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Comparing Coalition and Labor policies across key climate change areas

As per the [latest IPCC report on climate change](#), global warming of even 1.5 degrees Celsius can lead to severe consequences, let alone global warming of 2 degrees.

Limiting global warming to 1.5°C will require “rapid and far-reaching” transitions in land, energy, industry, buildings, transport, and cities. Global net human-caused emissions of carbon dioxide will need to fall by about 45% from 2010 levels by 2030, reaching net zero around 2050.

These rapid and far-reaching transitions need to be achieved with the help of individuals, businesses and government.

Australia will elect its leaders in the upcoming May election. Climate change is a decisive factor for many, and so we have summarised the climate change policies of the two major parties.

Comparing key climate change policies of the major parties

Government policy is incredibly important in reaching our Paris goals. Governments need to implement policies that are here for the long run, credible and predictable. We compared the major parties policies on the following key climate change areas:

- ▶ Carbon emissions and meeting our Paris targets
- ▶ Energy efficiency
- ▶ Renewable energy
 - ▶ Uptake of solar PV for households and businesses, battery energy storage
- ▶ Transport energy
- ▶ Support for hydrogen energy
- ▶ Support the transition to a clean energy economy

The Australian Conservation Foundation, which is Australia’s national environment organisation, [scored](#) the Liberal/National Coalition 4 out of 100 on climate change action, and Labor at 56.

Let’s look at the policies of the two parties in these areas.

Table 1: Comparing the policies of the two major parties across key climate change areas

	Coalition	Labor
Carbon emissions and meeting our Paris targets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commitment to achieving Australia's emissions target of 26% to 28% below 2005 levels by 2030. • The Coalition will use left-over Kyoto credits to meet Australia's Paris Agreement. This will reduce Australia's achievement of real carbon reduction. • Additional \$2 billion Climate Solutions Fund for farmers, small businesses and Indigenous communities to reduce emissions, extension of existing Emissions Reduction Fund 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commitment to increase carbon reduction target to 45% on 2005 levels by 2030. • Labor will not use any left-over Kyoto credits to meet Australia's Paris Agreement. • Net zero emissions by 2050. • Extending the Safeguard Mechanism to bring down pollution from Australia's biggest polluters, in line with international obligations. • Reducing pollution by reinvigorating the Carbon Farming Initiative to supply carbon offsets • Restoring Australia's Climate Change Institutions by restoring and reforming the Climate Change Authority
Energy efficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$50m in grants for businesses and community organisations for energy efficiency projects. • \$17m to help building owners benchmark their energy use. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of Energy Productivity and Efficiency Review • Manufacturing Energy Efficiency Accelerator program • Harmonising state energy efficiency schemes • Allowing ARENA to invest in energy efficiency projects.
Renewable energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constructing Snowy 2.0. • Backing a second interconnector to bring renewable power from Tasmania to the mainland. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commitment to 50% renewables by 2030. • Double the original investment in CEFC by \$10bn to support new generation and storage. • Commercial community renewables projects.
Uptake of solar PV for households and businesses, as well as battery storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>No significant new policies identified</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Concessional loans for household purchases of solar and battery systems</i> • <i>Encourage the uptake of household solar and battery systems by setting a target of 1m household battery systems by 2025 and providing a \$2,000 rebate for 100,000 households on incomes of less than \$180,000 per year to purchase and install battery systems, as well as low-cost loans for households.</i> • <i>\$1 billion to install solar in schools.</i>

	Coalition	Labor
Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$400,000 for the development of a National Electric Vehicle Strategy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of vehicle emissions standards. By 2030, half of all car sales to be electric vehicles. Establish a \$200 million fund to roll out charging infrastructure across the country.
Hydrogen energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engaged chief scientist to develop roadmap for hydrogen export industry. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$1 billion plan to support the hydrogen industry. Develop a Strategy to boost the development of hydrogen industry in Australia.
Transition to a clean energy economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific new policies identified. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$75 million renewable jobs package to create new jobs and support apprentices.

100% Renewables are experts in helping organisations develop their renewable energy strategies and timing actions appropriately. If you need help with developing emission scenarios that take into account policy settings, please contact [Barbara](#) or [Patrick](#).

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