

Kooyong Climate Change Alliance
Candidate Scorecard

Candidate Questionnaire

Name:

Julian Burnside

Political Party:

Australian Greens

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?

(In this and subsequent questions in this format, check the box next to the question if you agree)

Human-induced climate change poses the greatest threat to our world, civilisation and way of life. The Australian government has an obligation to protect Australians. Only an urgent whole of government response to reduce our emissions to zero and put in place a program of negative emissions is an acceptable response to the emergency we face.

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 negotiate with the laws of physics we need policy based on the science.

Any other comments on your general views on climate change:

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:

Will you support the exclusion of any carry-over credits from the Kyoto agreement in the calculation of emissions reductions against these targets?

Yes No

The Australian Greens support the exclusion of any carry-over credits from the Kyoto agreement in the calculation of Australia's emissions reductions against its targets. The Australian Greens want net negative Australian greenhouse gas emissions by no later than 2040.

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

As we need to reduce global emissions to below zero by mid-century at the latest. There is no longer room for international offsets. We need to all countries to transition and offsets will just delay action and allow polluters to keep polluting while free riding off other countries actions.

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

The Greens successfully negotiated a carbon price during the Gillard government. We want to return to the position we would have been in if Abbott hadn't removed the carbon price. There is also a very important role for regulation. For example we would establish Renew Australia which would manage a regulated timetable of coal-fired power station closures and phase out thermal coal by setting a yearly limit on coal exports from 2020 reducing each year until a full-phase out in 2030. Each tonne of coal will require a permit to be secured by auction for the right to export coal

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).

The Greens plan to Renew Australia provides a clear and achievable plan to reduce Australia's emissions by encouraging billions of dollars of investment and creating tens of thousands of jobs that will spur technological progress and create a pollution-free future. For the full details of our detailed and costed policies to rapidly drive down emissions, please read through our Renew Australia 2030 plan available on our website:

<https://greens.org.au/sites/default/files/2019-03/Greens%202019%20Policy%20Platform%20-%20Renew%20Australia.pdf>

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

Our plan for 100% renewable energy will be key to enabling industry to drive down pollution in the manufacturing, mining and other sectors as they electrify processes and substitute clean energy for fossil fuels.

The restoration of an economy wide carbon price will incentivise heavy industries to reduce pollution and will be complemented by a suite of targeted, specific policies, outlined below, that will support heavy industry to make the shift.

Research and development, led by the government, into technologies that will enable industrial substitution will be critical to ensure we are able to reach net zero emissions no later than 2040.

The Greens goal of increasing Australia's public and private investment in research and development to 4 per cent by 2030 will also help drive the transition:

- Re-establish the Clean Technology Program, scrapped by Tony Abbott,28 with

a \$200 million investment supporting innovation of products, processes and services by business and industry;

- The Greens will also support investment in further research, development and commercialisation of low emissions steel through the establishment of a \$250 million Green Steel Innovation Fund within ARENA's boosted budget to drive down demand for metallurgical coal.
- Investing \$100 million in ARENA to support specific research, development and commercialisation into industrial substitution and electrification programs in the chemical, cement and other manufacturing and fabrication industries;

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

The emissions reductions claimed by the current carbon farming initiative, the emissions reduction fund, have been questioned by CSIRO, the climate change authority and former regulators.

By abolishing the Emissions Reduction Fund (ERF recently rebadged as the Climate Solutions Fund) and re-establishing the Carbon Farming Initiative farmers and land managers will be supported to protect and grow the capacity of their land to drawdown carbon.

Agriculture is responsible for 13 per cent of Australia's emissions. There are huge opportunities for Australian farmers and land managers to change their practices, regenerate their land and create new revenue streams by selling this abatement to the carbon market; just like they did before the carbon price was abolished.

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

The Greens will cease the logging of native forests, which are effective natural carbon sinks. The Greens will introduce a climate trigger into any new or existing environment act, which would ensure that any action that might emit a large amount of carbon must be mitigated or offset, or the development cannot go ahead.

The Greens are finalising further policies in this policy area that will be released closer to the election.

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

Comments/Explanation/Extended Response:

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

Comments/Explanation/Extended Response:

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?

The Greens have called for Australia to commit \$350 million annually to the Green Climate Fund. Ahead of the election, the Greens are reviewing this previous policy and will an announcement prior to the election of further funding.

The Greens are also committing \$4.52 Billion over the forwards in additional funding for climate finance to support the international community to cut pollution and adapt to a warming world, in addition to our existing aid budget. We expect to see the private sector input the remaining 50% of the funds to reach a minimum of \$3.2 billion annually.

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

Exporting renewable energy from Australia including developing an export hydrogen industry manufactured with renewable energy.

4. Clean Energy Targets

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

% renewables by 2025:

See Comments

% renewables by 2050:

100%

Target year for 100% renewables:

2030

The Greens have not adopted a formal renewables target for 2025, but our target and policies for 100% renewables will mean Australia is well beyond 50% by then.

<https://greens.org.au/sites/default/files/2019->

[03/Greens%202019%20Policy%20Platform%20-%20Renew%20Australia.pdf](#) – our Renew Australia Plan steps out how we will achieve this goal.

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

2040

Comments/Explanation/Extended Response:

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;
- Ruling out the addition of new gas power generation to the grid;
- Ruling out government underwriting or public funding in any form to support fossil fuel energy generation;
- Adding greenhouse emission reductions to the National Energy Objective;
- Phasing out existing coal fired power stations; by when? Yr:2030

Comments/Explanation/Extended Response:

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.

The Greens will restore \$500 million in funding cut by Labor and Liberal to ARENA and provide additional funding of \$3.1 billion over 10 years to boost ARENA.

We will also invest in a \$2.8 Billion in a Grid Transformation fund to underpin investment in a smart grid to underpin the establishment of renewable energy zones.

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

Establish Renew Australia to coordinate and invest in new renewable energy generation.

Retain and extend the Renewable Energy Target and establish a 40 MW Storage Target.

<https://greens.org.au/sites/default/files/2019-03/Greens%202019%20Policy%20Platform%20-%20Renew%20Australia.pdf> – our Renew Australia Plan steps out how we will achieve this goal.

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

The Greens believe it is the government's responsibility to ensure these workers are looked after so that no coal power worker has to suffer the anxiety and financial insecurity that comes from losing their job. With a planned transition, workers can be looked after and not simply be subject to the whims of the global market for thermal coal.

With a \$1 billion Clean Energy Transition Fund, Renew Australia will be tasked with supporting workers to reskill, relocate or transition to retirement, depending on what the personal circumstances require. We will work with industry to seek to ensure that no coal worker is left behind. The fund will also target support at the local communities affected by the transition, prioritising infrastructure investment in those areas and offering economic incentives for investment throughout the local economy.

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

Japan and South Korea are two of our biggest energy importers¹¹ and they have told the world that they want to end coal imports and substitute it with hydrogen. The hydrogen economy is ours to make. It requires developing a hydrogen export infrastructure. Wind and solar can be turned into emissions free hydrogen through electrolysis and exported overseas as 'bottled wind and sunlight'. Our biggest customer of coal, Japan has made clear they want imported hydrogen to be at the heart of their new economy.

This is an incredible opportunity for Australia, which already has commenced a project

in the Pilbara to export clean energy into Asia.¹³ To turn this opportunity into a reality, we have to invest in bringing down production and logistics costs and put market infrastructure in place in order to prove our supply chain will be the smartest and most efficient in the world.

This is a role perfectly suited to the ARENA, working in partnership across government and industry. At the beginning of this current Parliament, the Liberal and Labor parties teamed up to strip half a billion dollars from ARENA's budget. The Greens will reinstate ARENA funding, investing \$500 million from July 2019, with a rolling \$300 million annual budget and allocate an additional \$10 billion in funding to Clean Energy Finance Corporation.

A new \$1.7 billion Clean Energy Export Development Fund will also be created and managed by ARENA to specifically build Australia's renewable export industry up to scale and create 'solar fuels' export hubs in strategic locations around Australia. The Greens will also revise the mandate of the Export Finance and Insurance Corporation to facilitate support for the development of High Voltage DC transmission cables and hydrogen fuel exports into Asia.

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;

The Greens have identified a number of taxes and levies along the light vehicle supply chain that could be removed selectively for zero emissions vehicles to make them comparatively more affordable.

This would include removing the following costs, taxes and levies on all new electric, plug-in hybrid and other zero emission vehicles:

- import tariffs
- GST
- Stamp and registration duty
- registration fees for the first 3 years of vehicle ownership

Collectively these measures could reduce the total cost of a new zero emissions vehicle by up to 20%.

The Greens would also establish a \$151 million fund which would be used to provide grants for the installation of public EV charging infrastructure. We would prioritise this funding towards fast charging stations that allow drivers to get to 80% charge within approximately 15-30 minutes. Under this program the Commonwealth would make

matched contributions of up to an amount of \$45,000 per station, which could support the installation of over 3,000 charging stations across Australia.

Please provide details of any other strategies you will support:

In addition to these strategies the Greens will also:

Introduce strong light vehicle emissions standards

It's critical that Australia catches up with the rest of the world and implements a stringent standard for light vehicle emissions, to drive down transport pollution and propel manufacturers to bring cleaner cars to our market. The Government's own Ministerial Forum on Vehicle Emissions has proposed a mandatory fuel efficiency standard of 105g CO₂/km by 2025 as best value option.

The Greens propose a 105g CO₂/km standard by 2022, with a three year phase in from 2020-2022. We don't believe the rationale exists to delay implementation of this measure until 2025 when the supply chains and vehicles already exist to meet this standard and only need to be redirected to Australian markets. Strong vehicle emission standards will incentivise manufacturers to bring their EV models to Australia and prioritise their sale, and encourage greater uptake of more efficient petrol and diesel vehicles.

Implement an electric vehicle sales requirement for manufacturers selling vehicles in Australia

Another key driver for increasing EV sales is to require all major light vehicle manufacturers to have an increasing proportion of their annual sales of light vehicles to be either Battery Electric, Plug-In Hybrid Electric, Fuel Cell or other zero emissions vehicles. Similar policies already exist in China and in California.

The Greens propose annual targets of 2% by 2020, 5% by 2021 and 10% by 2022. This ramp up rate approximates the change in EV sales in Norway between 2012-2014, which we believe demonstrates what is possible with a comprehensive EV package and strong government ambition.

Such a scheme would be administered by the Clean Energy Regulator, who would look at the total number of new light vehicle sales by each major manufacturer and then require them to submit credits equal in value to their EV target number for that year. Failure to submit sufficient credits would come with a large penalty, one sufficient to incentivise compliance with the mandate.

These credits could in turn be traded between companies who have more ambitious EV sales percentages (and therefore produce more credits) and companies who don't sell enough EV models to meet their target.

For more details on our plan to kick start the EV revolution visit our website here:

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:2030
- diesel tax rebate Yr:2019
- fringe benefit tax concessions on vehicle usage Yr:

The Greens will phase out passenger and light commercial diesel vehicles by 2030.

We support the immediate scrapping of the fuel tax credits for the mining industry

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: EU Yr: 2022

The Greens will legislate an ambitious light vehicle efficiency standard of 105g CO₂/km to be in full effect by 2022, which would roughly match the EU standards in place by 2021. We would design and implement a heavy vehicle efficiency standard and would require Euro 6/VI pollution standards in all new cars and trucks immediately.

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

The Greens will spend \$25 billion over the next decade on a public transport priority fund, which will be directed to funding public transport projects across Australia. This is instead of wasting money on public private partnerships that result in privatised toll roads that charger consumers and, increase emissions and line the pockets of Transurban and other big private companies.

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

The Greens will provide \$250 million a year for a dedicated active transport fund that will promote walking and cycling initiatives. This fund will help construct separated bike lanes and bike paths, and upgrading and installing footpaths where they don't currently exist.

There are some light or heavy rail stations that are not easily accessible via cycling or walking, and these areas would be specifically targeted by this fund.

The Greens will be making more announcements in transport that will reduce emissions in the transport sector, that will be publicly released closer to the upcoming federal election.

For more details on our plan to ensure Australia has world class Public Transport visit our website here:

<https://greens.org.au/sites/default/files/2019-03/Greens%202019%20Policy%20Platform%20-%20Public%20Transport%20%28Mar%202019%29.pdf>

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Stop any coal mining developments in the Galilee Basin | Yr 2019 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Stop development of any new thermal coal mines | Yr 2019 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Stop development of any new on-shore conventional gas mines | Yr 2019 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Stop development of any new offshore gas and oil mines | Yr 2019 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Stop development of any new unconventional gas mines | Yr 2019 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Phase out thermal coal mining in Australia | Yr 2030 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Phase out natural gas and oil mining in Australia | See Comments |

The Greens policy for a ban on new oil and gas mining onshore and offshore will mean we phase out existing mining over time, with zero-net emissions for the country by 2040.

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? Yes No

How?

Yes and in addition the Greens would implement the following plan:

The first step is to find out how exposed State governments are by establishing an independent auditing taskforce to determine the gap between secured rehabilitation bonds and the actual cost of rehabilitation.

The audit will inform the development of tailored plans for each mining company who will be required to pay their liabilities into a Federal Trust Fund. The fund will be made available to the companies at the end of their operations to do rehabilitation works.

The interest made on the Fund will be spent on the jobs transition by either attracting new, clean industries to those regions or retraining workers. The money can also be made available to those companies that bring their rehabilitation works forward to create local employment and secure a safe environment.

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.

The Greens believe it is the government's responsibility to ensure these workers are looked after so that no coal power worker has to suffer the anxiety and financial insecurity that comes from losing their job. With a planned transition, workers can be looked after and not simply be subject to the whims of the global market for thermal coal.

With a \$1 billion Clean Energy Transition Fund, Renew Australia will be tasked with supporting workers to reskill, relocate or transition to retirement, depending on what the personal circumstances require. We will work with industry to seek to ensure that no coal worker is left behind. The fund will also target support at the local communities affected by the transition, prioritising infrastructure investment in those areas and offering economic incentives for investment throughout the local economy.

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!