

# The 50/50 CLIMATE ACTION MOTION

more renewables

more jobs

less pollution



# The 50/50 CLIMATE ACTION MOTION

**The Labor Environment Action Network (LEAN) is running a campaign across the country to make sure we can be proud of Labor's leadership on climate change.**

LEAN believes that climate action can create jobs, investment and innovation and be an electoral positive. But it will require leadership and support from the grassroots of the party!

We have a rolling series of key events before us – National Conference in July 2015, the international climate meeting in Paris in December 2015 and the Federal election in 2016.

We are asking branches, Federal Electoral Councils and Assemblies to discuss and pass the motion below and then inform parliamentary policy makers to make sure they know members want action on this great challenge.

## MOTION

**This branch calls upon the Australian Labor Party to lead the nation on climate action. It calls on the Australian Labor Party to adopt in its platform:**

- **An energy policy that delivers 50% of our electricity from renewable sources by 2030. And the creation of one ministry of Climate Change and Energy to deliver coherent policy with two aims – affordable and clean energy.**
- **Reducing Australia's carbon pollution by 50% on 2000 levels by 2030.**
- **A commitment to put climate action at the heart of its program to deliver jobs, innovation and investment to build a prosperous, safe and fair Australia.**

**This branch calls on our Federal Electoral Council/ Assembly to pass this motion in support of our branch's concern and bind its conference delegate to support this motion at National Conference.**

## BACKGROUND

Climate Change is not going away.

US President Barack Obama has described Climate Change as the "one issue that will define the contours of this century more than any other".

The changing climate, and the changing international economy in reaction to it, will alter our future forever. Now, more than ever, it is essential that the Labor Party stands up for climate action and the future.

The Labor Party is the only party that can deliver the necessary courage to protect Australia from dangerous climate change, and ensure the Australian economy does not fall behind.

## WHY 50/50?

### **50% of our electricity from renewable energy by 2030**

Two-thirds of Australia's carbon pollution comes from our energy sector. Cleaning up the energy sector is the key reform that breaks the back of the challenge to reduce our pollution. What's more, polling shows that people like and understand the benefits of renewable energy.

ClimateWorks, chaired by former Victorian Labor Environment Minister, John Thwaites, has been part of a global project to model the pathway to decarbonisation in 15 developed economies. This work provides a good starting point for Labor's design of our path forward.

The ClimateWorks modelling suggests we can and must have half of our electricity sourced from renewable energy by 2030 in order to play our part in keeping global warming within 2 degrees celsius.

## 50% less carbon pollution by 2030

When in Government, Labor set up the Climate Change Authority. One of its key tasks was to recommend what levels our pollution reduction targets should be, based on two criteria - the science and the international context. In February 2014 the Climate Change Authority recommended our pollution reduction targets should be 19% by 2020 and 40-60% by 2030 (against 2000 levels). We have simplified this to 50% by 2030.

Adopting the Climate Change Authority's recommendations as Labor policy has been endorsed by ALP Conferences in Western Australia, Tasmania, New South Wales and Queensland.

## WHAT NEXT?

As members of the Labor Party, its branches, Federal Electoral Councils and Assemblies our voices are important. That's why it is vital we all work together, amplifying our voices and moving the Australian Labor Party forward on the greatest challenge of our times. To this end could you do the following:

- 1. Let LEAN know that you've passed the motion**  
– we can't advocate with it unless we know it happened! Email [50fifty@lean.net.au](mailto:50fifty@lean.net.au) with your motion
- 2. Write to Federal Labor Leader Bill Shorten and Shadow Minister for Climate Change Mark Butler** and let them know you've passed the motion. Include Assistant National Secretary Paul Erickson as well:
  - [bill.shorten.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:bill.shorten.mp@aph.gov.au)
  - [mark.butler.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:mark.butler.mp@aph.gov.au)
  - [paul.erickson@cbr.alp.org.au](mailto:paul.erickson@cbr.alp.org.au)

Also please include your local Federal member or candidate.

- 3. Take a selfie of your branch, Federal Electoral Council or Assembly** with a placard that reads "Labor must lead on climate action". You can download a print version from our website at [www.lean.net.au](http://www.lean.net.au). Post your selfie to Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Email it to us at [50fifty@lean.net.au](mailto:50fifty@lean.net.au) so that we can post it to LEAN's Facebook page.
- 4. Discuss the branch's motion with your Federal candidate or member** and suggest they too personally commit to the 50/50 campaign. Ask them to express your branch's concern to the Parliamentary Party and for a report on how it went.
- 5. Put your branch motion to your Federal Electoral Council or Assembly** and make sure you let us know!
- 6. Spread the word.** Ask all of your branch members and friends to personally either sign a postcard in support of 50/50 or sign up to support the campaign online at [www.lean.net.au/50fifty](http://www.lean.net.au/50fifty). We are aiming for many thousands of personal sign-ups.

If you would like to know anything more about the campaign or to get involved, contact Erin Watt, LEAN National Secretary at [erin@lean.net.au](mailto:erin@lean.net.au)



# The 50/50 PLAN

LEAN IS CALLING ON THE LABOR PARTY TO ADOPT A FOUR POINT PLAN IN ITS APPROACH TO CLIMATE ACTION.

## 1. Labor will lead the nation on climate action

- Labor will lead the nation on climate action because it is the party of reform and is prepared to deliver important but hard change for the sake of the country.
- Because climate action is essential to deliver equity, prosperity and a safe future, all key Labor values.
- Labor is best when it leads.

## 2. National energy policy that ensures half our electricity is renewable by 2030

- Labor will deliver energy policy that puts consumer interests and climate action at the heart of policy.
- It will deliver 50% of the nation's electricity from wind, solar and other renewables by 2030.
- It will create one Department of Energy and Climate Change to deliver coherent policy.

## 3. Labor's plan for jobs, innovation and investment will have climate action at its heart

- Labor's plans for stimulating jobs, innovation and investment will be built on servicing the global low-carbon economy.
- Labor will deliver regional renewal, biodiversity gains and emissions reductions through bold carbon farming and forestry initiatives in the agriculture sector.

## 4. Labor will ensure there is 50% less carbon pollution by 2030 with institutions to deliver it

- Labor will restore the institutional arrangements created by its 2011 Clean Energy Future Package, including an Emissions Trading Scheme.
- Labor will adopt the Climate Change Authority's recommendation and commit to at least 50% less carbon pollution than 2000 levels by 2030.

### FIND OUT MORE

To see LEAN's full 50/50 climate action policy visit [www.lean.net.au](http://www.lean.net.au)

If you want to know anything more about the campaign or to get involved, contact Erin Watt, LEAN National Secretary, [erin@lean.net.au](mailto:erin@lean.net.au)

 Join us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/LEANAustralia](https://www.facebook.com/LEANAustralia)

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