Climate doorknock tips + tricks

AUSTRALIAN CONSERVATION FOUNDATION

Once you have asked the first couple of questions, use the information below to help guide the rest of the conversation. The key principle is that we want to use our time where it will make a difference, rather than with people who already strongly agree or disagree with us.

Who	What to do
Base - people who already vote with climate in mind	These people don't need persuading on climate, but may be dejected about the public's ability to change anything. Focus on how a people-powered approach can shift the politics, and see if you can get them involved as volunteers!
Persuadable - share some of our values but may not be prioritising climate	These will probably be the bulk of your conversations, and the most interesting. Aim to get them to sign the petition! Try to spend most of your time on these conversations.
Opposition - people who strongly oppose action on climate change	If the person denies climate change is happening or is otherwise antagonistic, thank them for their time and move on. There's no need to spend your time and energy getting into an argument.

About the doorknock

WHO IS ACF?

The Australian Conservation Foundation is over half a million people who show up, speak out and act for a world where our rivers, forests, people, reefs and wildlife thrive.

We are proudly independent and non-partisan. We hold all political parties to account and we hold them to the same standards – how their policies impact our environment. This election we will compare the environmental policies of all the major political parties and campaign to make them stronger.

WHY HERE?

- We are focusing on the places that decide elections – where there is a close contest between parties on the issues their constituents care about.
- Bonner is one of the most marginal seats in South-East Queensland, and has a history of swinging between the major parties. This makes it a great place to demonstrate that people care about climate damage, because the parties will be paying attention.

WHY THESE QUESTIONS?

- We are trying to gather information that will persuade MPs, candidates and their parties to have stronger climate policies because their constituents demand it
- That includes how people rank climate damage compared to other issues, who they will vote for, and what actions they will take

Doorknock tips

BE RESPECTFUL AND STAY SAFE

- Close gates behind you when you enter a property - you don't want to spend time chasing runaway dogs!
- Step back from the door once you've knocked it so the person answering it has some space.
- Expect success! And stay polite and friendly.
- Identify yourself as a volunteer, and remember you're representing ACF.
- Your safety is always the most important thing - leave any situation where you feel unsafe and call your team leader.
- Don't accept invitations to go inside someone's house, and avoid scary dogs.

Useful facts

CLIMATE DAMAGE IS HERE, NOW

- Australia has the largest increase in deaths from climate damage in the developed world. **Heat waves** are the number one killer of all natural disasters and they're getting worse.[1]
- From black lung to asthma, firestorms to floods – digging up and burning **coal is killing people** in Australia and around the world.[2]

SOLUTIONS ARE HERE, NOW

- We have the technology to power Australia with **100% clean electricity** within the next 12 years.[3]
- Queensland rooftops make more electricity than Gladstone, the state's biggest coal-burning power station.[4]
- Australia's ageing **coal power stations and gas plants** failed 53 times in the summer of 2017/18.[5]
- Proper climate and energy policies can create **one million new jobs** while reducing Australia's climate pollution by 80 percent from 2005 levels by 2040.[6]

WE ARE HERE, NOW

- There's **massive community support** for stopping climate damage and switching to clean energy. 86% of Australians understand climate change is happening. 87% think we should invest in clean energy. 63% say they are an environmentalist at heart. Only 4% say coal is their preferred energy source.[7]
- The community campaign against **Adani's polluting mine** stopped private and public funding – with all four Australian banks and 28 big international banks ruling out financing the mine. Together we successfully pushed the Queensland government to block a $1 billion publicly-funded loan

1. **smh.com.au/environment/climate-change/australia-one-of-the-countries-most-exposed-to-climate-change-bank-warns-20180322-p4z5n8.html**
2. **theguardian.com/commentisfree/2017/sep/18/enough-tiptoeing-around-lets-make-this-clear-coal-kills-people**
3. **acf.org.au/repower_australia_plan**
4. **theguardian.com/australia-news/2018/feb/11/australias-solar-power-boom-could-almost-double-capacity-in-a-year-analysts-say**
5. **tai.org.au/content/liddell-unreliable-renewables-cheaper**
6. **acf.org.au/strong_climate_policies_mean_million_new_jobs**

7. **wwf.org.au/knowledge-centre/resource-library/resources/backyard-barometer**