

The Australian Greens (S.A.)

A10 Climate Change and Energy

See also Transport (section C16) and Nuclear (section A11)

Principles

The Australian Greens (SA) assert:

- 10.1 South Australia should actively support national and international efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- 10.2 Early action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions will be most effective and cheapest.
- 10.3 Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions needs to be done in an equitable, environmentally and economically responsible manner.
- 10.4 Adaptation to climate change needs to be done in an equitable, environmentally and economically responsible manner.
- 10.5 Safe, secure, affordable energy services based on ecologically sustainable renewable energy (green energy) are essential.
- 10.6 Energy prices should reflect the total social and environmental costs.

Goals

The SA Greens want:

- 10.7 Reductions in South Australia's total and average *per capita* greenhouse gas emissions.
- 10.8 Adaptation to climate change.
- 10.9 To ensure that green energy, efficiency and energy conservation become the most cost effective energy options.
- 10.10 All energy infrastructure developments subjected to open, timely and effective public consultation.
- 10.11 To limit the social impact of the transition to green energy.

Measures

The SA Greens will:

- 10.12 Support the Kyoto Protocol and the development of meaningful binding greenhouse gas emission targets
- 10.13 Introduce legislation to implement the Climate Change Convention and Kyoto Protocol, including a requirement for greenhouse gas pollution assessment of all proposals and policies with projected greenhouse gas emissions greater than 250,000 tonnes carbon dioxide equivalent per annum (250 kt CO₂e/yr).
- 10.14 Establish mandatory targets of 30% reduction in 1990 levels of greenhouse gas emissions by 2020 and 60% reduction by 2030.

- 10.15 Implement a program of education and consultation on global warming and energy, involving schools and community centres.
- 10.16 Work with other state and national governments and bodies towards establishing a national carbon levy and rebate scheme.
- 10.17 Establish a Carbon Authority to administer the carbon levy and rebate scheme.
- 10.18 Establish a Department of Ecological Sustainability with responsibilities that include planning, implementation and monitoring of South Australia's responses and adaptation to the effects of climate change.
- 10.19 Restore public ownership and control of South Australia's energy infrastructure.
- 10.20 Protect low-income consumers from disconnection and provide financial and other advice.
- 10.21 Make energy efficiency and conservation key determinants of urban planning and government policy.
- 10.22 Transfer all subsidies and government support from the fossil and nuclear fuel sectors to energy efficiency, demand management, and green energy.
- 10.23 Impose a carbon levy on fossil fuels.
- 10.24 Remove energy subsidies that support volume discount and diesel fuel.
- 10.25 Establish the 'Green Energy Trust of South Australia' (see below).
- 10.26 Introduce a Mandatory Green Energy Target (MGET) of an annual 3 percentage points increase in green energy.
- 10.27 Facilitate the ecologically sustainable use of biofuels in rural areas where they are grown and produced.
- 10.28 Support wind farms for the generation of electricity.
- 10.29 Establish a "Solar on Every Roof" program to promote and facilitate the use of solar hot water and solar electricity on buildings.
- 10.30 Introduce a Mandatory Energy Conservation Target (MECT) of 2% annual reduction of energy use.
- 10.31 Assist communities affected by the loss of energy intensive and fossil fuel-based industries to create new ecologically sustainable employment opportunities.
- 10.32 Introduce more stringent mandatory energy performance standards for all new and existing residential and commercial buildings.
- 10.33 Introduce more stringent mandatory energy performance standards for all SA Government purchasing decisions, government buildings and vehicle fleets.
- 10.34 Require all SA Government entities to purchase 100% accredited Green Power.
- 10.35 Introduce 'smart' meters and feed-in tariffs.

The Green Energy Trust of SA

The Green Energy Trust of SA will:

- 10.36 Guarantee the right to energy services at fair and reasonable prices, and offer a domestic tariff that guarantees the supply of sufficient energy to maintain an acceptable standard of living at a reasonable cost.
- 10.37 Cap wholesale electricity prices at \$200 a megawatt hour (MWh).
- 10.38 Regulate the development of new energy infrastructure in accordance with triple bottom line least-cost principles.
- 10.39 Consult with the Indigenous Peoples before commencing work on energy infrastructure including both above and below ground installations.
- 10.40 Adopt a user-pays principle to the costs of upgrading and extending (augmenting) the energy distribution network.
- 10.41 Ensure that augmenting the energy distribution network does not discriminate against green energy or demand management.
- 10.42 Construct new interconnectors only if they can be demonstrated to be ecologically, socially and economically beneficial.
- 10.43 Increase the rate of undergrounding of power lines.
- 10.44 Provide incentives for the development of green energy technologies, industries and services.
- 10.45 Provide financial incentives for research and development of green energy technologies.
- 10.46 Assist South Australian green energy industries to develop export markets.
- 10.47 Provide infrastructure support to enable consumers to use green energy technologies.
- 10.48 Facilitate grid access to small-scale, distributed green energy.
- 10.49 Ensure that small generators of distributed electricity receive a fair price for electricity that is exported to the electricity grid.