

Kooyong Climate Change Alliance
Candidate Scorecard

Candidate Questionnaire

Name:

Oliver Yates

Political Party:

Independent

Please tell us about your general views on climate change

1.1 Do you accept the views of climate scientists that

- The earth is already too hot?
- We face a climate emergency?
- Greenhouse gas emissions must be reduced to zero as fast as possible?

A strong yes to all these questions. . On the latter point we cannot ignore a rider that we need to manage the economics of this transition effectively. We need to accept that there will be cost in this transition but we need to educate the public that the cost of inaction will be higher and that there are considerable economic advantages in being a world leader in the transition to renewable energy. My rider is not to water down the urgency of the action but a statement of reality and the need as always to take the community with you.

1.2 Are you committed to supporting implementation of evidence based policies consistent with restricting global warming to 1.5 degrees C?

- Yes No

We cannot rightfully accept the destruction of significant parts of our ecosystems or the loss of nation states that are vulnerable to sea level rises. I accept that restricting global warming to 1.5 degrees C looks highly aspirational right now, but many of us take on difficult challenges that do we ultimately succeed in achieving, simply because we took them on in the first place. We can't be defeatist at all about this.

Any other comments on your general views on climate change:

We have major challenges decoupling government revenue from the consumption of

fossil fuels. We need to start addressing this now or else each successive government will continue to delay action for budgetary reasons

The remaining questions are intended to inform us about the specific climate change policies and actions you are committed to and that you undertake to advocate for and otherwise support as our representative in Federal Parliament if elected. In the following therefore, where the word “support” appears, please consider it to mean “advocate for and support”.

2. Greenhouse Gas Emissions Targets

2.1 What emissions reduction targets will you support?

Reduction by 2030 (% relative to 2005):

Reduction by 2050 (% relative to 2005):

Target year for zero emissions:

45% by 2030.

100% by 2050.

Target for Net Zero emissions would need to be about 2045 in Australia but this is not a policy position the population can yet understand. They will need to be educated and see significant progress to 2030.

2.2 Will you support excluding international offsets in the measurement of Australia's emissions reductions? Yes No

Australia should achieve at least an 80% physical reduction in its own domestic emissions before considering international offsets. Offsets could have a role in a globally developed carbon market, but given the current lack of transparency and the ability for Australians to otherwise do nothing itself, I would reject any offset mechanism for now. I could, however, consider a policy of say 5% international offsets if the proposal was to develop international carbon markets and trigger early action.

3. Emissions Reductions

3.1 Will you support the following economy-wide initiatives to reduce emissions? :

- A price on carbon
- New regulations that set emissions limits and penalties

These initiatives need to be implemented as an Emissions Trading Scheme arrangement. I will not support a carbon tax, which is a totally different mechanism than an ETS.. A carbon tax would result in additive government revenue from the release of carbon. This would create a perverse incentive to governments to minimise future emissions reductions which would in turn reduce government revenues.

3.2 What other economy-wide measures will you support to reduce emissions? (Note that specific measures related to energy generation, transport and specific industries are covered separately below).

We need to stop opening up new fossil fuel resources. The stone age did not stop because we ran out of stones. We simply found better technologies.
We will need to prevent recontracting of coal resources so that businesses transition and adapt to new technologies. .
I want a stronger anti-dumping regime to prevent foreign companies dumping high carbon polluting products into our market that are not subject to a similar emissions reduction regime.

We will also need to rebate Australian manufacturing businesses for carbon related charges on carbon intensive goods when they are exported to countries that don't have a reasonable carbon emissions regime. Australia needs to be firm and practical with its international trading partners to join us in action to address climate change and that discussion needs to get underway now.

No new houses should have gas connections. All new houses should have solar as standard. Energy efficient building standards are so very deficient in this country

3.3 What initiatives will you support to reduce emissions in manufacturing industry?

We need to move to using electricity with manufacturing as fast as possible. Electricity will cover most energy needs.

Where some industries still need to use gas, we should consider a 'green gas target' along the lines of the renewable energy target to incentivise the development and transition to zero emissions gas. This could be biofuels or hydrogen initially, but with recent developments in MOF technology, could be the clean creation of methane.

3.4 What initiatives will you support to reduce emissions in agriculture?

The Emissions Reduction Fund is making progress in the land sector as it effectively is the carbon farming initiative.

I would support an arrangement that farmers receiving grants from the government are permitted to subdivide their land and transfer the least productive land into regeneration projects which would be eligible for the grants. Farmers are often sitting on highly marginal land that produces very little in agricultural products, but, they have no capital or can't subdivide it to make it available for regeneration.

Soil carbon sequestration remains an interesting option but I have not had the ability to get into it deeply

3.5 What initiatives will you support to promote reforestation, afforestation and restoration of biodiverse natural environments to increase greenhouse gas drawdown?

The Emissions Reduction Fund and /ACCUs can be more effective. I would also advocate making the CEFCs mandate clear that it can lend to these types of projects. You still need a longterm contract and the ERF should become a national carbon fund/clearing house to contract for and sell carbon. They should sit in the middle between suppliers and buyers removing the credit problems

3.6 Will you support strengthening the Climate Change Authority with additional funding and expertise, and elevating its role in providing evidence based policy advice to Government? Yes No

They should be recapitalised, operated independently of government and their act strengthened so they can't be unfunded or threatened with abolition again. They should basically re-issue their Fed 2014 report and we can go from there.

3.7 Will you support amendment or replacement of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Protection Act* to ensure climate change impacts are a key consideration in all environmental assessments? Yes No

Yes and it must also cover issues of ocean warming and acidification

3.8 What level of funding will you support to the Green Climate Fund (under the Paris Agreement) to promote climate action in developing countries?

I have had direct involvement with the GCF (as with the Climate Change Authority above) and therefore have firsthand experience and real views. Currently the GCF is not functioning well and it needs a complete governance overhaul. It should be split into a grants fund (mainly for climate adaptation and early stage mitigation projects) and a loan fund that invests in climate mitigation projects at close to market rates.

Currently it is highly inefficient with fees on fees on fees as it tiers money through its capital structure down to projects. Personally I know all the reasons we need the GCF and I appreciate that this is most likely the best internationally supported fund that we have, but it should be noted that all the concerns about this becoming a UN style monster are 100% true. How this has been built and operated so far is not going to work

This is a much bigger question.

What other strategies will you support to assist climate action in developing countries?

The Australian Government should directly finance to clean energy projects in these countries to stop the alternative construction of coal plants. It can do this by supplying the market with renewables at sufficient scale to ensure low cost energy that would make any new coal fired generation economically unattractive.

The CEFC should also take a more active stance in sharing its people, experience and operating frameworks with other countries that are seeking to set up similar clean energy development banks.

4. Clean Energy Targets

4.1 What targets for generation of electricity by renewables will you support?

% renewables by 2025:

% renewables by 2050:

Target year for 100% renewables:

I would support an annual renewable energy growth target of 3% a year until 2025 and then a 4-5% increase each year thereafter to achieve a target of about 70% by 2030. We must have 100% before 2040 or we fail in our challenge of less than 2 degrees global warming.

4.2 What is your target year for 100% renewable energy production by industry across all sectors?

2040

Not sure get this question sorry

5. Transitioning to renewables

5.1 Will you support the following steps to help achieve the transition to renewables?

- Ruling out the addition of new coal fired power generation to the grid;- yes
- Ruling out the addition of new gas power generation to the grid; - no
- Ruling out government underwriting or public funding in any form to support fossil fuel energy generation; -no as gas peakers could be required in the short term and the government might be the best owner so they can be removed when we want . No public money for coal
- Adding greenhouse emission reductions to the National Energy Objective - yes;
- Phasing out existing coal fired power stations; by when? Yr:2040

Your phase out date should be informed by the CCA reports. Basically, follow the CCA 2014 report as it provided a good plan

5.2 Please provide details of the funding levels you will support to promote renewables, including grants and tax incentives for industry and consumers, and also including funding levels for ARENA and the CEFC.

CEFC is fine but it should be permitted to borrow so it has available ongoing capacity beyond its original appropriated capital.

ARENA needs another billion dollars but this needs to be managed and sector targeted

You should have a dedicated energy transmission/storage fund that will urgently need significant capital. This should operate like the CEFC with the intention of operating at no cost to the tax payer.

5.3 What other strategies will you support to encourage the transition to 100% renewables? Please include details of funding where relevant.

Transmission and storage is a key – \$5 billion
I would also overhaul the energy regulatory bodies rapidly

5.4 What measures will you support to assist communities affected by the transition away from fossil fuel energy generation?

This needs to be reviewed community by community, but leaving them in the dark about the inevitable transition and power station closure is really poor.

As most generators are near significant towns, it should be less of a challenge for finding alternative work. I would make it clear that rapid transport from the effected regions to the city on rail would be a core strategy. I would also like the water used by the generators to be locked for allocation only to the region effected. With adequate water and transport infrastructure, these regions will flourish

5.5 What incentives will you support to promote a clean energy export industry?

The government needs to rapidly push opportunities to develop exportable renewable technologies and invest in processes for converting renewables to transportable chemicals and fuels. that can be exported.

The CEFC/ARENA should be instructed to focused extra effort in this space. The government should also use its balance sheet to underwrite early stage contracts for

long term, large scale supply.

The government should also ensure Australia is the home location of the Mission Innovation 1GW scale up for hydrogen

6. Transport

6.1 Will you support the following initiatives to encourage the increased uptake of electric vehicles?

- Make electric vehicles less expensive by means such as reducing government fees and charges or by subsidies
- Increase the availability of charging stations;
- Reduce the cost of ownership such as registration fees;

Cars registration fees should still be consistently applied

Please provide details of any other strategies you will support:

There should be incentives for business that operate with large-scale fleets of hydrogen and battery vehicles

6.2 Will you support phasing out the following, and if so by what year?

new diesel vehicles Yr: 2030

new internal combustion vehicles Yr: 2025

diesel tax rebate Yr:

Yr:

fringe benefit tax concessions on vehicle usage

Diesel tax rebate related to use of these vehicle on private roads. If industry is paying a carbon price that will help remove the incentive.

6.3 Will you support strengthening existing vehicle emissions standards for new vehicles? Yes No

Which international model would you use and when would you envisage implementation?

International model:

Yr:

Comments/Explanation/Extended Response:

I have not looked at this market much but I would be guided by the advice of Climate Works Australia

6.4 What measures will you support to encourage growth in public transport provision and usage?

Extra infrastructure spending

6.5 What other initiatives will you support to reduce emissions in the transport sector?

Electric vehicle incentives, promotion of sustainably produced bio fuels that don't compete with food,



7. Coal and Gas Mining

7.1 Will you support legislation or regulation to achieve the following? Please indicate the proposed timing for the cessation of the activity.

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Stop any coal mining developments in the Galilee Basin | Yr 2018 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Stop development of any new thermal coal mines | 2018 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Stop development of any new on-shore conventional gas mines | Yr 2030 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Stop development of any new offshore gas and oil mines | Yr 2030 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Stop development of any new unconventional gas mines | 2018 Yr |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Phase out thermal coal mining in Australia | Yr 2035 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Phase out natural gas and oil mining in Australia | Yr 2040 |

Comments/Explanation/Extended Response:

7.2 Will you support a review of Adani's licence for the Carmichael coal mine under section 145 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act*?

- Yes No

Comments/Explanation/Extended Response:

7.3 Will you support ruling out public funding in any form to support fossil fuel mining?

- Yes No

Comments/Explanation/Extended Response:

7.4 Will you support strengthening of legal and regulatory requirements for mining companies to rehabilitate closed mine sites? How?

The current bonding structure is ineffective and the game to sell the site to a worse and worse credit goes on. If they don't provide very meaningful bonds than the mine owners should be required to insure for the rehabilitation costs

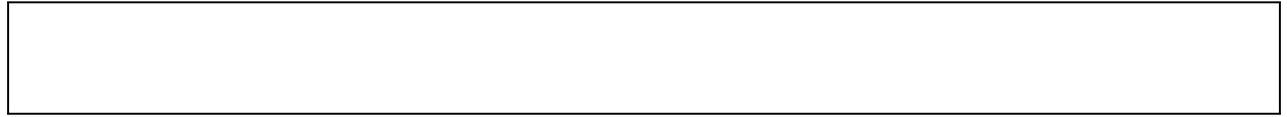
7.5 What strategies will you support to promote the transition away from coal and gas mining, including assistance for the affected workforce and local communities? Please include details of funding.

This is a complex area and it depends on the town. Some towns will die and the problem is the negative equity involved in the homes of the workers.. Basically, some of these towns are mine infrastructure so the mine should pay to reacquire the housing stock at a historic average price.

A strategy will need to be built around each town

Additional comments

Please use the space below to tell us more about your views on climate change not already covered. Please attach any additional documents you believe are relevant.



Thank you!