the transition.</p> <p>(source) (source)</p>	
Greens	<p>The Greens have committed to a \$1 billion Clean Energy Transition Fund, and a new public authority, Renew Australia, to establish a closure timeline and support workers to reskill, relocate or transition to retirement, depending on what the personal circumstances require.</p> <p>The fund will also support local communities affected by the transition, prioritising infrastructure investment in those areas and offering economic incentives for investment throughout the local economy. (source)</p>	5 / 5

14. Putting Australia on a path to achieve **zero net climate pollution** well before 2050 and set targets for 2025 and 2030 to get us there

	Performance	Score
Coalition	<p>The Coalition has committed to an emissions reduction target of 26-28% on 2005 levels by 2030. (source)</p> <p>The Coalition has not formally committed to a net zero target, however in ratifying the Paris Agreement it accepts that all nations must achieve net zero climate pollution in the second half of this century. (see Article 4)</p> <p>The Coalition's current 2030 target would require a massive increase beyond 2030 to align with net zero by 2050 and the party's efforts are not in line with this target. (source)</p> <p>The Coalition's intention to use carryover from overachieving on very low Kyoto targets translates to a much lower actual Paris target, at least halving the actual pollution reduction task. (source).</p> <p>The Coalition has set no target for 2025.</p>	3 / 10
Labor	<p>The ALP has committed to net zero climate pollution by 2050 and a 2030 target of 45% pollution reduction on 2005 levels.</p> <p>The party has also committed to a 50% renewable energy target by 2030, and a suite of policies focused on reducing climate pollution from across energy, transport, industry and land sectors to meet these targets. (source)</p> <p>The party's commitment to fund \$1.5 billion in gas infrastructure to support opening up resources in Queensland and NT will work against emissions reduction from climate policies. (source)</p>	6 / 10
Greens	<p>The Greens have committed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cut emissions across all sectors by 63 to 82 per cent by 2030. 	10 / 10

- Net zero or net negative Australian greenhouse gas emissions by no later than 2040.
 - Transitioning to 100% renewable energy by 2030.
- ([source](#)) ([source](#))

15. Commit to effective policies that reduce climate pollution to meet our **emissions reduction targets**

	Performance	Score
Coalition	<p>The Coalition's Emissions Reduction Fund (ERF) remains the centerpiece of the party's climate policy, which has focused on improving energy efficiency, waste management, revegetation, livestock management and savannah fire management. (source) (source)</p> <p>The party has committed an additional \$2 billion for the ERF and re-named it the 'Climate Solutions Fund'. The Federal Budget revealed that additional funding for the ERF is to be spread over 15 years rather than the 10 years indicated in February announcement. Only \$189.1 million is allocated from 2019-20 to 2022-23. (source)</p> <p>Concerns have been raised about the ERF's effectiveness. The ERF abatement profile, focused on the land sector, has not matched the abatement needs across energy and other parts of the economy. While the ERF could be an effective land sector piece of a broader policy suite if methodology problems were fixed, climate pollution has been increasing under the ERF and its effectiveness in reducing climate emissions across the economy has been low. (source)</p> <p>The Coalition plans to use carryover from the Kyoto Agreement to meet 367 MTCO₂-e of their 2030 emissions reduction target. This effectively reduces their 26% target to around 13%. (source)</p> <p>The party will maintain the Safeguard Mechanism. This policy is currently set to maintain 'Business as Usual' emissions rather than achieve emissions reduction. (source) (source)</p> <p>The party has committed to large-scale storage through pumped hydro, including \$1.38B to Snowy hydro's 2.0 expansion, and supporting a new interconnector from Tasmania (see test 1, above). (source)</p>	2 / 5
Labor	<p>The ALP has committed to an Energy Plan and a broader suite of climate policies to meet their pollution reduction targets.</p> <p>The key elements of ALP Climate Policy include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committed to 45% emissions reduction target on 2005 levels by 2030 and will not use carryover from the Kyoto Agreement to meet it. • Ensuring 50% of Australia's electricity is sourced from renewable energy by 2030. • Ensuring an orderly transition for industries, communities and workers as coal power stations close. • Increasing clean transport and infrastructure with a National Electric Vehicle Policy and vehicle emission standards. 	4 / 5

- Extending and increasing the effectiveness of the Safeguard Mechanism and partnering with industry to reduce emissions, and support trade exposed industries and clean industries.
- Using the Carbon Farming Initiative to supply carbon offsets and reduce pollution on the land, and addressing broad-scale land clearing.
- Reviving International Engagement on Climate Change by reinstating an Australian Climate Ambassador, reengaging constructively in the UNFCCC process and supporting Australia's Pacific neighbours.
- Restoring the Climate Change Authority and implementing triennial Climate Change Assessments.

On energy, the ALP has committed to pursuing the National Energy Guarantee with a 45% target for the electricity sector. If the NEG is blocked in parliament, they still plan to pursue other elements of their Energy Plan (see Test 1 above) including:

- Doubling the original investment in the Clean Energy Finance Corporation with an additional \$10 billion over five years.
- Creating an independent Energy Security and Modernisation Fund to upgrade Australia's energy networks.
- Implementing a new Energy Productivity Agenda.
- \$1 billion for new hydrogen industries.
([source](#))

Greens

The Greens have committed to reducing Australia's climate pollution to net zero by 2040 and have a range of policies to drive a rapid decarbonisation across the economy. Key elements of the Greens' plan include:

- A new public Authority, Renew Australia, to lead the clean energy transition, including moving domestic and export energy systems beyond coal, opening up new renewable energy zones and helping coal-dependent communities transition.
- Phasing out thermal coal by setting a yearly limit on coal exports from 2020, reducing each year until fully phased out in 2030.
- Developing a clean energy exports industry including by re-instating ARENA funding and creating a Clean Energy Export Development Fund.
- An immediate ban on new coal mines, fracking and conventional onshore and offshore gas and oil fields.
- A publicly-owned build of new transmission lines to open up Renewable Energy Zones, backed by a \$6 billion Grid Transformation Fund.
- Restoring a price on carbon.
- Restoring and extending the Renewable Energy Target and setting an Energy Storage Target.
- Creating a Solar for All program, a household solar storage scheme and an Indigenous and remote communities power fund.
- Establishing an energy efficiency target.

5 / 5

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing assistance households and businesses to get off gas and changing the Building Code of Australia to prohibit installation of gas in new developments. • Re-establishing the Carbon Farming Initiative. • A complete ban on new internal combustion vehicles by 2030, vehicle emissions standards and incentives to drive electric vehicle uptake. • Transitioning heavy industry including by re-establishing the Green Technology Program and establishing a Green Steel Innovation Fund. (source) <p>The Greens strongly oppose use of Kyoto carryover to meet Australia's 2030 Paris target. (source)</p>	
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16. Set policies to be easily **scaled up to meet increasing targets**

	Performance	Score
Coalition	The Liberal-National Coalition has made no commitment to increasing targets. Increasing the scale of their policy (e.g., Climate Solutions Fund) would require additional funding. The party's central climate policy is based on publicly funded emissions reduction. Their Safeguard Mechanism could be scaled up but the Coalition has made no commitment to use this mechanism to reduce emissions. (source)	0 / 1
Labor	The ALP has committed to pursue the National Energy Guarantee (NEG), which could be scaled up, depending on final design. The party supports extending the Safeguard Mechanism to cover facilities polluting more than 25,000 tonnes of direct CO2 emissions, (around 250 companies), plus further reduction of industry baselines. The party's other commitments would require additional funding to add scale. (source)	0.5 / 1
Greens	The Greens' overall package is already set to a strong target of net negative pollution by 2040. The party's commitment to restore a carbon price would support the reduction across the economy. (source)	1 / 1

17. Ensure the largest source of climate damage, **the electricity sector, leads the way** in cutting pollution

	Performance	Score
Coalition	The Liberal-National Coalition has committed to a 23.5% renewable energy target (i.e., the current RET) for 2020, which will easily be met. The coalition has made no commitment to a higher renewable energy target to ensure electricity sector leads the way. (source)	0 / 1

Labor	The ALP has stated the electricity sector has lower cost opportunities for emissions reduction than other sectors and has committed to a 50% renewable energy target as part of a broader energy plan. However the party is still only assigning a pro rata share (45%) of their overall emissions target to the electricity sector. (source)	0 / 1
Greens	The Greens have committed to transforming the electricity sector to be 100% renewable no later than 2030. The party acknowledges the fastest, cheapest and most effective way to cut pollution is in the electricity sector which, once decarbonised, also enables more effective pollution reductions in other sectors of the economy that are reliant on electricity, such as transport. (source)	1 / 1

18. **Not rely on international offsets** to achieve Australia's climate pollution reduction

	Performance	Score
Coalition	The Coalition has stated its Climate Solutions package will not rely on international offsets. It is unclear whether the Coalition would use international offsets to meet higher targets that will be required under the Paris Agreement and if this is Coalition policy more broadly. (source)	0.5 / 1
Labor	The Labor Party will allow for limited use of international offsets as part of their policy to reduce emissions from industry (their extended Safeguard Mechanism). (source)	0 / 1
Greens	The Greens have made clear media statements opposing the use of international offsets. (source)	1 / 1

19. Provide **climate finance to support the international community** to cut pollution and adapt to a warming world – a minimum \$3.2 billion annually, in addition to existing aid obligations; and share Australian skills, expertise and resources

	Performance	Score
Coalition	<p>Prime Minister Morrison has stated Australia will not be putting more money into the Green Climate Fund. The Coalition previously had committed only \$200m between 2015 and 2018. (source)</p> <p>The Coalition has made a contribution (less than \$77 million) to the Global Environment Facility between 2018 and 2022 to support emissions reduction and resilience in the Pacific region, but this falls well short of what is needed. The withdrawal of support for the Green Climate Fund has been called 'a concern for the broader climate agenda' under the Paris Agreement. (source)</p>	0 / 1
Labor	The ALP has stated that climate change will be a priority for Labor's international development program and they will provide leadership, assistance, and advice on climate change issues to our Pacific neighbours. (source)	0.5 / 1

	However, despite statements of support and Mark Butler stating that Labor remains committed to the Green Climate Fund, the party has not committed a specific amount of climate finance.	
Greens	The Greens have committed \$4.52 billion for climate finance over the forward estimates, in addition to Australia's existing aid budget. The party plans to reach a minimum \$3.2 billion contribution annually with the private sector providing 50% of the funds. (source)	1 / 1

How do the parties compare on stopping Adani's coal mine in the Galilee Basin?

Key policy tests	Points	Coalition	Labor	Greens
20. Stop the Adani mine and keep all Galilee Basin coal in the ground because it poses a critical threat to the Great Barrier Reef, water, and endangered wildlife	10	-10	0	10

Each test in detail:

20. **Stop the Adani coal mine** and keep all Galilee Basin coal in the ground because it poses a critical threat to the Great Barrier Reef, water and endangered wildlife

	Performance	Score
Coalition	The Coalition is pushing for the Adani mine to go ahead and to open the Galilee Basin to eight additional coal mines. They issued federal approval for the mine in 2015 (source) and rushed-through crucial groundwater management plans before calling the election. (source)	-10 / 10
Labor	The ALP are on the fence over stopping Adani's coal mine. Bill Shorten says he will be guided by "the best science, the law of the land and not creating sovereign risk" (source). The ALP have made no commitments about what they will do about Adani's mine if elected.	0 / 10
Greens	The Greens are committed to banning all new coal mines, including Adani. (source)	10 / 10

How do the parties compare on protecting nature?

Key policy tests	Points	Coalition	Labor	Greens
21. Introduce new laws to expand the oversight of the federal government to climate change, land clearing, critical habitats, water resources, air pollution and protected areas in the next term of government	10	0	6	10
22. Establish and adequately resource an independent national Environment Protection Authority that operates at arm's-length from government in the next term of government	10	0	9	9
23. Establish and adequately resource a national commission to develop enforceable national plans and standards and regional threat abatement plans	5	0	1	5
24. Ensure open standing, merits review and third-party enforcement rights under national environmental laws	10	0	0	10
25. Establish a fund with a minimum annual investment of \$1 billion to protect and restore habitats, implement recovery actions, tackle invasive species and help our communities and wildlife adapt to climate change	10	2	2	10
26. Ensure the protection of ten million hectares of high value ecosystems by 2021	5	0	2	5
27. Ensure the ecological restoration of one million hectares of high value ecosystems by 2021	5	1	2	5
28. Remove exemptions for native forest logging from national environment law and implement a national forest policy reform process	5	0	1	5
29. Restore the 2012 Commonwealth marine parks zoning supported by well-resourced enforcement, monitoring and community engagement	5	0	5	5
30. Improve tax incentives for conservation and ecological restoration on private lands	1	0	0	1
31. Improve mine rehabilitation rules and funding to make sure they lead to full mine rehabilitation	1	0	0	1
32. Ensure the tax system rewards the protection and regeneration of the environment and penalises its destruction	1	0	0	1

33. Introduce a well-resourced system of annual national and regional environmental accounts and measures of prosperity	1	0.5	0.5	1
34. Expand the mandate of the Productivity Commission to explicitly consider environmental matters	1	0	0	1
35. Introduce transparent and independent analysis of the social, economic and environmental costs and benefits of major projects through bodies such as Infrastructure Australia	1	0	1	1
36. Set Australia on a trajectory to halve our ecological footprint by 2030	1	0	0.5	1
37. Restore funding of Environment Defenders Offices and Conservation Councils to 2010 levels	1	0	1	1
38. Deliver the commitments made under the Murray-Darling Basin Plan on time and in full, including the delivery of outcomes equivalent to 3,200 gigalitres in environmental water	5	1	5	5
39. Return responsibility for water to the environment portfolio and ensure an independent water compliance and enforcement unit is established in an EPA	5	0	5	5
40. Enable the full recovery of water in the Murray-Darling Basin through voluntary purchase on the open market	5	0	5	5
41. Adequately resource the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder to build and deliver its critically important portfolio of environment water	1	0	1	1
42. Address constraints and barriers throughout the Basin to improve environmental outcomes and ensure water reaches natural floodplains	1	0	1	1
43. Revitalise national water reform in Australia and set out a roadmap for the recognition of Indigenous water rights	1	0	0.5	1
44. Establish a clear roadmap to deliver a Traditional Owner driven, consent based World Heritage nomination process for Cape York Peninsula	5	1	5	5
45. Increase funding for Indigenous Protected Areas, scaling up to \$30 million per annum as part of a national strategy for the growth of the national reserve system	5	3	4.5	4.5
46. Commit to supporting the employment of 5,000 Indigenous Rangers by 2030	5	2	5	5
47. Guarantee the rights of charities to pursue their mission through non-partisan political advocacy	1	0	1	1
48. Introduce effective political donations reform	5	1	3	5
49. Create and resource a federal anti-corruption regulator	5	2.5	4	5

50. Ensure MPs and Senators do not move into lobbying roles within a reasonable time of leaving office	1	0	0	1
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Each test in detail:

21. Introduce **new laws to expand the oversight of the federal government** to climate change, land clearing, critical habitats, water resources, air pollution and protected areas in the next term of government

	Performance	Score
Coalition	No commitment. Instead, the Morrison Government remains committed to delivering a "one stop shop" for environmental approvals, which will devolve federal responsibility to the states and territories. (source)	0 / 10
Labor	<p>The ALP's platform states: "Australia needs new frameworks for truly national protection and management of Australia's natural resources to enshrine federal leadership in proactive and systemic protection of our environment from threats such as climate change, and to protect the value of heritage sites." (source)</p> <p>Labor has committed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish an Australian Environment Act within the first term of government • Ensure the knowledge and rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are central in environment protection laws, programs and policies • Create strong, well resourced, science based institutions to administer the law and manage matters of national environmental significance, including a federal Environmental Protection Agency to conduct public inquiries, provide transparent and timely advice to the Minister within a clear decision-making framework and enforcement; and ensure there is the capacity in the public service to provide federal leadership on the environment • Implement clear management, governance and decision making structures that are transparent, efficient and streamlined • Improve regulation and streamline environmental assessment processes • Manage Australia's environment fairly and efficiently as a foundation for ecologically, socially and economically sustainable jobs • Protect biodiversity and support resilience in the natural environment; and 	6 / 10

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Direct the Environment Department to establish National Environment Plans that set targets and approaches to proactively protect the environment. <p>Labor has also committed to creating a land clearing trigger in the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Act 1999 and/or successor framework, in the context of a comprehensive response to land clearing and climate change. Labor will also consider a National Parks trigger to protect Australia's system of National Parks. Labor will expand the water trigger to apply to shale or tight formation gas developments that impact on water resources. (source)</p> <p>However specific detail of Labor's environmental law reform package is missing, including any expansions in Commonwealth oversight of the environment (beyond triggers highlighted) and references to merits review, third party enforcement rights or standing.</p>	
Greens	<p>The Greens state they are committed to implementing The Australian Panel of Experts on Environmental Law's (APEEL) blueprint for new federal environment laws.</p> <p>As well as a new federal authority, the Greens' new environmental laws would expand federal responsibility to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National parks and reserves, including critical habitats, climate refugees and national biodiversity hotspots Vulnerable ecological communities Impacts from land clearing Greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution Water resources (including rivers, wetlands and aquifers) Ecosystems and wetlands of national significance Invasive species. <p>(source)</p>	10 / 10

22. Establish and adequately resource an **independent national Environment Protection Authority** that operates at arm's-length from government in the next term of government

	Performance	Score
Coalition	No commitment.	0 / 10
Labor	<p>The ALP is committed to creating "strong, well resourced, science based institutions to administer the law, including a federal Environmental Protection Agency to conduct public inquiries, provide transparent and timely advice to the Minister within a clear decision-making framework and enforcement; and ensure there is the capacity in the public service to provide federal leadership on the environment." (source)</p> <p>However the ALP has not made clear the level of resourcing or scope of a proposed national EPA.</p>	9 / 10

Greens	The Greens have committed to establish an independent environmental watchdog – a federal EPA – to enforce a new generation of laws. However the Greens have not made clear the level of resourcing or scope of a proposed national EPA. (source)	9 / 10
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23. Establish and adequately resource a **national commission** to develop enforceable national plans and standards and regional threat abatement plans

	Performance	Score
Coalition	No commitment.	0 / 5
Labor	Labor has not committed to a national commission but has committed to “direct the Environment Department to establish National Environment Plans that set targets and approaches to proactively protect the environment.” (source)	1 / 5
Greens	<p>The Greens have committed to establish a new Commonwealth Environment Commission, which will perform several key functions to protect our environment, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oversight of the development, adoption, and implementation of national environmental strategies, programs, standards, and protocols • The provision of advice and recommendations to the Federal Environment Minister regarding funding assistance to states and territories, and the making of regulations to pre-empt the operation of state laws, if necessary, to make sure that environmental strategies, programs, standards, and protocols are implemented • Setting national threatened species recovery standards, including working with the Threatened Species Scientific Committee to identify and improve listing of critical habitat • Data collection • Monitoring, evaluation, and reporting of environmental outcomes • Environmental inquiries • Strategic advice. <p>(source)</p>	5 / 5

24. Ensure **open standing, merits review and third-party enforcement rights** under national environmental laws

	Performance	Score
Coalition	No commitment. Instead, the Abbott-Turnbull Government attempted to remove s487 of the EPBC Act to restrict community groups to challenge approval decisions in the courts. (source)	0 / 10
Labor	No commitment.	0 / 10
Greens	The Greens have committed to implementing open standing for individuals and communities to challenge environmentally damaging decisions in court and protect against adverse costs orders. (source)	10 / 10

25. Establish a fund with a minimum annual investment of **\$1 billion to protect and restore habitats**, implement recovery actions, tackle invasive species and help our communities and wildlife adapt to climate change

	Performance	Score
Coalition	<p>Morrison Government's current funding commitments for biodiversity (including spending from the National Heritage Trust) are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2018-19: \$247 million 2019-20: \$283 million 2020-21: \$221 million 2021-22: \$207 million 2022-23: \$205 million <p>Over the forward estimates this represents a decline of 53% since the Coalition took office (when total annual federal spending on biodiversity conservation programs was \$444 million)</p> <p>Current Coalition biodiversity investments announced (included in above figures) include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$100 million environment restoration fund (over 4 years) • \$22 million community environment grants program (over 1 year) • \$30 million for Biodiversity Agriculture Stewardship Program <p>(source)</p>	2 / 10
Labor	The ALP has committed \$200 million for an Urban Rivers Program.	2 / 10

	However the party has made no commitment for funding for new protected areas or implementing recovery plans, and this is significantly short of this \$1 billion target experts say nature protection requires. (source)	
Greens	<p>The Greens have committed to a \$2 billion per annum Nature Fund to protect and restore biodiversity across Australia.</p> <p>The Greens Nature Fund policy includes commitments to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investing in tackling invasive species • Investing in threatened species recovery plans • Doubling the protected area estate • Creating mammal havens • Investing in an urban canopy program • Incentivising private land conservation <p>(source)</p>	10 / 10

26. Ensure the **protection of ten million hectares** of high value ecosystems by 2021

	Performance	Score
Coalition	No commitment	0 / 5
Labor	Labor's commitment to regulate land clearing will help to protect some ecosystems, and give the Government power to prevent clearing of high value native regrowth and remnant vegetation. (source)	2 / 5
Greens	<p>The Greens have committed to doubling the size of our protected area estate.</p> <p>The party's commitments include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protecting habitat through a \$200 million a year investment into the National Reserve System Program • Investing \$500 million a year in massive, landscape-scale protection and restoration of the continent • Reinstating funding for the Long Term Ecological Research Network and the National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility <p>(source)</p>	5 / 5

27. Ensure the **ecological restoration of one million hectares** of high value ecosystems by 2021

	Performance	Score
Coalition	The Coalition has committed to an ecological restoration fund and a \$30 million pilot program, the Agriculture Biodiversity Stewardship Program, which would see farmers receive incentives for projects that boost biodiversity. (source)	1 / 5
Labor	<p>Labor will explore the establishment of 'premium' land sector credits which provide substantial environmental, biodiversity and other co-benefits. The establishment of such 'premium' credits would support ecosystem biodiversity through the Carbon Farming Initiative.</p> <p>The ALP platform states that "Labor will protect Australia's biological diversity through a national system of comprehensive adequate and representative parks and reserves, while using education, regulation and incentives to achieve ecologically sustainable use elsewhere in the landscape."</p> <p>The ALP platform also states that Labor will enhance "health and well-being as well as biodiversity with more urban plantings and wildlife corridors, waterway restoration and replacing hard surfaces with soft."(source)</p>	2 / 5
Greens	<p>The Greens have committed to double the size of Australia's protected area estate.</p> <p>The party's commitments include investing \$500 million a year in massive, landscape-scale protection and restoration of the continent. (source)</p>	5 / 5

28. **Remove exemptions for native forest logging** from national environment law and implement a national forest policy reform process

	Performance	Score
Coalition	No commitment. Instead, The Turnbull-Morrison Government rolled over Regional Forest Agreements for Tasmania (source) and NSW (source) without any adequate scientific review.	0 / 5
Labor	<p>Labor has made no commitment to removing the Regional Forest Agreement exemption.</p> <p>The ALP have committed to an industry-focused National Forestry Strategic Plan, and deliver a National Forestry Summit.</p>	1 / 5
Greens	Australian Greens have committed to scrap the Regional Forest Agreements and end logging in native forests. (source)	5 / 5

29. Restore the 2012 Commonwealth **marine parks zoning** supported by well-resourced enforcement, monitoring and community engagement

	Performance	Score
Coalition	No commitment. Instead, the Turnbull-Morrison Government wound back Marine Park protections.	0 / 5
Labor	Labor has committed to restoring 2012 Commonwealth Marine Park Zonings. (source)	5 / 5
Greens	<p>The Greens have committed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce a network of marine parks based on leading scientific recommendations. • Ensure there are no new oil and gas exploration permits and a ban on seismic testing • Stop all oil and gas exploration in marine parks • Stop all oil and gas exploration in the Great Australian Bight, revoke existing exploration permits, and nominate the area as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. <p>The Greens have also committed to an additional 15.8 per cent of Australian waters (or 137 million hectares) to be included in highly protected areas and disallowing bottom trawling.</p> <p>(source) (source)</p>	5 / 5

30. Improve tax incentives for **conservation and ecological restoration on private lands**

	Performance	Score
Coalition	No commitment	0 / 1
Labor	No commitment	0 / 1
Greens	<p>The Greens have committed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing landowners grants of up to \$25,000 for conservation actions related to their conservation covenant management plan • Initiating a review into the treatment of expenditure on conservation works in accordance with a covenant program's management plan, with a view to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Making this expenditure fully tax deductible against income ○ Giving landowners flexibility and choice by permitting either direct deductibility for gifts and conservation management expenses, or tax credits equal to the 	1 / 1

	<p>value of the deductible expense, that can be claimed up to 10 years following the deductible expenses incidence, at the deductor's discretion and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Offering a financial incentive equal to the value of foregone revenue for local governments to exclude covenanted properties from rates payments <p>(source)</p>	
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31. Improve **mine rehabilitation** rules and funding to make sure they lead to full mine rehabilitation

	Performance	Score
Coalition	No commitment.	0 / 1
Labor	No commitment.	0 / 1
Greens	The Greens have committed to establishing mining rehabilitation bonds that are based on high-quality evidence, set at the full cost of rehabilitation and verified by open and transparent means.	1 / 1

32. Ensure the **tax system rewards the protection and regeneration** of the environment and penalises its destruction

	Performance	Score
Coalition	No commitment	0 / 1
Labor	No commitment	0 / 1
Greens	<p>The Greens are committed to a super-profits tax on large oil, gas and mining companies, a carbon price and removing the diesel fuel rebate. (source)</p> <p>The Greens have committed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiating a review into the treatment of expenditure on conservation works in accordance with a covenant program's management plan, with a view to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Making this expenditure fully tax deductible against income o Giving landowners flexibility and choice by permitting either direct deductibility for gifts and conservation management expenses, or tax credits equal to the value of the deductible expense, that can be claimed up to 10 years following the deductible expenses incidence, at the deductor's discretion. (source) 	1 / 1

33. Introduce a well-resourced system of annual national and regional **environmental accounts and measures of prosperity**

	Performance	Score
Coalition	The Coalition has progressed the development of environmental accounts in cooperation with state and territory governments through the Council of Australia Governments (COAG) (source). However they have no commitments to other measurements of prosperity beyond traditional economic measures such as GDP.	0.5 / 1
Labor	Labor has committed to work with economic and statistical agencies and the community to develop a broader suite of measures for economic performance and social progress to complement traditional measures such as GDP figures, to measure progress in societal well-being, as well as to measure economic, environmental and social sustainability.	0.5 / 1
Greens	The Greens have committed to a national EPA model which includes overseeing timely delivery of comprehensive national environmental accounts and sustainability reports to Parliament. (source)	1 / 1

34. Expand the mandate of the **Productivity Commission** to explicitly consider environmental matters

	Performance	Score
Coalition	No commitment.	0 / 1
Labor	No commitment.	0 / 1
Greens	The Greens have committed to expanding the mandate of the Productivity Commission to explicitly consider environmental matters.	1 / 1

35. Introduce **transparent and independent analysis of the social, economic and environmental costs and benefits** of major projects through bodies such as Infrastructure Australia

	Performance	Score
Coalition	No commitment	0 / 1
Labor	The ALP has committed to requiring Infrastructure Australia to maintain a long-term sequence of projects assessed as offering the highest economic, social and environmental returns. (source)	1 / 1
Greens	The Greens have committed to large federally funded projects having comprehensive cost-benefit analysis that takes into account social and environment impacts. These proposals would be submitted to Infrastructure Australia, which would evaluate each proposal and make a recommendation to government on which projects deserve funding. Importantly, this recommendation would be made available to the public by Infrastructure Australia at the same time that it is given to government. (source)	1 / 1

36. Set Australia on a trajectory to **halve our ecological footprint** by 2030

	Performance	Score
Coalition	No commitment	0 / 1
Labor	<p>Labor has committed to introducing a National Container Deposit Scheme, A National Waste Commissioner and a \$60m national recycling fund and a ban on lightweight single use plastic bags and microbeads from 2021. Labor has also committed setting targets for government to purchase recycled products. (source)</p> <p>The ALP has also committed to a 50% renewable energy target by 2030.</p> <p>However, while these programs are worthwhile, they do not put Australia on track to halve our ecological footprint by 2030.</p>	0.5 / 1
Greens	<p>The Greens have committed to phasing out single use plastics by 2021, a \$500m recycling infrastructure fund, a national container deposit scheme and enhanced national product stewardship scheme for other waste streams such as e-waste, tyres, and mattresses. They have also set mandatory targets for government departments in relation to recycled content of materials they use or purchase. (source)</p> <p>The Greens have also committed to a 100% renewable energy target by 2030.</p>	1 / 1

37. Restore funding of **Environment Defenders Offices and Conservation Councils** to 2010 levels

	Performance	Score
Coalition	No commitment	0 / 1
Labor	Labor has committed to deliver \$14 million for Environmental Defenders Offices around the country. (source)	1 / 1
Greens	The Greens have committed \$47 million to restore EDO funding (source)	1 / 1

38. Deliver the commitments made under the **Murray-Darling Basin Plan on time and in full**, including the delivery of outcomes equivalent to 3,200 gigalitres in environmental water

	Performance	Score
Coalition	The Coalition remains committed to Basin Plan but has introduced mechanisms that will inhibit the full delivery of the equivalent of 3,200 GL water for the environment, including barriers to the delivery of 450 GL of up-water and a cap on buy-backs. (source) (source)	1 / 5
Labor	The ALP supports the Murray Darling Basin Plan being implemented in full. This includes delivering 450 gigalitres of additional water for the environment and removing constraints so environmental water reaches the parts of the river where it is needed. (source)	5 / 5
Greens	The Greens have committed to returning 4000 GL of water to the environment in the Murray Darling Basin. In addition the Greens state they would “adopt the recommendations of the SARC which would actually see the SDL increased if the science was followed on developing a target for environmental water and guided by the science in saying that the restoration of 3,200 gigalitres in environmental flows to the Murray-Darling should be considered an absolute minimum.”	5 / 5

39. Return responsibility for **water to the environment portfolio** and ensure an independent water compliance and enforcement unit is established in an EPA

	Performance	Score
Coalition	No commitment for an EPA. The Coalition is committed to keeping responsibility for water with agriculture portfolio.	0 / 5
Labor	The ALP has committed to moving the compliance functions of the Murray Darling Authority to an EPA. (source)	5 / 5
Greens	The Greens have committed to returning water to the Environment Portfolio, and establishing an independent basin compliance unit within and EPA. (source)	5 / 5

40. Enable the **full recovery of water in the Murray-Darling Basin** through voluntary purchase on the open market

	Performance	Score
Coalition	No commitment. The Coalition introduced a legislative cap on voluntary buybacks of environmental water on the open market. They also remain opposed to lifting the cap. (source)	0 / 5
Labor	Labor has committed to repealing the cap on voluntary buybacks. (source)	5 / 5
Greens	The Greens have committed to removing the cap on buybacks. (source)	5 / 5

41. Adequately resource the **Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder** to build and deliver its critically important portfolio of environment water

	Performance	Score
Coalition	No commitment	0 / 1
Labor	The ALP has committed to “ensuring the CEWH has the resources it needs to properly and fully perform its tasks.”	1 / 1

Greens	The Greens have committed to “adequately resourcing the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder to build and deliver its critically important portfolio of environment water.”	1/1
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42. Address constraints and barriers throughout the Murray-Darling Basin to improve environmental outcomes and ensure water reaches natural floodplains

	Performance	Score
Coalition	No commitment	0/1
Labor	Labor supports the Murray Darling Basin Plan being implemented in full. This includes delivering 450 gigalitres of additional water for the environment and removing constraints so environmental water reaches the parts of the river where it is needed. (source)	1/1
Greens	The Greens have committed to working with state governments to ensure the 44 recommendations of the South Australian Royal Commission are implemented in full. (source) Recommendation 7 states “a properly funded, compulsory scheme for the removal or easing of constraints should be implemented.” (source)	1/1

43. Revitalise national water reform in Australia and set out a roadmap for the recognition of Indigenous water rights

	Performance	Score
Coalition	No commitment.	0/1
Labor	Labor has committed to ensuring the MDBA and Commonwealth Environmental water holder work with traditional owners in river management and planning.	0.5/1
Greens	Australian Greens have committed to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reinstating the National Water Commission to provide expertise on the health of Australia's water infrastructure. • Integrated national catchment management to ensure sufficient environmental water flows in all catchments. • Meaningful consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in integrated catchment planning and management, and recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander water rights and the allocation of water for cultural flows. 	1 / 1

([source](#))

44. Establish a clear roadmap to deliver a Traditional Owner-driven, consent-based **World Heritage nomination process for Cape York Peninsula**

	Performance	Score
Coalition	<p>No current commitment. The Coalition acknowledged the process in 2014, but provided no further leadership.</p> <p>In 2014, Greg Hunt stated: “The Coalition government supports moves to secure a world heritage listing for the Cape York Peninsula should the community and the Queensland Government reach consensus on this important issue.” (source)</p>	1 / 5
Labor	<p>Labor has committed to supporting Traditional Owners to pursue resolution of outstanding Cape York tenure issues and, if consent is granted, subsequently pursue World Heritage listing for appropriate areas of Cape York, recognising the importance of federal leadership and the consent of traditional owners. (source)</p>	5 / 5
Greens	<p>The Australian Greens have committed to establishing a clear roadmap to deliver a Traditional Owner driven, consent based World Heritage nomination process for Cape York Peninsula.</p>	5 / 5

45. Increase **funding for Indigenous Protected Areas**, scaling up to \$30 million per annum as part of a national strategy for the growth of the national reserve system

	Performance	Score
Coalition	<p>The Liberal National Coalition has committed to “invest more than \$12 million to establish new Indigenous Protected Areas across the country, building on our commitment to strengthen Indigenous employment in remote communities.</p> <p>The Coalition has increased the number of dedicated IPAs to 75 since coming to office, putting the management of 67 million hectares of land into the hands of Traditional Owners.”</p> <p>This funding is in addition to \$87.8 million funding from the Indigenous Advancement Strategy, which supports existing IPA projects over five years from 2018-19 to 2022-23. (source)</p>	3 / 5
Labor	<p>The Labor Platform states: “employment programs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to work on and manage country, particularly through expanding long-term support and recognition for the highly successful Indigenous Ranger and Indigenous Protected Area programs.” (source) (Part of this score is based on details of a policy seen under embargo.)</p>	4.5 / 5

Greens	The Greens have committed to invest an additional \$20 million per year in Indigenous Protected Areas. (source)	4.5 / 5
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46. Commit to supporting the employment of 5,000 Indigenous Rangers by 2030

	Performance	Score
Coalition	The Coalition has made funding commitments for existing Indigenous Rangers through to 2021 – but no commitment for additional rangers, or funding until 2030. (source)	2 / 5
Labor	<p>Labor has committed to support employment programs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to work on and manage country, particularly through expanding long-term support and recognition for the highly successful Indigenous Ranger and Indigenous Protected Area programs.</p> <p>The party has also committed to doubling of Indigenous Ranger positions to 1650 full-time equivalent positions over five years, which is a sustainable trajectory toward 5,000 by 2030. (source)</p>	5 / 5
Greens	The Greens have committed to increase the number of Indigenous Rangers to 5,000 by 2025. (source)	5 / 5

47. Guarantee the rights of charities to pursue their mission through non-partisan political advocacy

	Performance	Score
Coalition	No commitment.	0 / 1
Labor	The ALP platform states: “Labor will continue to work to ensure that Australian Charities and not- for-profit organisations are able to participate in public debate and in policy making processes, in accordance with charities law, without being treated as if they have a partisan political intent or being subjected to unnecessary regulatory burden. Labor will safeguard the ability of charities and not-for-profits to collaborate in work that advances the public interest, including with international partners”. (source)	1 / 1
Greens	<p>The Greens are committed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defend the ability of charities and not-for-profit groups to use their funding (including international funding) for issues-based advocacy Remove gag clauses from government funding agreements Distinguish between charities and not-for-profit groups’ issues-based advocacy and politically partisan electioneering when considering regulation Ensure that charities and not-for-profit groups don’t face a greater compliance burden than they do presently, and that they are not subject to more extensive regulatory controls, 	1 / 1

	<p>administrative requirements or criminal offences than businesses and industry associations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that donors whose donations aren't used for politically partisan electioneering will not be subject to new public reporting or registration requirements • Defend charities and not-for-profit groups so that they are free to cooperate on issues-based advocacy to advance the public interest, including by working with people who aren't Australian citizens or permanent residents. <p>(source)</p>	
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48. Introduce effective **political donations reform**

	Performance	Score
Coalition	The Coalition passed the Electoral Legislation Amendment (Electoral Funding and Disclosure Reform) (EFDR) Bill in 2018, which banned foreign donations, but failed to address many other important aspects of election finance reform.	1 / 5
Labor	<p>Labor has committed to a range of important reforms, but still lack some vital elements of a strong policy. Commitments include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the security and integrity of the Australian electoral process is protected from interference from home and abroad • Encourage public debate about reform of our electoral laws including enrolment and electoral participation • Ensure disadvantaged groups are not excluded from the democratic process • Labor will ensure the capacity of Australians to participate in the electoral system is undiminished, maximising opportunities for enrolment and involvement in our electoral process for all Australians • Remain committed to constitutional reform to allow simultaneous, fixed four-year terms for the House of Representatives and the Senate • Continue to build confidence in the system by effectively investigating and reporting all claims of electoral malpractice • Commit to advance the cause of making electoral enrolment and voting as quick, simple and flexible as possible, seeking to maximise the franchise consistent with maintaining the integrity of the system • Reduce the donation disclosure limit from the current level of \$13,800 (indexed to inflation) to a fixed \$1000 • Prohibit the receipt of foreign donations • Ban 'donation splitting' where donations are spread between different branches of political parties and associated entities to avoid disclosure obligations • Ban the receipt of anonymous donations above \$50 	3 / 5

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Link public funding to campaign expenditure. (source) 	
Greens	<p>The Greens have committed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Banning political donations from the mining, development, tobacco, alcohol, gambling, banking, defence and pharmaceutical industries Placing a cap of \$3,000 per parliamentary term on all other donations Placing expenditure caps on political parties and associated entities Until stringent caps are in place, ensuring donations above \$1,000 are reported to the public in close to real time Banning 'donation splitting' and all donations from foreign entities Banning donations from the gun lobby. <p>(source)</p>	5 / 5

49. Create and resource a **federal anti-corruption regulator**

	Performance	Score
Coalition	<p>The Coalition has committed to create a Commonwealth Integrity Commission. However the proposed powers and functions for the Commission do not go far enough for the body to be an effective anti-corruption watchdog. (source)</p>	2.5 / 5
Labor	<p>Labor has committed to create a National Integrity Commission based on a credible model, although their commitment is missing detail on the Commission's powers and resourcing. (source)</p>	4 / 5
Greens	<p>The Australian Greens have committed to establish a federal Anti-Corruption Commission, consisting of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A National Integrity Commissioner A Law Enforcement Integrity Commissioner An Independent Parliamentary Adviser. <p>The Greens' Federal Anti-Corruption Commission has been costed independently by the Parliamentary Budget Office at \$75.6m. (source)</p>	5 / 5

50. Ensure MPs and Senators do not move into **lobbying roles** within a reasonable time of leaving office

	Performance	Score
Coalition	No commitment	0 / 1
Labor	No commitment	0 / 1
Greens	<p>The Greens have committed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shut the revolving door between politics and big business, by enforcing and extending to five years the cooling off period for post-politics for-profit work that might raise a conflict of interest, and ensuring it applies not just to Ministers and staff but to all MPs and their senior staff • Ensure that for-profit in-house lobbyists, and any for-profit lobbyist who holds an unrestricted Parliament House pass, is listed on the Australian Government's Lobbyists Register, and complies with the Code of Conduct • Give the Lobbyists Register and Lobbying Code of Conduct teeth, enforced by an independent Parliamentary Commissioner • Establish a new Diary Register: a monthly, published register of all meetings with for-profit lobbyists, to disclose all meetings with MPs and Senators, who is present at the meeting, and the subject of the meeting. (source) 	1 / 1