

This is The Climate Election

What do independent candidates and minor parties stand for?

Pirate Party

Independent • multiple electorates • House of Representatives and Senate

Survey responses: **Phasing out burning coal**

Key test	Response	Comments
1. Provide a plan to rapidly phase out Australia's coal-fired power stations, starting with the dirtiest, most inefficient and polluting stations	Partial Support	We call for an effective carbon tax and additional R&D to support renewable energy and other crucial research. Climate Change and Renewable Energy Policy
2. 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	Support	Our policy calls for locally managed Job Guarantee providers supplemented by a Negative Income Tax Job Guarantee Policy Negative Income Tax Policy

3. 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	Support	We don't explicitly have 2025 or 2050 targets, but they are supported by existing policy Climate Change and Renewable Energy policy
4. Commit to policies which will be: a. Effective at reducing climate pollution to meet pollution reduction targets, AND b. Easily scaled up to meet increasing targets	n/a	
5. Ensure the largest source of climate pollution, the electricity sector, leads the way in cutting pollution.	Support	A carbon tax is the most efficient way to bring about a holistic change to the electricity sector and wider economy. Climate Change and Renewable Energy policy
6. Not rely on international offsets to achieve Australia's climate pollution reduction	Support	We will offset all domestic pollution by domestic means. We are open to offsetting exported emissions (those created through coal exports) via international permits.
7. 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	Support	We want to increase foreign aid to \$44.5 billion (0.5% of 2019 GDP) and one of the priority areas is environmental conservation. We will also levy a coal export tax to support international climate efforts. Foreign Aid policy

Survey responses: **Ramping up renewable energy**

Key test	Response	Comment
8. Set predictable, supportive, fair policies that 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	Support	Our policy aims for consumer owned renewable energy production seeks to remove all barriers to its adoption. Climate Change and Renewable Energy policy
9. Make sure all Australians everywhere benefit from the transition to clean energy – including low-income households, renters, and remote Aboriginal communities	Support	See above Climate Change and Renewable Energy policy

10. Guarantee that both ARENA and CEFC are retained until 2030 with a continued focus on supporting renewable energy and energy efficiency, and restore the \$1 billion cut from ARENA's budget	Support	Climate Change and Renewable Energy policy
11. Drive the establishment of a clean energy export industry to assist the clean energy transition in our region and grow a new clean export opportunity	Support	Technology developed to be made freely available to developing countries Climate Change and Renewable Energy policy Foreign Aid policy
12. Reform the National Electricity Market (NEM) with climate pollution reduction as a priority objective	Support	Our policy includes reforms to AEMC to support solar service agreements Climate Change and Renewable Energy policy
13. Stop fossil fuel subsidies, including the diesel fuel tax credit, and end tax breaks that incentivise environmental damage	Support	Climate Change and Renewable Energy policy
14. Set vehicle emissions standards, to be fully phased in by 2025, that are at least as stringent as the US standards and align over time with the stronger EU standards while accelerating electric vehicle uptake	Support	We seek to adopt EU 2020 vehicle fuel efficiency standards and support electric vehicle charging stations Climate Change and Renewable Energy policy
15. Phase out uranium mining and export	No Policy	
16. Advance a new approach for the responsible and transparent management of Australia's radioactive waste	No Policy	
17. Stop new uranium sales and nuclear agreements	No Policy	
18. Advance the signing, ratification and implementation of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons	No Policy	

Survey responses: **Stopping Adani's coal mine**

Key test

Response

Comments

19. Stop the Adani mine and keep all Galilee Basin coal in the ground on the basis that it poses an undue threat to the Great Barrier Reef, water, and endangered species	Support	We call for independent approval of mining sites Land Management and Ecology policy
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Survey responses: **Protecting nature**

Key test	Response	Comments
20. Introduce new laws which 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	Support	Land Management and Ecology policy
21. Establish and adequately resource an independent national environment protection authority that operates at arm's-length from government in the next term of government	Support	Land Management and Ecology policy
22. Establish and adequately resource a national commission to develop enforceable national plans and standards and regional threat abatement plans	Support	Land Management and Ecology policy
23. Ensure open standing, merits review and third-party enforcement rights under national environmental laws	Support	Land Management and Ecology policy
24. 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	Support	Land Management and Ecology policy

25. Ensure the protection of ten million hectares of high value ecosystems by 2021	Support	Increase national park thresholds to cover 15% of land in Australia Land Management and Ecology policy
26. Ensure the ecological restoration of one million hectares of high value ecosystems by 2021	Support	We believe the substantial resources and increased national parks we are committed to could easily bring this about. Land Management and Ecology policy
27. Remove exemptions for native forest logging from national environment law and implement a national forest policy reform process	No Policy	
28. Restore the 2012 Commonwealth marine parks zoning supported by well-resourced enforcement, monitoring and community Engagement	Partial Support	We have no formal policy on this, but we support additional national parks in land and water zones
29. Improve tax incentives for conservation and ecological restoration on private land	Support	Land Management and Ecology policy
30. Improve mine rehabilitation rules and funding to make sure they lead to full mine rehabilitation	Support	Land Management and Ecology policy
31. Ensure the tax system rewards the protection and regeneration of the environment and penalises its destruction	Support	Land Management and Ecology policy
32. Introduce a well-resourced system of annual national and regional environmental accounts and measures of prosperity	No Policy	We are open to this idea, but it is not included in our formal policy at this point.
33. Expand the mandate of the Productivity Commission to explicitly consider environmental matters	No Policy	We support greater independence for environmental regulators, and are open to this idea.
34. Introduce transparent and independent analysis of the social, economic and environmental costs and benefits of major projects through bodies such as Infrastructure Australia	No Policy	We support greater independence for environmental regulators, and are open to this idea.

35. Set Australia on a trajectory to halve our ecological footprint by 2030	Support	Land Management and Ecology policy
36. Restore funding of EDOs and conservation councils to 2010 levels	Support	We support the granting of large and permanent endowments for environmental causes. These would enable long-term planning and prevent future governments from cutting support. Land Management and Ecology policy
37. Deliver the commitments made under the Murray-Darling Basin Plan on time and in full, including the delivery of outcomes equivalent to 3,200 gegalitres in environmental water	Partial Support	We are supportive of higher investment in all critical environmental priorities including the Murray-Darling Land Management and Ecology policy
38. Return responsibility for water to the environment portfolio and ensure an independent water compliance and enforcement unit is established in an EPA	No Policy	We are open to this idea, but it is not explicit in our written policies at this point.
39. Enable the full recovery of water in the Murray-Darling Basin through voluntary purchase on the open market	No Policy	We are open to this idea, but it is not explicit in our written policies at this point.
40. Adequately resource the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder to build and deliver its critically important portfolio of environment water	No Policy	We are open to this idea, but it is not explicit in our written policies at this point.
41. Address constraints and barriers throughout the Basin to improve environmental outcomes and ensure water reaches natural floodplains	No Policy	We are open to this idea, but it is not explicit in our written policies at this point.
42. Revitalise national water reform in Australia and set out a roadmap for the recognition of Indigenous water rights?	No Policy	We are open to this idea, but it is not explicit in our written policies at this point.
43. Establish a clear roadmap to deliver a Traditional Owner driven, consent based World Heritage nomination process for Cape York Peninsula	No Policy	We are open to this idea, but it is not explicit in our written policies at this point.

44. Commit to supporting the employment of 5,000 Indigenous rangers by 2025	Support	We support more funding and a larger national reserve system, with expanded national parks Land Management and Ecology policy
45. Commit to supporting the employment of 5,000 Indigenous rangers by 2025	Support	Land Management and Ecology policy
46. Guarantee the rights of charities to pursue their mission through non-partisan political advocacy	Support	Our tax policy would place charities on a far more secure footing, with less scope for political interference Tax and basic income policy
47. Introduce effective political donations reform	Support	Government transparency policy
48. Create and resource a federal anti-corruption Regulator	Support	Government transparency policy
49. Ensure MPs and Senators do not move into lobbying roles within a reasonable time of leaving office	Support	Government transparency policy

About this survey

Methodology

This document is the candidate's unedited responses to ACF'S 2019 *Climate Election independent and minor party survey*.

In the survey, the candidate responded to 49 key policy tests, 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.

Respondents could give five possible responses for each test:

- Support
- Partial support
- No policy
- Oppose
- Comments

We sent this survey to selected minor parties and independents, with a deadline for response by close of business on 25 April 2019. It was beyond our resources to send this survey to the every minor party and independent candidate in every electorate and in both houses. We therefore excluded parties or candidates who:

- Focused on a single unrelated issue, and therefore were not likely to have policies relating to climate, energy or nature;
- Candidates or parties who we assessed to have an extremely low chance of winning a seat (acknowledging this is a subjective judgement).

Many of the independents and minor parties who received the survey did not respond.

See the survey responses from all of the candidates who responded at www.acf.org.au/scorecard_independent. The responses are the full statements from the candidates, without analysis by ACF.

In addition to this independent candidate survey, we have rigorously analysed the major parties' policies against the key tests in our 2018 National Agenda – see www.acf.org.au/scorecard.

About the Australian Conservation Foundation

We are Australia's national environment organisation – 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.

Authorised by Kelly O'Shanassy, Australian Conservation Foundation, 60 Leicester St Carlton.