

State Election Scorecard – Policy Background

Legislative Assembly - Malvern District

Extracts from policies as at 11 November 2022

1. 2030 emissions targets

| Party | Policies |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Amelia Natoli Animal Justice | <p>More Ambitious Climate Targets (Platform) ... The Animal Justice Party will advocate for a 30% methane emissions reduction by 2030 and commit to net-zero emissions by 2035 at the latest ...</p> <p>Our Focus ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Net-zero emissions by 2035 ... • Reduce methane emissions by 30% before 2030 <p>The Climate Emergency (Policy) ... Climate Targets The AJP wants to see Australia’s emissions plummet but cautions against interim measures which may risk entrenching the fossil fuel and animal agriculture industries. For example, switching from coal to gas and offshoring emission intensive industries has provided short-term ‘good news’ for domestic audiences but may do more harm than good in the long run. Targets in the fossil fuel industry must mean transitioning to clean energy; not investing in trying to make fossil fuels ‘cleaner’. Likewise, targets in animal agriculture must mean transitioning towards sustainable plant-based agriculture; not ‘greenwashing’ suggestions like feeding cows seaweed ...</p> |
| Darren Natale Labor | <p>Putting Power Back in the Hands of Victorians (Press Release Oct 2022) ... We’ll set an emissions reduction target of 75-80 per cent by 2035, and we’ll bring forward our net zero emissions target by five years to 2045 – the most ambitious from any mainland state ...</p> <p>Victoria’s Climate Change Strategy (May 2021) ... Targets to reduce the state’s emissions from 2005 levels: 28% - 33% by 2025, and 45% - 50% by 2030</p> |
| Michael O’Brien Liberal | <p>Our Real Solutions Plan Rewarding Hard-working Victorian Families Power to the people energy plan ... • Legislate halving emissions by 2030</p> |
| Steve Stefanopoulos Independent | No published policies available. |
| Judy Schmidt Family First | <p>Policies No reference to emissions targets here or elsewhere on website.</p> |

| Party | Policies |
|---------------------------|--|
| Mitchell Fuller Greens | Powering Victoria Beyond Coal ... The Greens also support an emissions reduction target of 80% by 2030 and net zero by 2035 or sooner ... |

2. Rapid transition to 100% clean electricity supply

| Party | Policies |
|---|---|
| <p>Amelia Natoli Animal Justice</p> | <p>More Ambitious Climate Targets (Platform) ... Science and our own lived experience of the change in the environment drives the need to urgently develop and enact an effective climate action plan. The Animal Justice Party will reduce Victoria’s climate and ecological impact by rapidly phasing out fossil fuels and animal agriculture ... Our Focus ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Net-zero emissions by 2035 • Immediate halt on any new fossil fuel projects in Victoria ... • Reduce methane emissions by 30% before 2030 <p>The Climate Emergency (Policy) ... The Animal Justice Party (AJP) will take urgent action to address the climate emergency. In addition to phasing out fossil fuels, we will transition from animal agriculture towards more sustainable plant-based farming, and transform other climate threatening industries and practices ... Key Objectives ...</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Rapidly phase out fossil fuels and transition to clean energy infrastructure (see our Energy Policy). 7. Commit to ambitious emission reduction targets which do not encourage dead end ‘solutions’, such as natural gas ... 8. Remove subsidies from the fossil fuel and animal agriculture industries in the interim and redirect funding into clean energy solutions and sustainable plant-based agriculture ... <p>Fossil Fuels The burning of fossil fuels is not the only source of carbon dioxide pollution, but it is the largest. Fossil fuels are also used directly to provide carbon for steel, plastic and chemical production. In cold climates, fossil fuels are the major source of direct heating; and in all climates the major source of energy for transport ... Global agreements to limit fossil fuels have only slowed the rate of increase. Between 2015 and 2019 there was a global increase in the use of coal (by 7.6%), oil (by 5%) and gas (by 15%). Rather than using and exporting fossil fuels, Australia must develop clean industrial and energy infrastructure and export those technologies to the world. The AJP is committed to rapidly phasing out fossil fuels, supporting innovation, and transitioning to clean energy infrastructure ...</p> <p>Energy (Policy) The AJP Climate Change policy supports any clean energy source because the consequences to all animals of further climate destabilisation will be dire ... But not all clean energy sources are equal in their animal impacts. Further research is required into viable and sustainable options. Key Objectives</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Including the impact on animals and the environment in the selection criteria for all energy sources. 2. Rapidly transition to a carbon free energy infrastructure, using known clean technologies in the most ecologically and animal friendly mix. Rapidly in this case means 15 to 20 years. |

| Party | Policies |
|------------------------|--|
| | <p>3. Investing in development of new clean animal friendly energy technologies. 4. Implementing a climate tax on both the fossil fuels and animal agriculture industries, using the principle that the polluter pays.</p> <p>Climate Change (Information Sheet) Climate change policy ... Key Objectives To prohibit any fossil fuel expansion and rapidly transform to a carbon-free energy infrastructure ... Implement a carbon tax on both the fossil fuel and animal agriculture industries. Direct carbon tax income into clean energy solutions, sustainable plant-based food agriculture systems and education ...</p> |
| Darren Natale Labor | <p>World Leading Plan for Climate Action (Twitter 20 Oct 2022) We're setting up a government-owned energy company, to build new wind farms and solar projects - bringing down power bills and ensuring that the Victorian public are the ones who benefit from the returns.</p> <p>Putting Power Back in the Hands of Victorians (Media Release Oct 2022) A re-elected Andrews Labor Government will bring back government ownership of energy – delivering cheaper power bills and lower emissions while putting power back in the hands of Victorians ... Now, privatised coal power plants are getting old, breaking down and closing. AGL have announced they are closing Victoria's biggest power station, Loy Yang A, a decade early – having reaped billions in profits from Victorians ... Labor will bring back public ownership of energy resources by reviving the State Electricity Commission (SEC) as an active energy market participant to build new renewable energy projects. Under the plan, the government will hold a controlling interest in each of those projects – renewables will replace coal, and these new 'power stations' will be owned by every Victorian to benefit every Victorian. Labor will make an initial investment of \$1 billion towards delivering 4.5 gigawatts of power – the equivalent replacement capacity of Loy Yang A – through renewable energy projects. The State will have a controlling interest, with the balance of funding invested from like-minded entities – such as industry super funds – who are focused on a fair deal for Victorians, not just profits. Unreliable, privatised coal will be replaced by clean, government-owned, renewable energy. The new SEC will become an energy market proponent under a 10-year plan to deliver cleaner, cheaper energy, with all profits invested back into the network – making sure it's the Victorian public, not offshore coal companies, who enjoy the returns. We'll invest at least \$20 million to prepare the SEC for its new role in our energy market, including setting up an office in Morwell. The Latrobe Valley has always been the centre of Victorian energy generation – and we'll make sure it's part of our clean energy future. Labor hasn't just talked about climate action – we've gotten on with delivering it. We've cut emissions by more than any other state, tripled the amount of renewable energy and created thousands of jobs.</p> |

| Party | Policies |
|-------|--|
| | <p>Now, we'll keep doing what matters. Labor will deliver new renewable energy targets for Victoria – increasing to 65 per cent by 2030, and 95 per cent by 2035 ... Together, these initiatives will increase Gross State Product by about \$9.5 billion and support 59,000 jobs through to 2035. Jobs in our cities, suburbs and regions – in solar, wind and emerging energy industries ...</p> <p>Boosting Wind Power and Renewable Jobs (Media Release Oct 2022)</p> <p>The Andrews Labor Government is delivering Australia's first offshore wind farms and the first of the estimated 59,000 jobs that will be created by 2035 as we transition from coal to clean renewables.</p> <p>Coal-fired power stations are on the way out and renewable energy is the future – to keep the lights on, bring bills down and create thousands of jobs.</p> <p>A re-elected Andrews Labor Government will bring back the State Electricity Commission as a government-owned renewable power company ...</p> <p>With an initial investment of \$1 billion, we will deliver 4.5 gigawatts of renewable power – reaching 95 per cent renewable energy by 2035 and net zero by 2045 ...</p> <p>... the Andrews Labor Government is bringing online 2 gigawatts (GW) of offshore wind by 2032 – enough to power 1.5 million homes – 4 GW by 2035 and 9 GW by 2040, creating thousands of jobs in the process.</p> <p>Creating new offshore wind projects will also create demand for offshore wind workers.</p> <p>That's why a re-elected Andrews Labor Government will invest \$6 million to create a purpose-built training centre for workers in our emerging offshore – and growing onshore – wind industry.</p> <p>Based in Melbourne, the Wind Worker Training Centre will ensure we have the highly-skilled workforce we need for the industry to grow. This builds on our investment in the Australian-first Global Wind Organisation-certified training centre at Federation Uni in Ballarat.</p> <p>Of course, a strong renewable energy sector is about more than offshore wind. The Andrews Labor Government is investing \$2.9 million to place people looking for work into careers in renewable energy.</p> <p>In partnership with the Latrobe Valley Authority and Solar Victoria, we're creating 130 jobs in Gippsland and Melbourne's south-east. The roles include working in solar hot water manufacturing, solar farm assembly and manufacturing renewable energy batteries.</p> <p>New recruits and existing workers will learn invaluable skills like blade repair, lift commissioning and repair, controlling hazardous energies and enhanced first aid. Victoria's renewable energy sector is booming – but safety must always come first.</p> <p>A re-elected Andrews Labor Government will commission a review into regulatory and licencing requirements for renewable energy systems – making sure the settings are keeping pace with emerging technologies to protect worker and community safety.</p> <p>The Labor Government is also releasing the Offshore Wind Implementation Statement, with \$76 million to plot a course for our ambitious offshore wind targets.</p> <p>We will establish a new government body – Offshore Wind Energy Victoria – to provide streamlined support to accelerate this emerging sector.</p> <p>The Port of Hastings has been selected as the preferred offshore wind construction port, bringing new industry and jobs to the surrounding regions.</p> <p>While we're building the new renewable power generators of the future, we need</p> |

| Party | Policies |
|-------|--|
| | <p>to ensure delivery of transmission infrastructure supports the development of offshore wind while minimising impacts on local communities and the environment and is cost-effective.</p> <p>VicGrid will lead the development of the transmission for offshore wind to deliver the affordable and reliable power Victoria needs while ensuring the concerns and priorities of local communities are addressed.</p> <p>Australia's Biggest Renewable Energy Targets (Media Release 27 Sept 22)</p> <p>The Andrews Labor Government will introduce the biggest energy storage targets in Australia – driving down power bills, creating thousands of jobs and boosting renewable energy investment across Victoria ...</p> <p>Victoria will reach a massive 2.6 gigawatts (GW) of renewable energy storage capacity by 2030, with an increased target of 6.3 GW of storage by 2035 – that’s enough renewable energy to power around half of Victoria's current homes at their peak energy use.</p> <p>The targets are expected to secure 12,700 jobs and \$1.7 billion in investment from 2023 to 2035. Storage is vital to soak up solar and wind generation when it’s abundant and then feed that energy back into the grid when it’s needed.</p> <p>To support these targets, the Labor Government is investing \$119 million from the \$540 million Renewable Energy Zone Fund in a 125MW big battery and grid forming inverter in the Murray Renewable Energy Zone, between Bendigo and Red Cliffs. This modern battery technology will help implement our storage targets and stabilise the grid to allow for a smooth transition to clean energy.</p> <p>Continuing our drive to a renewable energy target of 50 per cent by 2030, the Government today also announced \$38.2 million from the Energy Innovation Fund (EIF) will go to four projects using new technology to generate and store clean energy.</p> <p>The latest EIF round will provide \$7 million for a 100MW battery and inverter in Terang, as well as \$19.3 million for two bioenergy projects at farms in Gippsland and Barwon. Yarra Valley Water will receive \$11.9 million to install an electrolyser to make renewable hydrogen using recycled water in Wollert.</p> <p>The EIF directly supports the commercialisation of emerging renewable energy technologies. These projects unlock more than \$160 million of commercial investment, build local knowledge and deliver 150 jobs.</p> <p>Victoria’s new storage targets include both short and long-duration energy storage systems – which can hold more than eight hours of energy – including batteries, hydroelectricity and hydrogen technologies.</p> <p>Victoria is already the battery capital of Australia and home to the largest battery in the Southern Hemisphere – the Victorian Big Battery – a 300 MW battery just outside Geelong.</p> <p>Community batteries are also popping up across the state, backed by \$11 million for the Neighbourhood Battery Initiative, and the Government’s \$1.3 billion Solar Homes program has already helped almost 10,000 Victorian households install a battery.</p> <p>The new storage targets and clean energy projects are supporting Victoria’s nation-leading action to combat climate change and drive down power prices, including the legislated renewable energy target of 50 per cent by 2030, the goal to reduce emissions by 50 per cent by the same year and reach net zero by 2050.</p> |

| Party | Policies |
|-------|--|
| | <p>GOVERNMENT POLICIES</p> <p>Renewable energy zones (27 Sept 2022)</p> <p>Building Victoria’s next-generation energy grid.</p> <p>Victoria is undergoing a once-in-a-generation energy transition. As the State’s ageing coal-fired power stations retire in the coming decades, they are being replaced with renewables. Our electricity system must also change to carry energy from where it is generated to where it is needed. Shifting to renewable energy will deliver affordable, reliable and secure electricity. It will also help us deal with climate change by reducing our emissions. To achieve these goals, we are developing renewable energy zones. Renewable energy zones (REZs) are areas in our state with the greatest potential for renewable energy, such as wind, sunshine, rain, tides, waves and geothermal heat. Developing these clean energy resources at scale and in a coordinated way with the batteries and high-voltage wires required to store and transport electricity will support the next-generation power grid we are building. This is a significant transformation for our energy system. We need good planning and management to deliver the best outcomes for Victorians. This must be coupled with genuine engagement with Traditional Owners, communities and industry. By identifying renewable energy zones, we can co-ordinate development in a way that minimises negative impacts on local communities and maximises regional development and job opportunities. Building a clean, modern energy system is essential for Victoria’s future. The Australian Energy Market Operator’s (AEMO) Integrated System Plan (ISP) identified 6 Victorian REZs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central North • Gippsland • Murray River • Ovens Murray • South Victoria • Western Victoria <p>... The Victorian Government released a preliminary design of the Victorian Transmission Investment Framework (VTIF). This sets out our proposed approach to developing Victoria’s REZs that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensures the coordinated development of electricity transmission and renewable energy generation infrastructure to safely deliver energy affordability, reliability and security for Victorians • seeks to integrate land use, environmental impacts and community views earlier in the transmission infrastructure planning process to provide great transparency for local communities and clarity for project delivery • reflects local priorities, maximises the benefits of renewable energy infrastructure and minimises negative impacts • seeks to balance important considerations, such as environmental objectives and fostering community support for new investment. <p>Public consultation on the preliminary framework closed on 15 August 2022 ...</p> <p>Offshore wind development [See below] ...</p> <p>Investing in Renewable Energy Zones</p> <p>The Victorian Government worked with the Australian Energy Market Operator</p> |

| Party | Policies |
|-------|--|
| | <p>(AEMO) to identify network investments to support the timely and efficient development of REZs. An initial Renewable Energy Zones Development Plan (RDP) identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9 potential near-term projects to reduce existing constraints and support the connection of Victoria’s pipeline of renewable energy projects (Stage One projects). This included minor network augmentation works, projects to strengthen the system and larger augmentation projects. • 21 potential longer-term investments in REZ infrastructure require further assessment and community and stakeholder consultation (Stage 2 projects). <p>Stage one projects The next steps in Victoria’s \$540 million REZ investment are underway. The progression of Stage One projects will strengthen and modernise Victoria’s electricity grid ... These projects will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • deliver network upgrades to address thermal constraints and strengthen the Victorian transmission system • by addressing network constraints, allow more generation to be exported to the existing network and assist the connection of pipeline projects • potentially support up to 3000MW of new and existing generation to flow through the grid and reduce constraints to renewable energy generators currently operating in these REZs • ultimately lead to lower electricity costs for consumers. <p>... Clean Energy Finance Corporation (CEFC) The CEFC is allocating up to \$150 million in debt financing to support the accelerated development of new renewable generation connected to the grid ...</p> <p>VicGrid VicGrid is a new body within DELWP. It will coordinate the overarching planning and development of Victorian renewable energy zones. VicGrid will also oversee investment decisions related to the \$540 million REZ fund that will be used to strengthen the grid and unlock the potential of the REZs.</p> <p>New Solar Farms Powering Victoria (Media Release, 7 Oct 2022) The Andrews Labor Government is taking a major step towards powering Victoria’s entire public sector infrastructure with renewable energy – including every government school, hospital and Melbourne’s entire metropolitan train and tram network – by bringing online six new solar farms ... The Labor Government’s ... auction will support six new solar farms which will provide 623 megawatts (MW) of new renewable capacity and four big batteries ... Together, the projects will generate nearly 1,460 gigawatt-hours (GWh) of new renewable energy per year, the equivalent of powering 300,000 homes.’ Four ... battery projects will double the state’s current storage with 365 MW and 600 MWh of dispatchable energy for the grid – which is equal to the capacity of all the big batteries installed in Victoria today ... The projects will be supported for 10 years and will be developed across four Victorian Renewable Energy Zones (REZ) in Western Victoria, the Murray River, Central North and Gippsland.</p> <p>Offshore wind energy (21 Oct 2022) Offshore wind will be a key component of Victoria’s clean energy future.</p> |

| Party | Policies |
|-------|---|
| | <p>Victoria is spearheading Australia’s offshore wind sector Offshore wind will support our switch to renewables and play a vital role in Victoria’s clean energy transition. Victoria has set ambitious targets of 2 GW of offshore generation by 2032, 4 GW of offshore wind capacity by 2035 and 9 GW by 2040 ...</p> <p>Victoria has some of the world’s best offshore wind resources. Our coastal regions have the potential to support 13 GW of capacity by 2050. Maximising the huge potential of our local wind resources could sustain up to 6,100 jobs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3,100 local jobs for 15 years during the development and construction phases • and an extra 3,000 ongoing jobs during operations ... <p>Implementation Statement 1 In October 2022, the Victorian Government released Offshore Wind Implementation Statement 1, outlining the government’s plans for the establishment of an offshore wind industry. This is the first in a series of implementation statements that will be released over the coming years – designed to provide certainty and facilitate ongoing collaboration. Offshore Wind Implementation Statement 1 includes announcements and updates on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transmission – VicGrid will lead a coordinated approach to transmission to ensure projects have access to the grid • Ports – The Port of Hastings is likely to be the preferred port to support offshore wind construction, subject to necessary community and industry consultation, and environment and planning approvals. • Offshore Wind Energy Victoria – We will dedicate significant resources to lead the successful establishment of the offshore wind sector. • Local industry – We are placing a significant focus on boosting the capability of local industry. • Legislation and regulation – We are working with the Commonwealth to deliver streamlined regulation and legislation. <p>Further implementation statements are expected to be released in 2023 ...</p> <p>Offshore wind projects In November 2021, the Victorian Government made Australia's largest single offshore wind announcement. Three offshore wind projects secured almost \$40 million in funding through Round 1 of the Energy Innovation Fund.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seadragon Offshore Wind Farm • Great Southern Offshore Wind Farm • Star of the South Offshore Wind Project <p>Together these projects could generate more than:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 40% of Victoria's electricity consumption • 5,500 jobs • \$18 billion in investment. <p>The funding will support feasibility studies and pre-construction development activities. It will also bring forward the investment required to support the creation of a competitive offshore wind sector in Victoria.</p> |

| Party | Policies |
|-------|---|
| | <p>It will also provide knowledge-sharing opportunities for all participants. This will help inform Victorian Government decisions about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the impacts of offshore wind on Victoria’s future energy supply • how to best support further development of a viable and competitive offshore wind sector. <p>Victoria’s Climate Change Strategy (May 2021)</p> <p>Energy pledge [page 11] This pledge will accelerate Victoria’s transition to a clean and efficient energy future. 50 per cent of Victoria’s electricity will come from renewable sources by 2030. We will have greener, more comfortable homes and buildings, and will benefit from reduced energy costs and growth in emerging industries. 778,500 households will receive rebates for solar panels, solar hot water systems and batteries, and 15,000 small businesses will receive rebates for solar panels.</p> <p>Whole of Victorian Government pledge [page 11]: This pledge will see all Victorian Government operations – including schools, hospitals and metropolitan trains and trams – powered by 100 per cent renewable electricity by 2025 ...</p> <p>Historic investment in electricity grid infrastructure [page 20]: To support the renewable energy investment required for our energy transition, we are upgrading Victoria’s electricity grid to give it the capacity to transmit more renewable energy and to ensure it can withstand future climate change impacts – including more high-demand days during summer.</p> <p>The Victorian Government has commenced work to establish six Renewable Energy Zones (REZ) in regional Victoria with abundant solar and wind resources. The program will be backed by the \$540 million REZ Fund which will be used to invest in critical infrastructure to strengthen and modernise Victoria’s transmission grid to support a growing level of renewable generation.</p> <p>The Victorian Big Battery project near Geelong will also help modernise the electricity grid and improve the reliability and security of power supply – by storing cheap renewable energy when the weather makes it plentiful, and discharging it into the grid when it is needed most.</p> <p>Helping households and businesses to be more energy efficient [page 21]: The Victorian Government is investing \$797 million in the biggest household energy efficiency package in any state’s history. It will support 4,000 jobs and assist with our economic recovery after the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic ...</p> <p>The Government is helping households and businesses reduce emissions and energy bills by supporting the uptake of efficient appliances and smart technologies, and improving the energy efficiency of our homes and buildings. Ambitious targets for the Victorian Energy Upgrades program aim to reduce Victoria’s energy demand by 7 per cent by 2025, delivering cost savings for all Victorians.</p> <p>Building better homes [page 21]: ... All new Victorian homes will meet ‘7-Star’ building standards under changes to the National Construction Code planned to take effect from September 2022 ...</p> |

| Party | Policies | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|--|-------------|---------------|------------------|---------|-------------------|---------|--------------------|---------|---------------|--------------------------|------------------|---------|
| | <p>Greener commercial buildings [page 22]: ... Changes to apply from 2025 will lead to reduced energy bills for businesses and help achieve our goal of improving average energy efficiency in commercial buildings.</p> <p>Greener government buildings [page 22]: ... From 2021, all new Victorian Government buildings will have embedded environmentally sustainable design with a minimum 5-Star energy performance rating to apply to new office buildings and tenancy fit-outs. This will be increased to 6-Star – the highest rating for office buildings, in 2025 ... The Government has also committed an additional \$60 million to the Greener Government Buildings program ... In addition, the Government is investing \$40 million in energy upgrades for our public health facilities</p> <p>A clean economy will create jobs for Victorians [page 23]: ... It is estimated that by 2030 our transition to 50 per cent renewable electricity alone will have created 24,400 jobs ... As part of our \$1 billion investment in training and skills, the Government has allocated \$10 million to Clean Economy initiatives to upskill and support workers to take on clean energy jobs. A Clean Economy Skills and Jobs Taskforce will bring together clean economy experts and industry leaders to guide the design, establishment and implementation of a Clean Energy Workforce Development Strategy.</p> <p>Investing now in next-generation energy [page 26]: ... A new \$108 million Energy Innovation Initiative will attract novel technologies, new industries, innovation and development into the state, and will fund technologies such as offshore wind and renewable hydrogen ...</p> <p>Victoria has the best offshore wind resource in Australia and one of the best in the world. The Government is developing an Offshore Wind Strategy to take advantage of this so-far largely untapped energy resource in Australia. The Strategy will build on international experience and expertise to identify the best ways to develop offshore wind energy. It will take account of local community and environmental priorities, aiming to maximise local jobs and develop local industries.</p> <p>Solar Victoria household and business programs: Rebate value and release dates (19 Aug 2022)</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th>Rebate type</th> <th>Current value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Solar panel (PV)</td> <td>\$1,400</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Solar for rentals</td> <td>\$1,400</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Solar for business</td> <td>\$3,500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Solar battery</td> <td>\$2,950 from 1 July 2022</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Solar hot water*</td> <td>\$1,000</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>*Note: Solar hot water rebates are available on an ongoing basis and will not be subject to fixed released dates at this stage.</p> <p>From Investing In New Ways To Recycle Solar Panels (Media Release, 30 Sept 2022) ... Since it began in 2018, the Labor Government's \$1.3 billion Solar Homes Program has helped almost 200,000 Victorian households install solar panel systems.</p> | Rebate type | Current value | Solar panel (PV) | \$1,400 | Solar for rentals | \$1,400 | Solar for business | \$3,500 | Solar battery | \$2,950 from 1 July 2022 | Solar hot water* | \$1,000 |
| Rebate type | Current value | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Solar panel (PV) | \$1,400 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Solar for rentals | \$1,400 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Solar for business | \$3,500 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Solar battery | \$2,950 from 1 July 2022 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Solar hot water* | \$1,000 | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| Party | Policies |
|-------|---|
| | <p>This investment has already cut Victoria’s carbon emissions by 1.6 million tonnes – the equivalent of taking nearly 400,000 cars off the road – while supporting 4,500 clean energy jobs. Household solar is expected to generate 12.5 per cent of Victoria’s 40 per cent renewable energy target by 2025.</p> <p>This financial year, there are 64,000 Government rebates available for solar panel systems ...</p> <p>Supporting Victorian manufacturing (Victorian Budget 2022/23, Media Release 3 May 2022)</p> <p>... The \$7 million Low-Carbon Manufacturing Grant Program will help Victorian manufacturers compete globally for renewable energy components, supporting Victoria’s transition to net zero and all the jobs this will create ...</p> <p>New Energy Jobs Fund</p> <p>... The \$20 million New Energy Jobs Fund (NEJF) supports Victorian-based projects which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • create long-term sustainable jobs • increase the uptake of renewable energy generation • reduce greenhouse gas emissions • and drive innovation in new energy technologies • all of which expand and extend renewable energy developments creating long-term market confidence. <p>The fund is a key component of the \$200 million Future Industries Fund to support high-growth, high-value industries ...</p> <p>Labor Drives Down Bills with 100 Neighbourhood Batteries (Media Release 10 Nov 2022)</p> <p>... a re-elected Labor Government will invest \$42 million to install 100 neighbourhood batteries across Victoria, tripling the number of homes with access to a battery and providing crucial extra storage capacity for local Communities ... Increasing storage capacity will mean more households can reap the rewards of returning surplus solar-generated electricity to the grid through feed-in tariffs. And it means more households will have access to cheaper renewable energy – even if they don’t have their own solar panels.</p> <p>The investment will support 25,000 homes to access local renewable energy, tripling the number of homes that have access to a neighbourhood battery. Labor will initially install batteries in 28 communities across Victoria – 15 in metropolitan Melbourne and 13 in regional Victoria.</p> <p>We will work with community organisations, local governments and distribution companies to identify the locations for the remaining 72 batteries</p> <p>They build on the neighbourhood batteries Labor has already delivered in Fitzroy North and Yackandandah and those currently being built in Tarneit and Phillip Island ...</p> <p>We have built the biggest battery in the Southern Hemisphere in Geelong, installed big and neighbourhood batteries across the state and given thousands of rebates to help families buy household batteries for their Solar Homes.</p> <p>Neighbourhood Batteries Driving Down Bills (Media Release 1 Nov 2022)</p> <p>The Andrews Labor Government is building neighbourhood batteries across the state, storing renewable energy to slash emissions and power bills.</p> |

| Party | Policies |
|-------|---|
| | <p>Minister for Energy Lily D’Ambrosio today announced two new neighbourhood batteries in Richmond and Docklands.</p> <p>The Labor Government is accelerating its \$10.9 million neighbourhood batteries program, maximising the broad uptake of rooftop solar to store cheap, clean renewable energy at a local level and deliver it back to its host community. As part of Round 2 of the Neighbourhood Battery Initiative (NBI), the Labor Government is investing \$1.5 million for two neighbourhood batteries in Richmond and Docklands ...</p> <p>A third round of the NBI will be opened in early 2023, with more details to be released shortly. Round 2 projects will commence in 2022 and be completed by June 2024.</p> <p>From Newstead On Its Way To Clean Energy (Media Release 19 Oct 2022) ... The Labor Government has committed a further \$1.15 million to Victorian renewable energy and energy efficiency projects through the latest round of the New Energy Jobs Fund (NEJF). The funding will support 15 new projects, boosting energy security, attracting private investment and creating jobs. A total of \$20 million has been provided through the NEJF ...</p> <p>Free Solar Training For Plumbers (Media Release, 4 Sept 2022) The Andrews Labor Government is growing Victoria’s clean energy workforce and upskilling Victorians to take advantage of jobs in the booming renewables sector. Plumbers and fourth-year plumbing apprentices can gain specialist solar skills, thanks to a new training pilot announced by the Labor Government ...</p> <p>The training is part of a suite of new initiatives in the Government’s \$11 million training and workforce development package, which is aimed at upskilling workers to take advantage of the state’s transition to net zero ...</p> <p>Victorian Water Sector Leads The Nation To Net Zero (Media Release, 12 Aug 2022) The Andrews Labor Government is leading the way towards a cleaner future, with a new agreement across Victoria’s water corporations to reduce their emissions to net zero by 2035 ...</p> <p>A net zero water sector by 2035 will mean the industry has reduced its annual emissions by almost 900,000 tonnes per year. The equivalent to the annual emissions produced by more than 250,000 cars on Victoria’s roads.</p> <p>Renewable Energy Powering Up Geelong (Media Release 25 Aug 2022) Geelong’s major services are reducing their emissions and cutting energy costs with a new agreement to run off 100 per cent renewable electricity from a local wind farm.</p> <p>This agreement is supported by the Andrews Labor Government’s ambitious target to power all Victorian government operations with renewable energy by 2025 ... Barwon Water, Barwon Health and Geelong Port have finalised their renewable Power Purchase Agreement and will begin powering their operations with renewable electricity from Mount Gellibrand Wind Farm from 1 December ...</p> <p>Cleaner Power For Greener Government Schools (Media Release, 21 June 2022) The Andrews Labor Government will install solar panels at dozens more schools across the state – supporting Victoria’s education sector to be more sustainable,</p> |

| Party | Policies |
|-------|--|
| | <p>slashing emissions while reducing power costs. Minister for Education James Merlino today announced 36 schools will receive solar panels worth \$2.4 million as part of ... the Labor Government’s Greener Government School Buildings program ... Once fully implemented, a total estimated installed capacity of 9,300 kilowatts across all schools involved in the ... program is expected to reduce up to 14,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions every year ...</p> <p>Helping Community Groups Slash Costs And Emissions (Media Release, 5 Oct 2022) Minister for Energy Lily D’Ambrosio today announced that 88 community groups across the state will receive grants to upgrade or install solar and renewable energy batteries ... The Labor Government has invested \$1.8 million through the second round of the Community Climate Change and Energy Action (CCCEA) program, which helps community groups reduce their energy costs while slashing greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>The upgrades include converting to solar electricity with battery storage, switching to more efficient LED lighting, upgrading older air conditioning units or installing efficient electric hot water systems. These sustainable changes are outside the budgets of many Victorian community groups ...Through the program, a total of \$3 million will be invested to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve energy efficiency for community groups – cutting bills by \$1.2 million a year and saving over 4,400 tonnes of greenhouse gases annually ...</p> <p>Yarra Trams To Install Hundreds Of Solar Panels Across Network (Media Release, 25 July 2022) The Andrews Labor Government have flicked on the switch of nearly 100 kilowatts of solar panels installed on the roof of its Southbank depot, the first of seven solar depots housing solar trams. The 200-panels across seven depots will produce over 550 megawatt hours of power annually ... The new solar panels are expected to cut CO2 emissions by up to 350 tonnes and save approximately \$370,000 on energy costs each year ... Melbourne’s iconic tram fleet is powered by renewable energy from two solar farms in northern Victoria.</p> <p>Traditional Owner Renewable Energy Program (March 2022) ... The Traditional Owner Renewable Energy Program (TOREP) is the Victorian Government's first tailored renewable energy grant program for Traditional Owner Corporations.</p> <p>The Program supports Traditional Owner Corporations in designing and implementing their plans and aspirations in renewable energy.</p> <p>The Program was announced in November 2020. It provides \$1.1 million in grant funding. All Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) are eligible to apply for up to \$100,000 each ...</p> <p>To date, 9 RAPs have received funding for a range of renewable energy community projects to be delivered by June 2023. These projects include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • installation and usage of renewable energy generation and storage • feasibility studies and business case development • renewable energy policies and strategies • community engagement and workshops on renewable energy. |

| Party | Policies |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Michael O'Brien Liberal | <p>Our Real Solutions Plan</p> <p>Rewarding Hard-working Victorian Families Power to the people energy plan</p> <p>...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unlocking 1,800 megawatts of renewable energy by upgrading transmission infrastructure in Western Victoria. • Plan to modernise our transmission system • Provide 1 million households with a rebate of up to \$1,400 for solar panels and \$3,000 for a home battery, doubled for rental properties • Adding solar panels across public infrastructure ... |
| Steve Stefanopoulos Independent | No published policies available. |
| Judy Schmidt Family First | <p>Policies</p> <p>....</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy affordability and reliability – use gas to avoid blackouts by firming electricity supply and to lower retail power prices. Unlock gas reserves by lifting bans on exploration. Keep coal-fired power stations open until there are viable and affordable alternatives that provide baseload electricity. • Increased gas supply will drive industry and jobs. • Fight inflation – Freeing gas production and releasing land will drive down the cost of energy and housing, two major drivers of inflation ... |
| Mitchell Fuller Greens | <p>Policy Platform – Tackling the Climate Crisis</p> <p>Coal and gas are the leading causes of the climate crisis ... The Greens have a plan to rapidly move Victoria beyond coal and gas, while creating jobs and supporting workers and the Latrobe Valley community as we repower Victoria with 100% renewable energy.</p> <p>The Greens' plan includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An immediate ban on any new coal, oil and gas projects ... • New laws to ensure the orderly phase-out of Victoria's remaining coal plants by 2030, and a guaranteed job for all Victoria's coal and gas workers • Creation of an independent and properly funded Latrobe Valley Authority to oversee the transition away from coal and the economic revival of the Latrobe Valley region. The Authority will establish an offshore wind centre of excellence, a renewables workforce training centre and will pioneer world leading coal mine rehabilitation and land restoration. • Tough new coal pollution standards to protect the health of people in the Latrobe Valley. • Ending government support for the CarbonNet project, which is investigating the failed technology of carbon capture and storage. • Making fossil fuel corporations pay their fair share of state taxes by ending land tax exemptions for mines in the Latrobe Valley. <p>A big build of renewable Energy and storage Power Victoria with 100% renewable energy by 2030 Over the past four years, the Victorian Greens have successfully pushed Labor to build more renewable energy. But we are still lagging behind other states and what climate science demands. Victoria gets 70% of our electricity from coal, and 2</p> |

| Party | Policies |
|-------|---|
| | <p>million homes are hooked up to gas. We need to go a lot faster in building new renewable energy and storage to replace these fossil fuels.</p> <p>The good news is that a big build of renewable energy for a 100% renewable Victoria will create more than 50,000 new jobs and every household will save money on their energy bills.</p> <p>We also need to bring energy back into public hands, to reverse the damage done by privatisation and ensure power is for the good of all of us, not private profit.</p> <p>The Greens' plan includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing Victoria's Renewable Energy Target to 100% by 2030. • Investing \$10 billion to build new renewable energy, including publicly-owned renewable energy for the benefit of all Victorians. • Legislating a 3 gigawatt target for building offshore wind by 2030, and allocating funding to the Latrobe Valley Authority to develop Victoria's offshore wind workforce. • Facilitating more large-scale storage of renewable energy – including pumped hydro and big batteries, and expanding neighbourhood batteries and local micro-grids. • A grants program for First Nations groups to build renewable energy enterprises • Solar and batteries for public housing, and ensuring renters and people in apartments can access solar through 'solar gardens'. • Establishing Power Victoria, a new agency to bring our power system back into public hands and ensure it's run for the public good, not private profit. This would include establishing a budget neutral public energy retailer to provide cost-price electricity to all Victorians, and a process to prioritise the return of energy infrastructure ('poles and wires') to public hands. <p>Powering Victoria Beyond Coal</p> <p>... right now Victoria still gets two thirds of its electricity from mining and burning coal, and the Victorian Labor Government has no plan to move our state beyond coal and gas.</p> <p>For decades, coal mining and electricity generation in the Latrobe Valley has powered Victoria. Unfortunately, it's also been fuelling the climate crisis. Victoria needs to replace coal with 100% renewable energy by 2030, and the Latrobe Valley community deserves an honest conversation about coal closure and future economic opportunities for their region.</p> <p>In recent years, Victoria has made some progress on building new renewable energy and storage, but we need to be going a lot further and faster. Victoria is lagging behind other states and countries and we need to do more to meet our global obligation to phase out coal by 2030 and limit warming to 1.5 degrees. The good news is that a big build of renewable energy for a 100% renewable Victoria will create more than 50,000 new jobs and help every household save on their energy bills.</p> <p>The Greens plan for a coal-free, 100% renewable Victoria includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A legislated end date of 2030 for coal mining in Victoria with a timeline of coal plant closure between now and then. 2. Increasing Victoria's legislated renewable energy target to 100% by 2030, supported by \$10 billion in new renewable energy generation, storage, and grid upgrades. 3. A job-for-job guarantee for coal workers and secure funding for the |

| Party | Policies | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|---|------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|----------|------------------|------|------|------------|-----|-------------------------|------|------------|---------------|------|------|
| | <p>Independent Latrobe Valley Authority to oversee planned and orderly coal closure and the development of new industries for the region, such as offshore wind, clean manufacturing and mine site rehabilitation.</p> <p>1. Ending coal by 2030 Burning coal for electricity remains Victoria’s biggest source of climate pollution. 70% of Victoria’s electricity comes from 3 coal-burning power stations in the Latrobe Valley ... The United Nations, global scientists and environment groups make it clear that tackling the climate crisis requires states like Victoria to close all coal power stations by 2030. But right now Victoria’s coal plants are licensed by Labor to operate as late as 2048. The writing is on the wall for Victoria’s coal plants. They’re old, unreliable and spew toxic pollution that is harming the health of local communities.</p> <p>Planned coal transition It’s vital for governments to take a lead role in planning the orderly replacement of coal with renewables, instead of leaving these critical decisions to billionaire-owned power companies. That’s why the Greens have developed a timeline for Victoria’s coal plants to close between now and 2030, giving communities advance notice and support to invest in new industries and jobs well before 2030.</p> <p>Closure dates for Victorian coal plants</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="395 1088 1401 1308"> <thead> <tr> <th>Coal Power Station</th> <th>Owned By</th> <th>Current Planned Closure Date</th> <th>Greens Closure date</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Yallourn</td> <td>Energy Australia</td> <td>2028</td> <td>2024</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Loy Yang A</td> <td>AGL</td> <td>2040-2045 [NOW 2035]</td> <td>2027</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Loy Yang B</td> <td>Alinta Energy</td> <td>2046</td> <td>2030</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Stopping toxic coal pollution Victoria’s power stations are Australia’s dirtiest, and some of the dirtiest in the world. They spew out huge quantities of toxic sulphur, mercury, nitrogen and particle pollution, all of which harm the health of the local community. The Greens' plan also requires power stations to introduce clean technologies for the remainder of their operating life, to stop toxic pollution and protect the health and well-being of the Latrobe Valley community.</p> <p>2. Powering Victoria with 100% renewable energy Over the past four years, the Victorian Greens have successfully pushed Labor to build more renewable energy. But we are still lagging behind other states and what climate science demands. Right now Victoria gets around 30% of its energy from renewable sources, but we can and must be aiming for 100%. The Greens plan legislates a 100% renewable energy target for Victoria by 2030, and includes a mega \$10 billion investment to drive 100% renewable energy. Our plan supports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large offshore wind developments capable of replacing entire coal plants. • Solar and wind farms across the state, including community and First Nations led projects where benefits are returned to local communities. | Coal Power Station | Owned By | Current Planned Closure Date | Greens Closure date | Yallourn | Energy Australia | 2028 | 2024 | Loy Yang A | AGL | 2040-2045 [NOW 2035] | 2027 | Loy Yang B | Alinta Energy | 2046 | 2030 |
| Coal Power Station | Owned By | Current Planned Closure Date | Greens Closure date | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yallourn | Energy Australia | 2028 | 2024 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Loy Yang A | AGL | 2040-2045 [NOW 2035] | 2027 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Loy Yang B | Alinta Energy | 2046 | 2030 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| Party | Policies |
|-------|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expanding solar for homes, businesses and public buildings. • New big-battery and pumped hydro storage projects, including publicly-owned storage, to ensure Victorians control our own energy security and aren't at the mercy of big corporations. • Retrofitting large energy users in our grid (like the Portland aluminium smelter) so they can increase and decrease their power usage and help stabilise energy demand across our grid. • Household batteries, microgrids and neighbourhood batteries to store more locally-generated energy close to where it is made and used. • Upgrading and expanding our transmission and distribution networks (the poles and wires that move energy around) to create a stable energy system fit for the 21st century. <p>The Greens also support an emissions reduction target of 80% by 2030 and net zero by 2035 or sooner.</p> <p>Getting to 100% renewable energy is a big job, but it's absolutely possible. The technology exists and the Greens have a plan.</p> <p>With more Greens in Parliament we can push the next government to go further in tackling the climate crisis, ending coal and gas and creating a 100% renewable Victoria. Even better, we can also create tens of thousands of new jobs, reduce energy bills and bring power back into public hands.</p> <p>3. Supporting the Latrobe Valley community to a new future beyond coal</p> <p>Victoria needs to replace coal with renewable energy, but we can't abandon the workers and communities who have powered our state for generations. Without a plan, coal workers and the Latrobe Valley community are at the mercy of corporate boardrooms and coal billionaires, who will abandon them when coal is no longer profitable.</p> <p>The Greens' plan for a fair transition for the Latrobe valley includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A job-for-job guarantee for Victoria's coal workers in the Latrobe Valley, costed by the Parliamentary Budget Office. • A revamped Latrobe Valley Authority with new and guaranteed funding of \$48 million/year until 2035 to oversee the transformation of the Latrobe Valley beyond coal. <p>Job-for-job guarantee for coal workers</p> <p>The Greens' plan for a fair transition beyond coal includes a job-for-job guarantee for coal workers in the Latrobe Valley that will guarantee new employment at existing pay rates where workers shift out of the coal industry.</p> <p>The guarantee would operate for ten years from leaving employment, while workers over 55 who choose to retire instead of continuing work will have the option to receive an equivalent income until they reach pension age. Businesses outside of the coal, oil and gas sector who hire a former coal worker would be eligible for a wage subsidy equal to 50 per cent of a full-time worker in the coal mining sector. The employee must be working in Victoria and receive a wage at least equal to the amount they received in their previous coal job for the employer to be eligible for the wage subsidy.</p> <p>If an employee is unable to find a job that attracts the wage guarantee, they can claim the amount directly from the Victorian Government.</p> |

| Party | Policies |
|-------|--|
| | <p>An independent and fully-funded Latrobe Valley Authority</p> <p>It's not just mining and power station workers left in the cold when coal plants close without notice - the whole of the surrounding community is also affected. That's why the Greens' plan for a fair transition beyond coal also includes looking after the future of the entire Latrobe Valley region.</p> <p>Our plan would see the Latrobe Valley Authority become independent and granted secure and ongoing funding to 2035. While this Authority was created in the wake of Hazelwood power station closure under pressure from the community and Greens, Labor has failed to give it the power or funding to plan for coal replacement or oversee the development of new economic opportunities.</p> <p>The Greens' plan would legislate the Latrobe Valley Authority as independent, provide long-term funding, and give it the broad functions needed to plan for the staged and orderly retirement of Victoria's coal power stations by 2030 and capture a new economic future for the region. Opportunities include developing an Offshore Wind Centre of Excellence, establishing a workforce training centre to build Victoria's renewable and electrification workforce, pioneering world leading mine rehabilitation and attracting clean manufacturing jobs to the region.</p> <p>Paying for our Plans</p> <p>The Greens' fully costed plan to move Victoria beyond coal, support workers and power our state with 100% renewable energy includes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$10 billion to build new renewables storage by 2030, \$4 billion of this in the forward estimates. This includes large-scale storage, retrofitting large energy users to increase and decrease their usage to help stabilise energy demand, grid upgrades, solar gardens, neighbourhood batteries, micro-grids, solar and batteries for public housing and grants for First Nations people to build renewable energy enterprises. • \$576 million in secure funding between 2023-2035 for an independent Latrobe Valley Authority to oversee coal closure and the development of a new economic future for the region • A job-for-job guarantee for coal workers as Victoria's 3 coal plants close between 2024 and 2030. <p>The Greens will make the big banks, property developers and the gambling industry pay their fair share of tax so we can invest in climate action, affordable housing and public services for all. We'll double royalties on coal and gas corporations before they close. Our plans will also be paid for by spending smarter and making our state borrowings work for the community.</p> <p><u>Energy Legislation Amendment (Transition from Coal) Bill 2022</u></p> <p>In August 2022, the Greens introduced legislation in the Victorian Parliament which would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ... prohibit the issue of licences to engage in thermal coal activity and revoke authorisations to engage in thermal coal activity under a licence; and • ... increase the State renewable energy target to 100% by the end of 2030. |

3. Rapid transition from gas

| Party | Policies |
|---|---|
| <p>Amelia Natoli Animal Justice</p> | <p>More Ambitious Climate Targets (Platform) ... The Animal Justice Party will fight for a commitment to system-wide change from the government. We will introduce legislation to remove subsidies for all industries that damage our climate – coal, gas we will redirect these subsidies towards investment in sustainable food systems and clean energy solutions ... Our Focus ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Net-zero emissions by 2035 • Immediate halt on any new fossil fuel projects in Victoria ... • Reduce methane emissions by 30% before 2030 <p>The Climate Emergency (Policy) Key Objectives ...</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Rapidly phase out fossil fuels and transition to clean energy infrastructure ... 7. Commit to ambitious emission reduction targets which do not encourage dead end ‘solutions’, such as natural gas ... 8. Remove subsidies from the fossil fuel and animal agriculture industries in the interim and redirect funding into clean energy solutions and sustainable plant-based agriculture ... <p>Energy (Policy) The AJP Climate Change policy supports any clean energy source because the consequences to all animals of further climate destabilisation will be dire ... But not all clean energy sources are equal in their animal impacts. Further research is required into viable and sustainable options. Key Objectives ...</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Rapidly transition to a carbon free energy infrastructure, using known clean technologies in the most ecologically and animal friendly mix. Rapidly in this case means 15 to 20 years ... 4. Implementing a climate tax on both the fossil fuels and animal agriculture industries, using the principle that the polluter pays. <p>Natural Gas (Policy) Fossil fuels, including natural gas, will not be part of any final clean energy solution to climate change. It makes no sense to transition to natural gas, only to have to replace it with something better in the near future. As a technology, even carbon capture and storage (CCS) attached to gas power plants is unlikely (see IPCC Assessment Report 5, WG3, Chapter 7, page 539, Table 7.6) to be clean enough for use in any solution. Key Objectives</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AJP recommends that there should be no expansion of natural gas use, whether from coal seam or other sources. 2. AJP recommends that current natural gas use be rapidly phased out in favour of clean energy technologies. Rapidly, in this case means 15 to 20 years. |
| <p>Darren Natale Labor</p> | <p>GOVERNMENT POLICIES Victoria’s Gas Substitution Roadmap (2022; page 2 of download) ... The key changes described in this Roadmap include:</p> |

| Party | Policies |
|----------------------------|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expanding the VEU [Victorian Energy Upgrade] scheme, with new incentives for switching to efficient electric appliances • Phasing out VEU incentives for fossil gas residential appliances by the end of 2023 • Changes to the Victoria Planning Provisions in 2022 to remove the requirement for new housing developments to be connected to gas • Retiring Victoria’s 6 Star National Construction Code variation to allow for more efficient hot water systems as part of new construction and major renovations • Move to a 7 Star Standard for new home construction, this standard takes account of home energy appliances and not just the thermal shell of the building, driving greater energy efficiency from the point of design <p>Home Heating and Cooling Upgrades (25 Aug 2022) The Victorian Government is helping Victorian households improve their thermal comfort by offering rebates to upgrade gas, electric and wood heaters with energy efficient reverse-cycle air conditioners ...</p> <p>Upgrades for owner occupiers (18 Oct 2022) ... Under the program, eligible households can receive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$1,000 towards the cost of an energy-efficient reverse-cycle air conditioner, • \$200 towards the cost of decommissioning an outdated gas heater (if an existing gas heater is being replaced), and • \$500 towards the cost of upgrading a switchboard (if an upgrade is required to install the rebated reverse-cycle air conditioner). <p>Upgrades for rental properties (6 Sept 2022) ... Under the Home Heating and Cooling Upgrades Program, eligible rental properties can receive \$1,000 towards the cost of an energy-efficient reverse-cycle air conditioner to upgrade inefficient gas heaters, electric heaters, and wood heaters.</p> <p>Upgrades for community housing (18 Oct 2022) Solar Victoria is supporting eligible community housing organisations to improve the comfort of their residents by offering rebates to replace existing heating systems with energy efficient electric reverse-cycle air conditioners in their properties ... Under the Home Heating and Cooling Upgrades Program, a community housing organisation can receive the following per household:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$1,000 towards the cost of an energy-efficient reverse-cycle air conditioner, • \$200 towards the cost of decommissioning an outdated gas heater (where an existing gas heater is being replaced), and • \$500 towards the cost of upgrading a switchboard (where an upgrade is required to install the rebated reverse-cycle air conditioner). |
| Michael O’Brien Liberal | <p>Our Real Solutions Plan Rewarding Hard-working Victorian Families Power to the people energy plan</p> <p>...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouraging conventional onshore gas exploration and production. • Victorian Gas for Victorians pledge, reserving new natural gas for domestic use <p>...</p> <p>Unlocking Victoria’s Natural Gas Potential ... A low emissions future</p> |

| Party | Policies |
|------------------------------------|---|
| | <p>A secure and reliable supply of natural gas in Victoria is essential to providing the baseload generation needed to support renewables – putting Victoria on a sustainable path to lower emissions ...</p> <p>Victoria is facing a shortage of natural gas. Victoria has approximately 2.2 million customers with a metered natural gas connection. Victorian households and businesses are more dependent on natural gas to satisfy their energy needs than other states. The number of households requiring gas in Victoria is growing, with 3,500 new supply points on average connected every month. Residential and commercial users account for 58 per cent of Victoria’s total gas consumption; the highest percentage of any state. Heating represents a significant proportion of this usage. Natural gas supply shortages mean higher costs for Victorian consumers, and a higher risk of blackouts at times of peak demand for energy ...</p> <p>A Liberals and Nationals Government will support the development of onshore conventional natural gas as an affordable, reliable source of energy for Victorian families and businesses, and as a sustainable pathway to achieving lower greenhouse gas emissions ...</p> |
| Steve Stefanopoulos Independent | No published policies available. |
| Judy Schmidt Family First | <p>Policies</p> <p>...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy affordability and reliability – use gas to avoid blackouts by firming electricity supply and to lower retail power prices. Unlock gas reserves by lifting bans on exploration ... • Increased gas supply will drive industry and jobs. • Fight inflation – Freeing gas production and releasing land will drive down the cost of energy and housing, two major drivers of inflation ... <p>[No reference to the transition from gas here or elsewhere on the site.]</p> |
| Mitchell Fuller Greens | <p>Policy Platform – Tackling the Climate Crisis</p> <p>... The Greens want to replace coal and gas with 100% renewable energy by 2030, while protecting workers and creating jobs ...</p> <p>Livable, Climate-safe Homes</p> <p>Efficient electric homes are cheap to run, comfy and good for the climate</p> <p>So much of Victoria’s housing is not fit for our climate. Our homes often feel like glorified tents: freezing in winter and boiling in summer, forcing us to waste a lot of money and energy on heating and cooling. Fixing our homes and making them all-electric by removing gas will save us money and make a big dent in Victoria’s emissions.</p> <p>The Greens’ plan includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A plan to get 1 million homes off gas over the next six years with financial incentives for households to replace polluting gas, hot water, heating and cooking with efficient electric appliances. • Banning new gas connections from 2025 so homes aren’t locked into using a polluting fossil fuel. • Increasing the minimum energy efficiency rules for new homes to 8 stars and |

| Party | Policies | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|-------------------|---------------|--|---------------|--------------------|-------------|---|-------------|--|---------------|
| | <p>mandatory display of 'home energy ratings' when putting up a home for sale or rent.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandating and enforcing strong minimum energy efficiency standards for rental homes. <p>Getting Off Gas</p> <p>The Greens Plan for a Gas-free Victoria</p> <p>Coal and gas are the leading causes of the climate crisis. Gas makes up 17% of Victoria's climate pollution ... Fossil gas isn't just fuelling climate change, it's also expensive and bad for our health. Research shows using gas in our homes causes up to 12% of childhood asthma.</p> <p>Around 2 million Victorian homes are currently locked into this expensive and dangerous fossil fuel. Fixing our homes and making them all-electric by removing gas will save us money, help our health and make a big dent in Victoria's emissions. The Greens plan for a gas-free Victoria includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A plan to get 1 million homes off gas over the next six years, with Get Off Gas rebates of up to \$3000 and zero-interest loans of up to \$3000 2. \$190 million in grants to support Victorian businesses to go gas-free 3. Banning new gas connection to Victorian homes from 2025 ... <p>1. Get Off Gas rebates to get 1 million Victorian homes off gas</p> <p>Gas use in Victorian homes is higher than anywhere else in Australia. Gas from the Bass Strait was once cheap and plentiful, and Victorian homes got hooked up. But now, gas prices are skyrocketing and fossil gas is fuelling the climate crisis. Gas use in the home is also associated with increased risk of asthma, especially in children. Victoria has a big job ahead in getting our homes off gas and powering them instead with cheap renewable energy.</p> <p>The Greens plan to get 1 million Victorian homes off gas over six years will provide rebates of up to \$3000 per home to support homeowners and landlords to replace old gas appliances with new efficient electric ones. Each home will also be able to access up to \$3000 in interest-free loans. These rebates and loans will cover up to 50 per cent of the replacement cost of gas heating, cooking, hot water, and rewiring, as outlined in the table below. These Get Off Gas rebates are in addition to incentives under the existing Solar Homes program that already support solar, batteries and, in some circumstances, replacement of gas hot water.</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td colspan="2">Get Off Gas rebate eligible items¹</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reverse cycle A/C</td> <td>Up to \$2,500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Solar/heat pump hot water heating²</td> <td>Up to \$1,500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Induction cook top</td> <td>Up to \$500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Switchboard Upgrade/Rewiring costs³</td> <td>Up to \$750</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Get Off Gas interest-free loan eligible items to supplement the cost of any of the above</td> <td>Up to \$3,000</td> </tr> </table> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Up to a total of \$3000 (each rebate up to maximum 50% of purchase price). Reverse cycle A/C grant can be used across multiple systems. 2. If not currently eligible under the Solar Homes program. 3. Required as part of eligible appliance upgrade. <p>Going gas-free will save households more than \$1800 per year on energy bills and will help ease the cost of living while also tackling climate change. It's time for the gas-free revolution to take hold in Victoria.</p> | Get Off Gas rebate eligible items ¹ | | Reverse cycle A/C | Up to \$2,500 | Solar/heat pump hot water heating ² | Up to \$1,500 | Induction cook top | Up to \$500 | Switchboard Upgrade/Rewiring costs ³ | Up to \$750 | Get Off Gas interest-free loan eligible items to supplement the cost of any of the above | Up to \$3,000 |
| Get Off Gas rebate eligible items ¹ | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Reverse cycle A/C | Up to \$2,500 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Solar/heat pump hot water heating ² | Up to \$1,500 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Induction cook top | Up to \$500 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Switchboard Upgrade/Rewiring costs ³ | Up to \$750 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Get Off Gas interest-free loan eligible items to supplement the cost of any of the above | Up to \$3,000 | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| Party | Policies |
|-------|--|
| | <p data-bbox="391 237 826 266">2. Get-Off-Gas grants for businesses</p> <p data-bbox="391 273 1394 477">Victoria was once a manufacturing powerhouse and the business heart of Australia. Industries like brick manufacturing and food production created jobs and helped to drive Australia’s economy. Yet in the last two decades, electricity and gas companies have hiked prices and many manufacturers have abandoned Victoria, taking jobs with them. Current record-high gas prices are pushing businesses to the brink.</p> <p data-bbox="391 483 1394 656">The vast majority could meet their energy needs with electricity, but got locked into gas back when it was cheap and abundant. The Greens' plan includes a \$190 million grant scheme for businesses to upgrade their energy systems and go gas-free. Businesses will be supported to undertake an energy assessment and can apply for partial funding to enable their electrification.</p> <p data-bbox="391 663 1394 763">As we replace coal and gas with cheap, clean, renewable energy, Victoria has a huge opportunity to reduce energy costs for existing businesses and bring more manufacturing to our state, powered by cheap, abundant renewable energy.</p> <p data-bbox="391 804 1374 871">3. Banning new gas connection so homes aren’t locked into using a polluting fossil fuel</p> <p data-bbox="391 878 1394 1050">Currently under Victorian law, new homes are forced to connect to gas where it’s available. In June this year, the Greens introduced a bill to remove this requirement, and the Victorian Government has responded by committing to make it a reality. This is an important win, thanks to the hard work of climate groups, local governments, and the Greens in state parliament.</p> <p data-bbox="391 1057 1394 1261">It’s good news that new homes won’t be forced to connect to gas, but we also need to prevent home-owners being locked into gas by property developers or the gas industry. The Greens' plan for a gas-free Victoria includes banning any new gas connections from 2025, so homes and families aren't locked into using fossil gas when we have a cheaper and more efficient alternative in electricity made from renewable energy.</p> <p data-bbox="391 1267 1366 1368">Cities and countries around the world, including the Netherlands, Norway, New York, Quebec and a new suburb in the ACT, are going gas-free. Electric homes are the future, and Victoria needs to join the club ...</p> <p data-bbox="391 1375 635 1404">Paying for Our Plans</p> <p data-bbox="391 1411 1350 1476">To assist Victorians to get off gas, the Greens will invest \$3 billion over six years, with \$2 billion over the first four years, along with \$190m for business grants.</p> <p data-bbox="391 1482 1394 1583">The Greens will make the big banks, property developers and the gambling industry pay their fair share of tax so we can invest in climate action, affordable housing and public services for all.</p> <p data-bbox="391 1590 1257 1655">Our plans will also be paid for by spending smarter and making our state borrowings work for the community.</p> |

4. No new fossil fuel projects (including mining)

| Party | Policies |
|---|--|
| <p>Amelia Natoli Animal Justice</p> | <p>More Ambitious Climate Targets (Platform) ... Our Focus ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immediate halt on any new fossil fuel projects in Victoria ... <p>Natural Gas (Policy) Fossil fuels, including natural gas, will not be part of any final clean energy solution to climate change. It makes no sense to transition to natural gas, only to have to replace it with something better in the near future. As a technology, even carbon capture and storage (CCS) attached to gas power plants is unlikely (see IPCC Assessment Report 5, WG3, Chapter 7, page 539, Table 7.6) to be clean enough for use in any solution.</p> <p>Key Objectives</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AJP recommends that there should be no expansion of natural gas use, whether from coal seam or other sources. 2. AJP recommends that current natural gas use be rapidly phased out in favour of clean energy technologies. Rapidly, in this case means 15 to 20 years. |
| <p>Darren Natale Labor</p> | <p>GOVERNMENT POLICIES</p> <p>Offshore gas in state waters (1 Dec 2021) ... To stimulate commercial exploration for natural gas resources, the Victorian Government offered five new offshore acreage areas in the Otway Basin for tender in May 2018. The acreage areas were in state-controlled nearshore waters. Following an assessment of applicant bids by the Earth Resources Regulator, permits to explore two of these areas were granted by the Minister for Resources in July 2020 ... See also: Victoria consents to gas production from well near Twelve Apostles (16 Aug 2021)</p> <p>Restart of onshore conventional gas industry in Victoria (14 Oct 2022) New regulations The Petroleum Regulations 2021 are now in place ... Now that the regulations are in place, Earth Resources Regulation can recommence processing new industry applications for operations on the ground ... The Victorian Gas Program estimated that an onshore conventional gas industry could potentially start production from 2023–24 if industry makes a gas discovery quickly, considers it commercially feasible to develop and secures the necessary regulatory approvals ... The restart of onshore gas exploration and production does not include coal seam gas or fracking, which are permanently banned in Victoria. The fracking ban was added to Victoria’s Constitution in March 2021 ... Victorian Gas Program ... the Victorian Gas Program – a three-year research program to scientifically understand the potential for new onshore conventional gas discoveries and the risks, benefits and impacts of allowing the industry to continue. The program’s geoscientific investigations concluded in early 2020. The results indicated that there are likely to be commercially feasible onshore conventional gas resources yet to be discovered in the Otway and Gippsland basins. Regional environmental studies undertaken by the program showed that developing these gas resources would not compromise the state’s groundwater supplies or</p> |

| Party | Policies |
|------------------------------------|--|
| | <p>agricultural sector.</p> <p>Victoria’s onshore Petroleum Regulatory Framework was also reviewed by the Victorian Gas Program and found to be robust for managing environmental and safety risks; however, the framework could be improved in its provisions for community engagement and industry transparency.</p> <p>Australia's Viva Energy presses state to approve LNG import terminal (Reuters, 5 Aug 2022)</p> <p>... State energy minister Lily D'Ambrosio, however, who has been pushing renewable energy developments, left the door open to an LNG import terminal. "We continue to engage with companies such as Viva about the role gas import terminals could play in that future," D'Ambrosio said in emailed comments to Reuters.</p> <p>New Parwan Gas Supply To Fire Up Jobs Growth (Media Release, 6 Aug 2022)</p> <p>More jobs will be created in the Parwan Employment Precinct with the Parwan City Gate Gas connection ready to attract new industrial businesses thanks to support from the Andrews Labor Government. Minister for Regional Development Harriet Shing today visited the precinct to announce the completion of the Parwan City Gate Gas Connection Project made possible by a \$2.7 million investment from the Building Works package along with additional support from Moorabool Shire Council and local business L & G Meats.</p> <p>The Parwan City Gate Gas Project will provide gas to the Parwan Employment Precinct and the wider Bacchus Marsh area. The project will attract more private agribusiness investment to the precinct due to readily available access to gas ...</p> |
| <p>Michael O’Brien Liberal</p> | <p>Our Real Solutions Plan Rewarding Hard-working Victorian Families Power to the people energy plan</p> <p>...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouraging conventional onshore gas exploration and production. • Victorian Gas for Victorians pledge, reserving new natural gas for domestic use <p>...</p> <p>Unlocking Victoria’s Natural Gas Potential</p> <p>... Our Plan for Victoria</p> <p>A Liberals and Nationals Government will support the development of onshore conventional natural gas as an affordable, reliable source of energy for Victorian families and businesses, and as a sustainable pathway to achieving lower greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>A Liberals and Nationals government will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support Natural Gas Exploration and Development: Conventional onshore natural gas exploration and production will be permitted in Victoria on a case-by-case basis ... 3. Share Royalties with Land Owners: Land owners will be provided a 10 per cent share of the royalty that is paid to government, so they can share in the wealth created from natural gas development on their land. 4. Maintain a Permanent Ban on Fracking: Unconventional gas developments – including fracking – will not be permitted under a Liberals and Nationals Government. |

| Party | Policies |
|--|--|
| | <p>5. Putting Victorians First: Victorian onshore natural gas will be reserved for domestic use in order to put downward pressure on local prices; it will not be licensed for export.</p> |
| <p>Steve Stefanopoulos Independent</p> | <p>No published policies available.</p> |
| <p>Judy Schmidt Family First</p> | <p>Policies ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy affordability and reliability – use gas to avoid blackouts by firming electricity supply and to lower retail power prices. Unlock gas reserves by lifting bans on exploration ... • Increased gas supply will drive industry and jobs. • Fight inflation – Freeing gas production and releasing land will drive down the cost of energy and housing, two major drivers of inflation ... |
| <p>Mitchell Fuller Greens</p> | <p>Policy Platform – Tackling the Climate Crisis Getting off Coal and Gas ... Coal and gas are the leading causes of the climate crisis. Yet the Labor Government in Victoria has used public money to keep coal stations running for longer, and is opening up new gas drilling, including near the 12 Apostles. The Greens have a plan to rapidly move Victoria beyond coal and gas, while creating jobs and supporting workers and the Latrobe Valley community as we repower Victoria with 100% renewable energy. The Greens' plan includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An immediate ban on any new coal, oil and gas projects, including gas drilling in Victoria's oceans ... • Creation of an independent and properly funded Latrobe Valley Authority to oversee the transition away from coal and the economic revival of the Latrobe Valley region. The Authority will establish an offshore wind centre of excellence, a renewables workforce training centre and will pioneer world leading coal mine rehabilitation and land restoration. • Tough new coal pollution standards to protect the health of people in the Latrobe Valley. • Ending government support for the CarbonNet project, which is investigating the failed technology of carbon capture and storage. • Making fossil fuel corporations pay their fair share of state taxes by ending land tax exemptions for mines in the Latrobe Valley. <p>Powering Victoria Beyond Coal ... For decades, coal mining and electricity generation in the Latrobe Valley has powered Victoria. Unfortunately, it's also been fuelling the climate crisis. Victoria needs to replace coal with 100% renewable energy by 2030, and the Latrobe Valley community deserves an honest conversation about coal closure and future economic opportunities for their region ... The Greens plan for a coal-free, 100% renewable Victoria includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A legislated end date of 2030 for coal mining in Victoria with a timeline of coal plant closure between now and then ... 3. A job-for-job guarantee for coal workers and secure funding for the |

| Party | Policies |
|-------|--|
| | <p>Independent Latrobe Valley Authority to oversee planned and orderly coal closure and the development of new industries for the region, such as offshore wind, clean manufacturing and mine site rehabilitation.</p> <p>.... The Greens’ plan for a fair transition for the Latrobe valley includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A job-for-job guarantee for Victoria’s coal workers in the Latrobe Valley, costed by the Parliamentary Budget Office. 2. A revamped Latrobe Valley Authority with new and guaranteed funding of \$48 million/year until 2035 to oversee the transformation of the Latrobe Valley beyond coal. <p>Getting Off Gas</p> <p>Coal and gas are the leading causes of the climate crisis. Gas makes up 17% of Victoria's climate pollution. Yet the Labor Government in Victoria lifted a hard-won ban on gas drilling and is fast-tracking new gas projects, including next to the 12 Apostles.</p> <p>Fossil gas isn’t just fuelling climate change, it’s also expensive and bad for our health. Research shows using gas in our homes causes up to 12% of childhood asthma....</p> <p>The Greens plan for a gas-free Victoria includes ...</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. No new gas for Victoria. Reinstate the moratorium on onshore gas drilling that Labor lifted in 2020, ban new offshore gas drilling and rule out future gas infrastructure projects including VIVA energy’s proposal for a gas import terminal in Corio Bay. <p>... No new gas</p> <p>The climate crisis is already driving extreme weather events and putting our future at risk. Allowing more gas is pouring fuel on the fire, yet Victorian Labor is fast-tracking gas drilling next to the 12 Apostles and has opened up Victorian farms and bushland to new gas drilling.</p> <p>The United Nations and the International Energy Agency have made one thing very clear: we cannot afford a single new fossil fuel project if we are to have any chance of limiting catastrophic climate change.</p> <p>The Greens will fight to stop new gas drilling near the 12 Apostles, ban all new drilling in our pristine oceans, and reinstate the hard-won moratorium on onshore gas to keep our state free from new drilling. We will also fight to stop the environmentally destructive plan to build a gas import terminal at Corio Bay near Geelong ...</p> <p>Greens introduce bill to ban offshore drilling in Victoria (8 March 2022)</p> <p>The Victorian Greens will today introduce a Bill that would ban offshore drilling for fossil fuels like oil and gas in Victoria. The <i>Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Amendment (No New Oil or Gas Activities) Bill 2022</i> would place an immediate ban on any future offshore drilling to protect our precious coastlines and marine life.</p> |

5. Rapid end to native forest logging

| Party | Policies |
|---|---|
| <p>Amelia Natoli Animal Justice</p> | <p>The Climate Emergency (Policy) The AJP is the only political party with policies that comprehensively take into account all sources of emissions, including the impact of animal agriculture and land clearing on the global climate, and the need to urgently transition to a plant-based diet in order to address the climate crisis ... In addition to phasing out fossil fuels, we will transition from animal agriculture towards more sustainable plant-based farming, and transform other climate threatening industries and practices. This is essential not only to reduce harmful emissions, but also to protect nature, and human and other animal life. Key Objectives ... 2. Rapidly transition from animal agriculture to plant-based agriculture and promote plant-based diets (see our Human Diet and Animals Policy). 3. Protect, regenerate, expand, rewild and enhance all ecological systems including forests, grasslands, freshwater and marine habitats, in part by reserving at least 50% of the planet for nature ...</p> <p>Land Clearing (Policy) The AJP considers Australia’s land clearing rates to be both an environmental and animal welfare disaster. We propose to reverse land clearing by addressing the underlying causes. Animal agriculture is overwhelmingly the largest cause of land clearing across Australia. For example, in Queensland, 93% of cleared land is used for pasture. Other significant drivers (within the remaining 7 percent) are urban development, forestry and mining. Environmentally, land clearing destroys viable habitat for vulnerable and at-risk animal populations. Clearing also increases soil salinity and is a primary cause of greenhouse gas emissions. Soil erosion from land clearing detrimentally affects waterways and oceans; threatening the Great Barrier Reef especially. The AJP recognises land clearing not just as a biodiversity and climate change issue, but also as an animal rights and welfare issue ... Key Objectives 1. An immediate cessation of all land clearing associated with animal agriculture. 2. To introduce habitat protection as a fundamental and consistent planning principle in all regions and sectors ...</p> <p>Wildlife Protection (Policy) The Animal Justice Party recognises wild animals as individuals with unique needs, and believes that humanity has a duty to allow them to live their lives unimpeded and unharmed by human actions to the greatest extent possible. We support proactive measures to protect species and their habitats and to reduce or mitigate human impacts by tackling the drivers of biodiversity loss and ecosystem decline. Key Objectives 1. Halt further wildlife habitat destruction and fragmentation by prohibiting native forest logging and land clearing for agriculture (especially animal agriculture) ... 5. Remove other exemptions that allow harm to be caused to native wildlife for commercial activities (*e.g.* forestry, kangaroo killing, development and animal agriculture) as well as research and recreation, and include an enforceable duty of care towards animals on a landholder’s property during all land use changes</p> |

| Party | Policies |
|------------------------|--|
| | ... |
| Darren Natale Labor | <p>GOVERNMENT POLICIES</p> <p>Victoria's Climate Change Strategy (May 2021) Land use, land use change and forestry pledge [page 11]: This pledge reflects that from 2030 commercial native timber harvesting in Victoria's state forests will cease – protecting an area of native forest greater than the landmass of Tasmania. The pledge will also lead to restoration of degraded landscapes and the planting of up to 30 million trees, helping to remove emissions from the atmosphere.</p> <p>Victorian Forestry Plan (6 Apr 2022) ... In developing the Victorian Forestry Plan, the Victorian Government has aimed to strike the right balance between the environment and jobs. That includes the phasing out of all native forest harvesting by 2030, while at the same time supporting workers, businesses and communities. By providing a long-term plan, the Victorian Government is giving workers and businesses time to plan for their future and the industry as a whole time to move away from native timber harvesting ...</p> <p>Forestry Business support The Victorian Forestry Plan is supporting timber businesses to transition out of native timber, explore opportunities and diversify into different ways of working. Transition has started and already there is a good take up of support and evidence of innovative thinking within Victoria's native timber industry. The industry has continued supply of native timber to 2024, then supply levels will step down until ending in 2030 ...</p> <p>More Support For Timber Workers And Communities (Media Release, 24 Oct 2022) The Andrews Labor Government is continuing to support local jobs in timber communities with applications now open for almost \$25 million in grants under the Victorian Forestry Plan. Minister for Agriculture Gayle Tierney today announced the opening of three grant programs – the \$22 million Community Development Fund, the \$2.5 million second round of the Victorian Timber Innovation Fund and the \$250,000 second round of the Forestry Business Transition Voucher program. The Labor Government's Community Development Fund will support 11 priority communities to deliver projects and opportunities identified through local transition strategies ... The second rounds of the Victorian Timber Innovation Fund and Forestry Business Transition Vouchers will protect local jobs by giving employers the financial and professional support they need to innovate, diversify and future-proof their businesses. Innovation grants of up to \$1 million for native timber businesses will assist the transition to alternative fibre, and support business diversification opportunities ... Combined, these new and existing grant rounds are investing almost \$30 million in timber communities in regional Victoria. The Sawmill Opt-out Scheme application process is also underway to enable mills and mill workers to transition out of the industry ahead of the planned 2024 step-down in native timber harvesting.</p> <p>Planting Millions More Trees For Thousands Of Jobs (Media Release, 29 Sept 2022)</p> |

| Party | Policies |
|-------------------------------|--|
| | <p>The Andrews Labor Government is shoring up Victoria’s timber supply and supporting the forestry sector’s transition, with an unprecedented investment in a new plantation estate backing thousands of Gippsland jobs. Minister for Agriculture Gayle Tierney today announced the Labor Government is investing \$120 million ... in an agreement with Hancock Victorian Plantations (HVP), planting an extra 16 million trees in a new estate ... To protect timber supply for our construction industry, the new plantations have the potential to bring international processors to the region ... The investment will also contribute to Victoria’s nation-leading emissions reduction targets by removing approximately 7.8 million tonnes of carbon dioxide over the next 25 years – the equivalent of removing more than 60,000 cars from the road per year. This long-term investment through the Gippsland Plantation Investment Program underpins the Victorian Forestry Plan – the Labor Government’s roadmap to ensure a long-term and sustainable future for Victoria’s forestry industry</p> <p>Boost To Process More Plantation Timber (Media Release, 24 Aug 2022) Austrian Sustainable Hardwoods (ASH) are expanding their plantation timber manufacturing operations thanks to a \$1.2 million Victorian Forestry Plan innovation grant. Minister for Agriculture Gayle Tierney today visited the Heyfield mill to announce the innovation funding and inspect the mill’s newest addition – a retail outlet also funded by the Andrews Labor Government. The new funding will help build a new \$2.4 million specialised MASSLAM (Glue Laminated Timber) manufacturing facility to support the mill’s transition to alternative fibre sources thanks to the Victorian Timber Innovation Fund ... The Victorian Timber Innovation Fund is a key part of the Victorian Forestry Plan supporting timber businesses to diversify and plan for their future.</p> <p>Gippsland Timber Communities Supported During Industry Transition (Media Release, 24 Aug 2022) Swifts Creek is Victoria’s fourteenth town to be given financial support by the Andrews Labor Government as the timber industry transitions away from native forests to a sustainable plantation-based future. Minister for Agriculture Gayle Tierney today announced that Swifts Creek will receive a \$500,000 grant through the Labor Government’s Local Development Strategy grants program. The Local Development Strategy grants program is part of the Victorian Forestry Plan and supports towns to diversify where native timber harvesting is a significant source of jobs and employment ... The communities will also have access to the \$22 million Community Transition and Development Fund and the \$36 million Victorian Forestry Plan Transition Fund which will also support communities in transition to implement new strategies. The Local Development Strategy grants are a key part of the more than \$200 million Victorian Forestry Plan, ensuring communities are well supported through the transition.</p> |
| Michael O’Brien Liberal | <p>Casualties pile up in Andrews’ Labor Government’s war on Timber Industries (National Party press release 11 Aug 2022) ... Victorians are now beginning to see firsthand the impact of Labor’s 2030 stealth ban on native timber ... A Liberal and Nationals government will see the 2030 ban immediately reversed to secure a future for Victorian jobs and the small communities scattered across regional Victoria which rely heavily, and historically, on the industry for their survival.</p> |

| Party | Policies |
|------------------------------------|---|
| | <p>Timber innovation boost a small vote of confidence for at-risk Victorian jobs (Media Release 14 April 2022)</p> <p>A \$219.5 million boost for innovation and research in Australia’s forestry sector today is a badly needed vote of confidence in Victorian jobs that State Labor is hellbent on destroying.</p> <p>Announcing the funds today, the Federal Liberals and Nationals will create jobs and invest in new, sustainable technologies in an effort to fix long delays for building and construction caused by a shortage of wood products.</p> <p>Leader of The Nationals Peter Walsh said it was a stark contrast to Victorian Labor’s cruel campaign to destroy local jobs by starving mills and manufacturers of native timber resource ...</p> <p>“Only a change of government in November will reverse Labor’s 2030 native timber ban and save local jobs and communities in regional Victoria and Melbourne.”</p> |
| Steve Stefanopoulos Independent | No published policies available. |
| Judy Schmidt Family First | <p>Policies</p> <p>No reference to native forest logging here or elsewhere on the site.</p> |
| Mitchell Fuller Greens | <p>Policy Platform – Tackling the Climate Crisis</p> <p>Protect nature and care for country</p> <p>We can only solve the climate crisis when we also Care for Country</p> <p>To return us to a safe climate, it’s not enough to stop burning coal, oil and gas. We also need working ecosystems – forests, wetlands and grasslands – to pull climate pollution out of the atmosphere.</p> <p>People depend on a healthy environment to thrive, yet in Victoria we are facing an extinction crisis and many of our ecosystems are on the brink of collapse.</p> <p>This cannot continue. It’s vital for Victoria to prioritise nature, for a safe climate and a prosperous future.</p> <p>The Greens' plan includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legislating an end to native forest logging by 2023, with a transition plan to move workers into new jobs and to make the most of our existing plantation forests. • A \$1 billion per year, Zero Extinction Fund to protect and restore our degraded forests, grasslands, rivers and wetlands to store carbon and ensure no more species go extinct in Victoria. • Centre First Nations people in decision making about caring for Country on public land ... • Establish a ‘land restoration industry’ in Victoria to drive the recovery of our landscapes while creating new jobs and opportunities (just like they have in the United States), starting with \$500,000 to develop the strategy. <p>Ending Native Forest Logging in Victoria</p> <p>First Nations people have cared for forest Country for thousands of years, have never ceded sovereignty over forest Country, and understand that forests are essential to health and wellbeing. Yet in 2022, as the world faces dual climate and biodiversity crises, the Victorian Labor Government continues to decimate native forests with logging, while criminalising citizens protesting to protect vital forest</p> |

| Party | Policies |
|-------|--|
| | <p>habitat.</p> <p>Each year, millions of dollars in taxpayer money is spent on logging our irreplaceable native forests, while the state-run logging company VicForests is plagued by scandals and corruption.</p> <p>The Greens have a detailed and fully costed plan to end native forest logging, move workers into new jobs, and meet our timber needs with plantations and other timber alternatives.</p> <p>The Greens plan to end native forest logging in Victoria includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reversing Labor’s anti-democratic laws that criminalise peaceful forest protesters, and repealing the archaic laws that lock Victoria into supplying forests to private companies until 2030 • Legislating an end to logging in 2023, and protecting native forests for the vital habitat they provide to threatened wildlife and for the carbon they store that protects us from climate change • Establishing a Victorian disaster response team employing former logging contractors to deploy their skills and experience to respond to fire, storm, flood and other emergencies • Processing plantation timber in Victoria and setting up Victoria as a national leader in alternative timber products • Showcasing alternative forest-based economic opportunities, such as an elevated forest walk tourism venture in Victoria’s central highlands, working with First Nations people. <p>1. Laws to protect forests not log them</p> <p>Just months before the November election, Labor steamrolled new laws through Victoria’s Parliament that will punish peaceful forest protestors with up to \$21,000 in fines or one year in jail. These laws are a dangerous attack on our democracy and the fundamental right to peaceful protest. The Greens will reverse these laws.</p> <p>The Greens will also repeal the current outdated laws, known as the Woodpulp Agreement Act, which locks the Victorian Government into supplying vast volumes of our precious native forests to the Maryvale pulp mill to be turned into paper and cardboard. Our plan ensures that Victoria can continue to make paper and timber products using locally grown plantations and timber alternatives.</p> <p>The Greens will also ensure Victorian law continues to prohibit the burning of native forests for energy.</p> <p>2. Protect native forests for carbon, water and habitat</p> <p>Victoria’s forests are the most carbon-dense in the world and are our most precious natural asset in the fight to tackle climate change. We urgently need to protect what little forest is left, while actively restoring previously logged forests. Ending native forest logging will also ensure the security of Melbourne’s drinking water, help protect Aboriginal cultural heritage, and safeguard habitat for more than 70 forest-living plant and animal species on the brink of extinction.</p> <p>Traditional Owners must be at the heart of plans to protect forests. Treaty and self-determination are essential to care for forest Country and heal from the harms of the past.</p> <p>3. Create a Victorian disaster response team employing former logging contractors</p> <p>Climate change means Victoria is facing an increase in disasters like fires, storms and floods. Over recent years, our SES volunteers have been struggling to keep up</p> |

| Party | Policies |
|-------|--|
| | <p>with the huge increase in demand for emergency services, and unfortunately we can anticipate that climate change will make disasters more frequent and severe. Logging workers and contractors are skilled with heavy machinery and working in regional areas, and they already use these skills to do fire prevention and response work around our forests, making them an ideal group of workers to form a professional emergency response team that can be deployed when and where they are most needed. The Greens will also bring forward Labor’s transition plan to move workers into new jobs, but with an end date for native forest logging of 2023, not 2030.</p> <p>4. Process plantation timber in Victoria Victoria grows plantation timber in the west of the state, but instead of turning these into timber and paper here in Victoria, these trees are exported overseas. The Greens' plan would make sure locally-grown plantations are used right here in Victoria to make paper and high-value wood products. Our plan also includes growing our state’s alternative timber industries including hemp to produce high-grade hemp timber alternatives, urban sawmilling to use city trees that are cut down, and massively increasing local cardboard and paper recycling and production.</p> <p>5. Showcase alternative economic opportunities for forests The Greens’ plan includes working with First Nations people to protect forests across the state, including in the central highlands region on Melbourne’s doorstep. First Nations people will play the central role in self-determining how land is protected and cared for (for example, as a national park, Indigenous protected area or otherwise), and in designing the economic ventures to showcase the region's unique beauty and wildlife while creating new jobs. Our policy includes a proposal for an elevated forest walk, like the Valley of the Giants Tree Top Walk in Western Australia. Any proposal such as this would need to be consented to and developed in partnership with Traditional Owners.</p> <p>Paying for our plan Native forest logging in Victoria is subsidised each year with Victorian taxpayer funds. The Parliamentary Budget Office calculates that ending native forest logging in 2023 will save Victoria \$205 million over the next decade. The Greens will reinvest these savings to protect forests, restore nature and support worker transition.</p> <p>The Greens’ plan includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$21 million to establish a disaster response team employing former logging workers. • Forest-based job creation. Our plan includes a costed elevated forest walk as one possibility; however, Traditional Owners will be engaged to determine their preferences and priorities. • Bringing forward Labor’s \$120 million timber worker transition package to support the local use of Victoria’s plantation timber and the development of a local hemp-timber industry. • Creating and managing new protected areas across Victoria’s remaining forests as part of the Greens’ \$1 billion per year Zero Extinction Nature Fund. |

6. Substantial incentives for electric vehicles

| Party | Policies |
|---|--|
| <p>Amelia Natoli Animal Justice</p> | <p>The Climate Emergency (Policy) ... Key Objectives ... 9. Shift away from road transport toward more environmentally-friendly modes, including rail and mass transit, together with walking and cycling ...</p> <p>Land Transport (Policy) Vehicles, roads and internal combustion engines have disastrous side effects for animals, the environment and people. The Animal Justice Party (AJP) recognises that Australia needs a national shift away from road transport and toward other more environmentally-friendly modes, including all forms of rail and mass transit, together with walking and cycling. This shift needs to be concurrent with changes in urban and inter-city planning and development, with the wellbeing of animals and people factored into the design (see our Human Population Policy). In addition to long term goals, we have an urgent need to rapidly decarbonise Australia’s transport system. Powering vehicles with alternative energy sources such as hydrogen or electricity is a good start, but it is not enough to slow climate change or environmental destruction, or keep us within climate carbon budgets. This will require not only different vehicles but also far fewer. Key Objectives 1. Encourage the growth of efficient, low carbon transport and steep reductions in private vehicles, particularly in urban areas. 2. Rapidly transition away from the internal combustion engine towards hydrogen, electric vehicles and other clean technology with better emissions standards (possibly including offsets) in the interim. 3. Provide financial incentives to both producers and consumers to switch to more eco-friendly land transport solutions. 4. Ensure that public transport is affordable, reliable, accessible and safe for all people and companion animals. 5. Prioritise walkability, active transport and public transport in town planning while minimising travel time. 6. Support the technologies and practices that will allow for remote work where appropriate ...</p> <p>Land Transport (Information Sheet) ... Greenhouse gases and traffic modes Transport, in all its forms, is a major generator of greenhouse gases and a major contributor to the climate crisis ... The most effective way to reduce emissions from travel is to simply reduce travel ... electric vehicles alone are not a “silver bullet” for car emissions ... Electric vehicles are fuelling a global mining boom ... partly this is because they are chasing the high end of the market; the conspicuous climate change consumer. Since early 2021, a global supply chain blockage of computer chips isn’t just hitting phone companies but car companies also. Larger cars packed with electronics may be irresistible to rich consumers but will put serious pressure on the other end of the supply chain: the mining and processing. Both processes have environmental and climate implications. Habitat impacts will be multiplied if renewables are used to make new fuels ...</p> |

| Party | Policies |
|--------------------------------|---|
| | <p>In addition to electric vehicles, there are other technologies that produce either no tailpipe emissions or are carbon neutral (or close), such as hydrogen, ammonia, and synthetic fuels. But there are still problems with their use which need to be determined. Biofuels are not a global option⁴³; meaning that they are either unsustainable, not carbon neutral or cannot provide the scale of solution required ...</p> |
| <p>Darren Natale Labor</p> | <p>GOVERNMENT POLICIES Victoria’s Zero Emissions Vehicle Roadmap (May 2021) OVERVIEW [page 6] The Climate Change Act 2017 legislated a long-term emissions target for Victoria. Under the Act, Victoria is legally committed to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Victoria’s transport sector accounts for 25 per cent of Victoria’s carbon emissions. Transitioning to zero emissions vehicles (ZEVs) will help Victoria reach net-zero emissions, but there’s no time to waste. • It will take 25 years for the community and industry to fully transition to ZEVs. That is why Victoria needs to act now to fully transition to ZEVs before 2050. • With that in mind, this Roadmap is setting sustainable targets and making strategic investments. • The sustainable targets are for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 400 vehicles in VicFleet to be replaced by ZEVs by 2023. – Electric vehicle charging stations to be installed across regional Victoria by 2024. – All public transport bus purchases to be ZEVs from 2025. – 50 per cent of light vehicle sales to be ZEVs by 2030. • A \$100 million package of new policies and programs will ensure Victoria is a leader in the adoption of ZEVs in Australia and position the state to take full advantage of the emerging global shift towards this new technology. This is made possible by a zero and low-emissions road user charge that will be introduced at a fraction of the motor vehicle-related taxes and charges other vehicle owners pay, ensuring all road users are contributing to the upkeep of our roads. • The Government is strategically investing this \$100 million package to meet those sustainable targets by delivering: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – \$46 million for Australia’s first public ZEV subsidy program – supporting the purchase of more than 20,000 ZEVs. – \$20 million for a ZEV public transport bus trial. – \$10 million to replace 400 vehicles in the Victorian Government Fleet (VicFleet) with 400 ZEVs. – \$5 million to establish a Commercial Sector Zero Emissions Vehicle Innovation Fund. – \$19 million to accelerate the rollout of EV charging infrastructure. <p>ZLEV road-user charge (VicRoads, 20 Jul 2022) ... What is a ZLEV?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motor vehicles that emit zero or low emissions by means of electric (BEV), hydrogen or plug-in electric-hybrid (PHEV) propulsion systems (or other zero-emissions systems) are classified as ZLEVs. • Conventional hybrid vehicles – those that are not recharged by electrical plug-in – are not classified as ZLEVs. |

| Party | Policies | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|--|-------------|-----|---------------------------|-------------|-----|---------------------|-----|----|
| | <p>About the ZLEV road-user charge</p> <p>Australian drivers pay Commonwealth fuel excise when they purchase petrol, LPG and diesel. This funds the development and maintenance of Australian roads. The fuel excise is currently charged at 42.3 cents/L for petrol and diesel, and 13.8 cents/L for LPG. For every 60L tank of petrol vehicle owners contribute \$25.38 fuel excise to the road network.</p> <p>From 1 July 2021, a new user-pays charge is required for Victorian-registered ZLEVs. ZLEV registered operators pay little or no fuel excise because these vehicles are primarily powered by electric or alternative fuel sources. The ZLEV road-user charge means that all road users will pay their fair share.</p> <p>The new road-user charge requires ZLEV registered operators to make a fair contribution to funding Victorian roads. The Victorian Government will use this revenue to invest in the accelerated adoption of zero and low emission vehicles, including new electric-vehicle-charging infrastructure and reforms to enable electric-vehicle-ready new buildings.</p> <p>Because ZLEVs have environmental benefits, registered operators of these vehicles will pay about 2 cents/km less towards the maintenance of road infrastructure than owners of petrol or diesel other vehicles.</p> <p>ZLEVs & charges</p> <p>The new charge will depend on the vehicle type and how far it is driven. The following rates (indexed annually) are applicable from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="392 981 1291 1308"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="392 981 703 1055">Vehicle type</th> <th data-bbox="708 981 986 1055">2022-23 road-user charge</th> <th data-bbox="991 981 1291 1055">Registration concession available?</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="392 1061 703 1160">Electric, other zero emission vehicles and hydrogen vehicles</td> <td data-bbox="708 1061 986 1160">2.6 cent/km</td> <td data-bbox="991 1061 1291 1160">Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="392 1167 703 1234">Plug-in hybrid electrical</td> <td data-bbox="708 1167 986 1234">2.1 cent/km</td> <td data-bbox="991 1167 1291 1234">Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="392 1240 703 1308">Conventional hybrid</td> <td data-bbox="708 1240 986 1308">N/A</td> <td data-bbox="991 1240 1291 1308">No</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Buses (Department of Transport, 2022)</p> <p>... Zero Emission Bus Trials</p> <p>We're rolling out more zero emission buses across Victoria this year as part of the state's three-year Zero Emission Bus (ZEB) Trials.</p> <p>Five Victorian bus operators have been selected to trial 41 electric buses on existing routes across the state's metropolitan and regional bus networks.</p> <p>The learnings from the trials will pave the way for the transition of Victoria's 4,000-strong bus fleet to be zero emissions, providing practical information such as depot charging needs and capacity, infrastructure and energy network requirements, environmental outcomes, customer expectations and commercial arrangements ...</p> <p>From 2025, all new buses purchased in Victoria will be zero emissions, which is critical to helping the state achieve its legislated commitment of zero net emissions by 2050.</p> <p>It's all part of Victoria's Bus Plan to deliver a modern, productive and environmentally sustainable bus network.</p> <p>Who is involved in the trials and where will the buses be operating?</p> <p>In metropolitan Melbourne, Ventura will transition its whole Ivanhoe depot to ZEB operations with 26 electric buses servicing the northern suburbs.</p> <p>CDC Victoria will trial eight electric buses operating from its Oakleigh South depot,</p> | Vehicle type | 2022-23 road-user charge | Registration concession available? | Electric, other zero emission vehicles and hydrogen vehicles | 2.6 cent/km | Yes | Plug-in hybrid electrical | 2.1 cent/km | Yes | Conventional hybrid | N/A | No |
| Vehicle type | 2022-23 road-user charge | Registration concession available? | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Electric, other zero emission vehicles and hydrogen vehicles | 2.6 cent/km | Yes | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Plug-in hybrid electrical | 2.1 cent/km | Yes | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Conventional hybrid | N/A | No | | | | | | | | | | | |

| Party | Policies |
|-------|--|
| | <p>and Donric Group will trial three electric buses operating from its Sunbury depot. In regional Victoria, Seymour Passenger Services will trial three electric buses operating from its Seymour depot, providing the first completely electric town bus network.</p> <p>Latrobe Valley Bus Lines will trial one electric bus operating from its Traralgon depot ...</p> <p>How much will the trials cost?</p> <p>The ZEB trials received \$20 million funding in the 2020-21 Victorian State Budget to undertake research, planning and trials of ZEB technology.</p> <p>Learnings from the ZEB trials will be shared across manufacturers, operators, government and others to inform the procurement of only zero emission buses from 2025.</p> <p>When will the trial buses be on the network?</p> <p>The first trial bus is scheduled to hit the network in August 2022, with the remainder of buses rolling out progressively over the next three years.</p> <p>What is a zero-emission bus?</p> <p>Zero emission buses do not emit any greenhouse gases or other pollutants into the atmosphere. However, it is important that the energy they use comes from renewable sources for the environmental benefits to be maximised.</p> <p>What is a battery electric bus?</p> <p>Battery electric buses (BEB) operate purely on electricity. They are usually charged overnight, like a mobile phone. The battery drives electric motors which turn the wheels ...</p> <p>Accelerating The Next Generation Of Electric Vehicle Chargers (Media Release 30 Oct 2022)</p> <p>The Andrews Labor Government is accelerating electric vehicle infrastructure for businesses and not-for-profits by delivering more chargers across Victoria and investing in innovative new charging technologies.</p> <p>Minister for Environment and Climate Action Lily D’Ambrosio announced \$1.55 million in grants for 14 organisations under its program for EV Charging for Business and Not-for-Profits. The program will install 58 charging stations at 24 organisations across the state in 2023, helping drive down their emissions and cut fuel bills. This investment is part of the Labor Government’s \$100 million Zero Emissions Vehicle Roadmap – supporting Victoria’s transition to electric vehicles, driving the deployment of EV charging technology and helping make EVs more affordable by growing the second-hand market.</p> <p>Regional Victoria will receive \$727,000 and metropolitan Melbourne will receive \$827,000, with chargers ranging from 7 to 60 kilowatts depending on location, fleet size and frequency of use.</p> <p>The Labor Government has also announced a new \$3.18 million program to support new Zero Emissions Vehicle Emerging Technologies. The program will support pilots, trials and implementation-ready projects using innovative EV charging technologies, such as wireless charging and bidirectional, vehicle-to-grid charging. Other eligible technologies include EV charging in high density areas, off-street parking areas and smart chargers that reduce costs or optimise charging during off-peak periods or maximise rooftop solar.</p> <p>The roadmap also invested \$5 million for new fast-charging stations across Victoria – ensuring drivers in any Victorian town will be at most one hour away from a charger and as well as infrastructure for local councils and businesses to support</p> |

| Party | Policies |
|--|---|
| | <p>their fleets.</p> <p>To put a new ZEV within reach of more families, the Government has invested \$46 million in the Zero Emissions Vehicles (ZEV) Subsidy, reducing the upfront cost by \$3,000 and driving the creation of a second-hand market.</p> <p>These initiatives will play a key role in helping achieve our target of 50 per cent of all new light vehicles sales being zero emissions by 2030 and help Victoria achieve its ambitious emissions reductions targets.</p> <p>Powering Victoria's Electric Vehicle Future (Media Release, 6 Oct 2022)</p> <p>... Minister for Industry Support and Recovery Ben Carroll announced support for JET Charge to expand operations at its national headquarters in the Fishermans Bend precinct, creating 73 high-skilled jobs in electronics, engineering and logistics. Established in Melbourne in 2013, JET Charge is Australia's leading provider of electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure and technologies. The project has attracted combined public and private investments worth \$3.3 million, supporting the company to grow its operations in research and development and production. JET Charge operates across Australia and New Zealand and is the preferred charging infrastructure provider for property developers, energy providers and 24 EV brands, having installed more than 10,000 charging stations across Australia ...</p> |
| <p>Michael O'Brien Liberal</p> | <p>Our Real Solutions Plan</p> <p>Rewarding Hard-working Victorian Families</p> <p>Pause electric vehicle tax and deliver 600 new EV charging stations</p> <p>A Matt Guy Liberals and Nationals Government will pause the Electric Vehicle Tax and establish 600 new charging stations across the state as part of our Long-Term Economic Plan for Victoria.</p> <p>We want to reward hard-working Victorian families, and by reducing the barriers in getting an electric vehicle we can save more drivers the hip-pocket pain at the petrol bowser.</p> <p>The Liberals and Nationals will pause Labor's new Electric Vehicle Tax until 2027, in line with New South Wales, to encourage more people to purchase an electric vehicle and save drivers the tax hit they face for every kilometre they drive under Daniel Andrews' Labor.</p> <p>The pause will save electric vehicle and hydrogen vehicle drivers 2.6c per kilometre, and plug-in hybrid electric vehicle drivers 2.1c per kilometre. This means, an electric vehicle driver in Melbourne with a 40 kilometre return commute each day could save around \$380 a year, while a plug-in hybrid driver could save over \$300.</p> <p>We will also establish a new \$50 million Community Charging Fund to leverage co-investment with businesses and community organisations including councils to install 600 new charging stations across Victoria. This co-investment could bring the total investment in new charging stations to \$100 million.</p> <p>By increasing the availability of charging stations we will remove one of the barriers that stop people from buying an electric vehicle, unlocking the hip-pocket savings and emissions reductions....</p> <p>Electric vehicle sales need a supercharge (Media Statement 19 May 2022)</p> <p>... In May 2021, Labor announced its Zero Emissions Vehicle Roadmap, which included a target of achieving at least 50 per cent of all new light vehicles sales to be zero emissions by 2030 ... Over the last year, new electric vehicle sales have only increased to 2.1 per cent – lightyears away from Labor's own 50 per cent target ...</p> |

| Party | Policies |
|------------------------------------|--|
| | <p>Shadow Minister for Environment and Climate Change, James Newbury, said that setting the target was the first step, but what matters more is actually achieving the goal ... “Electric vehicles are inevitably the way of the future, and yet Victoria is falling behind. We need the government to supercharge uptake and actually aspire to reach this achievable goal.”</p> <p>Real solutions for cheaper, greener transport for Victorian families (Media Statement 24 Oct 2022)</p> <p>A Matt Guy Liberals and Nationals Government will pause the Electric Vehicle Tax and establish 600 new charging stations across the state as part of our Long-Term Economic Plan for Victoria ...</p> <p>The Liberals and Nationals will pause Labor’s new Electric Vehicle Tax until 2027, in line with New South Wales, to encourage more people to purchase an electric vehicle and save drivers the tax-hit they face for every kilometre they drive under Daniel Andrews’ Labor.</p> <p>The pause will save electric vehicle and hydrogen vehicle drivers 2.6c per kilometre, and plug-in hybrid electric vehicle drivers 2.1c per kilometre. This means, an electric vehicle driver in Melbourne with a 40 kilometre return commute each day could save around \$380 a year, while a plug-in hybrid driver could save over \$300.</p> <p>We will also establish a new \$50 million Community Charging Fund to leverage co-investment with businesses and community organisations including councils to install 600 new charging stations across Victoria. This co-investment could bring the total investment in new charging stations to \$100 million.</p> <p>By increasing the availability of charging stations we will remove one of the barriers that stop people from buying an electric vehicle, unlocking the hip-pocket savings and emissions reductions ...</p> <p>The modest and responsible Electric Vehicle Tax pause will cost \$82.2 million over the next four years, and the Community Charging Fund will cost \$50 million over the next four years.</p> |
| Steve Stefanopoulos Independent | No published policies available. |
| Judy Schmidt Family First | <p>Policies</p> <p>No reference to EVs or transport here or elsewhere on the website.</p> |
| Mitchell Fuller Greens | <p>Climate Friendly Transport</p> <p>To tackle the climate crisis, we must reduce transport emissions. Transport is Victoria’s fastest growing source of carbon emissions. Petrol cars and trucks are polluting, bad for our health, and are getting more expensive to run. We need to make it easier for people to switch to cheaper and climate-friendly transport, like public transport, electric vehicles, and bike riding and walking ...</p> <p>Electric vehicles are essential for the transition to 100% renewable energy and to reduce reliance on coal and gas ...</p> <p>Electric Vehicle Rapid Uptake Plan</p> <p>... Victoria needs a government-led plan to help people rapidly shift from polluting petrol cars to cleaner electric vehicles ...</p> |

| Party | Policies | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------|---|--------------|--|----------|----------------------------------|----------|-----------|---------------|--|---------|----------------------------------|---------|-----------|
| | <p>The Greens' Electric Vehicle Rapid Uptake Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scrap Labor's tax on electric vehicles • Solar cars - Support for people to connect their EVs to their homes so they can use their cars as solar-powered batteries on wheels • Affordable Electric Vehicles with an eco-bonus of up to \$15,000 to help people make the switch from expensive, polluting cars to electric vehicles • Rollout of more than 1000 EV Chargers so you can charge your EV no matter where you live • No new petrol cars sales from 2030 • Manufacture 3,000 electric buses to create a network of high frequency electric bus routes across Melbourne and regional cities • A Jobs, Industry and Innovation Fund to support the development of new clean transport technology and develop our local manufacturing, repair and technology capacities • Clean Air Zones to reduce air pollution and carbon emissions in the CBD and Inner West <p>Abolish Labor's EV tax The Greens will introduce legislation to scrap Labor's EV tax ... Environmental and industry groups deemed Labor's EV tax as 'the worst EV policy in the world'.</p> <p>Solar Cars Electric vehicles are batteries on wheels. The Greens will provide a subsidy for people to connect their EV to their home with bi-directional chargers. With roof-top solar, people will be able to charge their electric vehicles, then use the EV battery to power their home. This will lower bills, stabilise the grid and support the clean energy revolution.</p> <p>Affordable Electric Vehicles The Victorian Greens will offer subsidies of up to \$15,000 for 100,000 electric vehicles to make EVs more affordable, with a scrap and replace scheme targeted at people on low incomes with older, more polluting cars. E-bikes are a great zero-emission alternative to car travel. They are good for your health and allow you to ride further with less effort. For electric cars, a standard \$10,000 eco-bonus will apply to cars that cost under \$78,000, rising to \$15,000 for people who scrap an older, polluting vehicle. For electric bikes a standard \$1,000 eco-bonus will apply rising to \$5,000 with a scrap and replace scheme.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="392 1632 1062 1744"> <tr> <td>Electric Car</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$15,000</td> <td>Eco-bonus with scrap and replace</td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$10,000</td> <td>Eco-bonus</td> </tr> </table> <table border="1" data-bbox="392 1783 1062 1895"> <tr> <td>Electric Bike</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$5,000</td> <td>Eco-bonus with scrap and replace</td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$1,000</td> <td>Eco-bonus</td> </tr> </table> <p>More EV charging stations The Greens will accelerate the rollout of charging stations across Victoria with over 1,000 new chargers, including at public car parks, shopping strips, train station car</p> | Electric Car | | \$15,000 | Eco-bonus with scrap and replace | \$10,000 | Eco-bonus | Electric Bike | | \$5,000 | Eco-bonus with scrap and replace | \$1,000 | Eco-bonus |
| Electric Car | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| \$15,000 | Eco-bonus with scrap and replace | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| \$10,000 | Eco-bonus | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Electric Bike | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| \$5,000 | Eco-bonus with scrap and replace | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| \$1,000 | Eco-bonus | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| Party | Policies |
|-------|--|
| | <p data-bbox="391 237 866 266">parks and residential apartment blocks.</p> <p data-bbox="391 309 807 338">No new petrol car sales from 2030</p> <p data-bbox="391 344 1394 551">Across the world in places like England, Norway and California, governments are taking decisive action and banning the sale of polluting fossil fuelled cars. In the ACT, the Greens/Labor government have already committed to a phase out of petrol car sales. The Victorian Greens will do the same and ban the sale of polluting petrol car sales from 2030. This will significantly accelerate the current trajectory for EV takeup, make them more affordable and more readily available.</p> <p data-bbox="391 593 632 622">3,000 Electric Buses</p> <p data-bbox="391 629 1374 730">The Victorian Greens will manufacture 3,000 electric buses to create a network of high frequency, electric buses across Melbourne and regional cities as part of the plan for more public transport.</p> <p data-bbox="391 772 815 801">Jobs, Industry and Innovation Fund</p> <p data-bbox="391 808 1402 1014">Electric vehicles offer huge opportunities to create jobs and develop local industries. A \$100 million jobs, industry and innovation fund would support industry research and development in areas such as software development, vehicle-to-home charging and battery recycling. It would also support local manufacturing of new vehicles and components and the expansion of tertiary qualifications in electric vehicle servicing, repair and manufacturing.</p> <p data-bbox="391 1057 579 1086">Clean Air Zones</p> <p data-bbox="391 1093 1347 1158">Clean Air Zones will reduce air pollution, lower emissions and cut congestion by encouraging cleaner forms of transport. They will include:</p> <ul data-bbox="391 1164 1082 1232" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="391 1164 1002 1193">• A 24 hour inner west Clean Air Zone for trucks. <li data-bbox="391 1200 1082 1232">• A peak hour CBD Clean Air Zone for all petrol vehicles <p data-bbox="391 1274 620 1303">Paying for our plan</p> <p data-bbox="391 1310 1402 1588">The Victorian Greens Electric Vehicle Rapid Uptake Plan will be funded through the revenue raised in Clean Air Zones and by reforming motor vehicle duty to a fee-bate scheme. This will incentivise the uptake of cleaner, less polluting vehicles and revenue from clean air zones. The Greens will make the big banks, property developers and the gambling industry pay their fair share of tax so we can invest in climate action, affordable housing and public services for all. Our plans will also be paid for by spending smarter and making our state borrowings work for the community.</p> |

7. Strengthened integrity and accountability standards

| Party | Policies |
|---|---|
| <p>Amelia Natoli Animal Justice</p> | <p>Corruption (Policy)</p> <p>The Animal Justice Party (AJP) relies upon our core values of Kindness, Equality, Rationality and Non-Violence in forming our position to stamp out corruption in all of its forms and in all levels and arms of government. Corruption is insidious and undermines the rule of law, destroys public confidence in government and seeks to give power, influence and resources to a privileged few with criminal and unethical intent to the detriment of the broader community. Corruption is also often detrimental to animal and environmental protection.</p> <p>The AJP supports the efforts of integrity and accountability agencies that oversee our democratic processes including our electoral commissions and anti-corruption agencies. The AJP supports all efforts to improve equity, transparency, integrity and accountability in local, state and federal government elections and decision-making. Specifically, we encourage the strengthening of state-based anti-corruption watchdogs and the introduction of a federal Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC).</p> <p>Internally, AJP representatives will maintain high ethical standards with zero tolerance towards corruption; the AJP will promptly refer any matters it is aware of involving corruption to the relevant authorities.</p> |
| <p>Darren Natale Labor</p> | <p>INTEGRITY BODY RECOMMENDATIONS</p> <p>Operation Watts Recommendations (IBAC, July 2022)</p> <p>... IBAC and the Ombudsman recommend that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the government and the parliament work together to establish a Parliamentary Ethics Committee ... 2. the government and the parliament work together to establish a Parliamentary Integrity Commissioner as an independent officer of the parliament ... 3. the privileges committees of each House be reformed to dilute the capacity of the majority in each House to determine the privileges committees' priorities and decision making ... 4. the Parliamentary Integrity Adviser continue to provide confidential advice to members of parliament on integrity and ethical issues and help the Parliamentary Integrity Commissioner and Parliamentary Ethics Committee with information and training activities. 5. whichever party or parties form government after the November 2022 state election commit to introducing and commencing the legislation to establish the Parliamentary Ethics Committee and Parliamentary Integrity Commissioner 6. the work of the Parliamentary Ethics Committee and Parliamentary Integrity Commissioner to promote an ethical culture in parliament: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. involve and be actively supported by the leaders of all political parties represented in the parliament, as well as by the presiding officers b. focus closely on the role of leadership in fostering ethical practices c. reinforce respect and support for the institution of parliament d. create strong links with the community and community groups. 7. the definition of prohibited party-specific activities in section 30 of the parliamentary Administration Act 2005 be amended to include activities undertaken for the predominant purpose of helping the administration, organisation or management of a political party, including the recruitment and maintenance of party members. |

| Party | Policies |
|-------|---|
| | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="395 237 1394 371">8. an offence be created that provides that a member of parliament who directs or allows a person to undertake party-specific activities while that person is employed to help the member of parliament discharge their public duties is guilty of an offence ... <li data-bbox="395 383 1394 517">9. the Electorate Officers Code of Conduct be reviewed to make it more relevant to the actual responsibilities and challenges of the electorate officer role and to specifically prohibit party-specific work from being undertaken during the course of an electorate officer's employment ... <li data-bbox="395 528 1394 584">10. members of parliament be prohibited from employing close family members in their electorate office <li data-bbox="395 595 1394 763">11. the Secretary of the Department of Parliamentary Services be the employer of electorate office staff in their capacity as Secretary of DPS, not as a delegate of the presiding officers [and] the contractual term for the Secretary of the Department of Parliamentary Services be made significantly longer than the duration of a parliamentary term. <li data-bbox="395 775 1394 875">12. the presiding officers and the Department of Parliamentary Services review the processes for recruiting and selecting electorate office staff, to promote a more competitive, open and merit-based process. <li data-bbox="395 887 1394 943">13. the presiding officers and the Department of Parliamentary Services review the arrangements for managing and supervising electorate officers ... <li data-bbox="395 954 1394 1088">14. the presiding officers, the Department of Parliamentary Services and the DPS Audit Committee review the DPS audit program in light of this investigation's findings, to refine their approach to risk identification and the choice of issues and business operations that should be audited ... <li data-bbox="395 1099 1394 1200">15. the Public Interest Disclosures Act 2012 be reviewed to establish an alternative course for a person who has reasonable grounds for not wishing to lodge a complaint with a presiding officer <li data-bbox="395 1211 1394 1312">16. the Ministerial Code of Conduct be amended to clarify that ministers must ensure that the public resources made available for performing their duties are not used for party-specific purposes. <li data-bbox="395 1323 1394 1447">17. the government and parliament clarify the extent to which it is intended that the Members of Parliament Code of Conduct and the processes for dealing with breaches of the Code should cover the actions of ministers in relation to their ministerial portfolios. <li data-bbox="395 1458 1394 1559">18. an offence be created that provides that a minister who directs or allows a person to undertake party-specific activities while that person is employed to assist the minister in discharging their public duties is guilty of an offence ... <li data-bbox="395 1570 1394 1671">19. the Ministerial Staff Code of Conduct be reviewed to explicitly prohibit a ministerial staff member from doing party-specific work during their employment ... <li data-bbox="395 1682 1394 1850">20. the Victorian Government undertake a comprehensive review of existing conflict of interest controls for ministers and ministerial staff to strengthen the identification and management of conflicts of interest [and] revise the codes of conduct for ministers and ministerial staff to recognise the particular risks of conflicts of interest ... <li data-bbox="395 1861 1394 1995">21. state and local government funders of community organisations continue to improve their management of grants, in accordance with evolving best practice, and make sure that monitoring and reporting practices are risk-informed and sufficiently prioritised to be implemented effectively ... |

| Party | Policies |
|-------|--|
| | <p>Special report on corruption risks associated with donations and lobbying (IBAC, 12 Oct 2022)</p> <p>Corruption risks associated with political donations – areas for reform</p> <p>At the state government level, Victoria’s current rules on political donations do not place any limit on expenditure. While at the local government level, there is no requirement for donors to make a declaration of any kind. IBAC’s special report identifies several areas for reform:</p> <p>Donors and candidates concealing donations (state and local government)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Splitting payments using different entities • Providing support in-kind • Donations made to political parties with a request to direct to particular candidates • Using third-party campaigners at the local government level • Financial support not currently defined as a political donation at the local government level <p>Compliance, enforcement and timely public reporting (state and local government)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over-reliance on candidate declarations at the local government level • Limitations of the current reporting and monitoring process <p>Parties and candidates soliciting donations (state government)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of associated entities to attract donations and other contributions • Regulations around fundraising events <p>Pressure to fundraise with no limits set on expenditure (state government)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding arrangements for state elections • Expenditure caps <p>Corruption risks associated with lobbying – areas for reform</p> <p>Victoria’s very limited regulation of lobbying already falls short of the legislative regimes in place in NSW and QLD, noting that both of those states have committed to further reforms following recent reviews. IBAC’s special report identifies several areas for reform:</p> <p>The scope of lobbying regulation is too narrow (state and local government)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Narrow definition of ‘lobbying activity’ and ‘lobbyist’ • Unregulated lobbying undertaken by MPs <p>Lobbying enables privileged access to decision-makers (state and local government)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to senior members of the government via networking forums and other fundraising events <p>Lobbying provides access to decision-makers and others that is not transparent (state and local government)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of transparency around access to elected officials, ministerial advisers and electorate officers <p>The current controls on lobbying are ineffective (state government)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Payment of ‘success fees’ to lobbyists • Lobbyists’ involvement in political activities • Cooling-off periods • Enforcement of lobbying regulation <p>GOVERNMENT POLICIES</p> <p>Sweeping Integrity Reforms For Victoria (Media Release, 20 July 2022)</p> <p>The Andrews Labor Government will introduce sweeping integrity reforms as part of the most significant overhaul of parliamentary oversight in the country.</p> |

| Party | Policies |
|-------|--|
| | <p>The Government will support and implement all 21 recommendations from the IBAC’s report into Operation Watts relating to the integrity and ethical conduct of Members of Parliament (MPs), Ministers and their respective staff.</p> <p>Headlining the reforms, a Parliamentary Integrity Commissioner will be established to receive and investigate complaints about possible misconduct from MPs. The Commissioner will be armed with robust powers and resources, including the power to recommend sanctions.</p> <p>The Government will work with the Parliament – including representatives of the Opposition and Crossbench – to establish a joint Parliamentary Ethics Committee comprised of equal numbers of members from the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council.</p> <p>MPs will be banned from employing close family members in their electorate offices, and the Ministerial Code of Conduct will be amended to clarify that Ministers must ensure the public resources made available for performing their duties are not used for party-specific purposes.</p> <p>Electorate officer recruitment, management and supervision will be reviewed alongside grant administration to ensure greater transparency and better processes.</p> <p>On top of these reforms recommended by IBAC, the Government will also go a step further with three additional changes designed to further strengthen public trust and lift standards across the administration of all political parties in Victoria.</p> <p>Major political parties will need to fulfil minimum requirements of party administration to qualify for public funding.</p> <p>This will include party memberships paid by traceable means, mandatory photo ID checks for new members joining a party, proof of eligibility to hold a concessional membership and measures to ensure compliance in using the electoral roll.</p> <p>These minimum requirements will apply to established parties in the parliamentary system and a threshold will determine which parties must meet the requirements. That threshold might be based on the number of MPs, the number of members in their party, or the amount of public funding they will receive.</p> <p>The rules will be designed as to not disadvantage new parties from being established – but rather to make sure larger and more established ones are held to the standard that taxpayers expect from publicly funded organisations.</p> <p>As well as possible breaches of the MPs’ Code of Conduct, the Parliamentary Integrity Commissioner will be able to examine the behaviour of MPs – including bullying, harassment, sexual harassment and victimisation – providing a crucial avenue for complaints to be heard and investigated.</p> <p>Employment arrangements for Ministerial Staff will be codified consistent with the Commonwealth arrangements under the Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984 (Cth) to clearly set out the structure, terms, and conditions of employment.</p> <p>Given the scale of proposed reform to the Parliament’s oversight regime, the Government will undertake extensive consultation with Members of Parliament from all political parties.</p> <p>Work on implementing the recommendations will begin immediately. As per the report’s recommendation, the Government will work towards the full establishment of the new parliamentary integrity framework – including in legislation – by June 2024.</p> <p>Action And Funding To Deliver Integrity Reforms (Media Release, 12 Oct 2022)</p> <p>The Victorian Government will act on recommendations contained in a report into</p> |

| Party | Policies |
|------------------------------------|---|
| | <p>donations and lobbying released by the Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission (IBAC) today.</p> <p>Recommendations to update donation laws – donations are currently capped at \$4,320 per four-year electoral cycle, with strict disclosure requirements – will be incorporated in the terms of reference for an independent expert panel review of the operation of 2018 electoral reforms after the 2022 State Election.</p> <p>The independent review was mandated in the 2018 electoral reforms and will specifically consider and make recommendations about whether the Electoral Act 2002 should include a cap on political expenditure, as well as other matters.</p> <p>The Government supports in principle the IBAC report’s recommendations on lobbying reform and will work on implementation if re-elected, in the next term of government.</p> <p>The Government will also provide dedicated funding to help implement the nation’s most significant integrity reforms relating to parliamentary oversight.</p> <p>The Government is strengthening the integrity and ethical conduct of Members of Parliament (MPs), Ministers and their staff after earlier this year receiving the report of IBAC’s Operation Watts and immediately accepting all 21 of its recommendations.</p> <p>An allocation of \$8.52 million will support the Department of Parliamentary Services in the implementation of Operation Watts recommendations that relate to the operation of Parliament.</p> <p>Key to these reforms will be strengthening the training, education and support for electorate officers, including a refreshed member induction led by an expanded People Services team.</p> <p>Other changes to be made through a combination of new laws and reforms include the establishment of a Parliamentary Integrity Commissioner to receive and investigate complaints about possible misconduct from MPs and the creation of a Joint Parliamentary Ethics Committee.</p> <p>Work is underway to draft new legislation to establish the Parliamentary Integrity Commissioner and Joint Parliamentary Ethics Committee and the Government will consult with MPs from all parties on the reforms next year.</p> |
| <p>Michael O’Brien Liberal</p> | <p>Our Real Solutions Plan</p> <p>More funding and powers for Victoria's anti-corruption commission (IBAC)</p> <p>A Matt Guy Liberals and Nationals Government will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immediately inject secure ongoing funding to IBAC - an additional \$10 million per year. • Mandate anti-corruption be part of the public sector induction training program; • In collaboration with the Victorian Public Sector Commission mandate and support the delivery of anti-corruption training by IBAC to all senior public servants; • In collaboration with the Victorian Public Sector Commission and IBAC develop a mandatory refresher anti-corruption training program and regime for the public sector. • Reverse Labor's flawed legislative amendments which made it harder for IBAC to conduct public hearings. • Within 12 months amend the Parliamentary Committees Act 2003 to reform the Victorian Parliament's Integrity and Oversight Committee as an 'Officers of Parliament Committee,' (modelled on a Committee of the New Zealand |

| Party | Policies |
|-------|--|
| | <p>Parliament) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ exercise a budgetary oversight function on the annual budgets of the independent integrity agencies with the power to make recommendations to the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council. ● Release Labor's secret review of funding to independent agencies. <p>It was the previous Liberals and Nationals Government that established IBAC and it will be the next Liberals and Nationals Government that will give it the support it needs to do its job better ...</p> <p>Corruption-fighting bodies should be strengthened, supported and resourced to prevent corruption in public office.</p> <p>More funding for the ombudsman A Matt Guy Liberals and Nationals Government will immediately inject ongoing funding to the Victorian Ombudsman - \$2 million per year - to reverse Labor's cuts as part of a \$16 million increase over 5 years ...</p> <p>In August 2020, an Integrity and Oversight Committee hearing into the Performance of Victorian Integrity Agencies, 2017/18-2018/19 heard evidence from the Ombudsman voicing concerns about funding against a backdrop of 40,000 approaches from the public each year, a 20 per cent increase in workload, and an increasing number of referrals from IBAC ...</p> <p>The Liberals and Nationals understand the importance of fairness for Victorians in their dealings with the public sector, and the crucial role of the Victorian Ombudsman as a mechanism to ensure that fairness and integrity, in government decision making.</p> <p>The Liberals and Nationals also understand that when Victorians turn to the Ombudsman, the Ombudsman can only respond if the Office of the Ombudsman is properly funded.</p> <p>More funding and powers for the Parliamentary Budget Office A Matt Guy Liberals and Nationals Government will provide the Parliamentary Budget Office with additional operational funding of \$2.8 million over the next four years, to allow it to provide additional independent oversight of Victoria's finances and spending ...</p> <p>Overhaul Victoria's broken Freedom of Information (FOI) system A Matt Guy Liberals and Nationals Government will overhaul Victoria's broken Freedom of Information (FOI) system.</p> <p>... under the Andrews Labor Government, requests for information that the public deserves to know, including the justification behind lockdowns, planning decisions and new taxes, are continually and frustratingly withheld.</p> <p>Open and accountable government is the foundation of a democratic society. The right to access government information enables the public to hold government to account, participate meaningfully in society and support better government decision making ...</p> <p>Our commitment will end the secret state surrounding the Andrews Labor Government and give Victorians the access to the information they so deserve.</p> <p>Press releases following publication of the Operation Watts report (21 July 2022, 21 July 2022 and 30 July 2022) do not refer to accepting its recommendations.</p> |

| Party | Policies |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Steve Stefanopoulos Independent | No published policies available. |
| Judy Schmidt Family First | Policies No reference to IBAC or the integrity framework here or elsewhere on the site. |
| Mitchell Fuller Greens | Holding the Major Parties to Account ... Dirty deals with property developers, factional infighting, bullying and branch stacking, public money rorted for party politics, lobsters with mobsters – the list goes on. Politicians should work for all of us, not just big donors and party power-brokers. Your vote is powerful. We no longer have to sit by and accept dodgy politicians and the same old poor standards: together we can restore integrity to Victorian politics. With more Greens in Parliament we'll hold the next government to account by introducing the strongest integrity, transparency and anti-corruption standards ... More Integrity in Government Corporate lobbyists have too much influence over our politicians Politicians and staffers are supposed to work for us, but too often they're more interested in their own careers, or the interests of the powerful corporate lobbyists that have access to them. Most of the time the public aren't even allowed to know who politicians are meeting. A lack of any real rules or consequences allow MPs, ministers and their senior staff to get away with behaviour that wouldn't be tolerated outside of the political bubble. The Greens have a Bill ready to go that will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish an Independent Parliamentary Integrity Commissioner with real powers to sanction MPs and public officials who create an unsafe workplace, act disrespectfully, or fail to work in the public's best interests. • Strengthen 'revolving door' rules, and prevent ministers and staffers moving straight into lobbying or related private sector roles. • Require all ministers and the Premier to proactively disclose their diaries and meetings. End Dodgy Preference Deals Voters, not big money, should power elections It's almost impossible to believe, but cashed up candidates in Victoria who've received less than 1% of the vote have landed seats in our upper house. How? By paying huge sums of money to trade votes with other micro-parties. Only Victoria has a system that allows money and backroom deals to elect politicians, rather than voters. That's because Victoria is the only state that won't allow voters to write their preferences above the line. Meanwhile elections have become 'anything goes' affairs, with politicians spending millions to spread lies on social media, because we don't have truth in advertising laws. The Greens will make elections a genuine contest of ideas that are ultimately determined by empowered voters. The Greens plan includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Put the power to elect MPs back in the hands of voters by banning dodgy |

| Party | Policies |
|-------|---|
| | <p>preference deals and by allowing voters to number preferences above the line.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce Truth in Political Advertising laws like South Australia. • Introduce campaign spending caps for parties and candidates. <p>Truly Independent Anti-Corruption Agencies Politicians shouldn't control the funding of anti-corruption agencies. It's a conflict of interest</p> <p>Victoria has three integrity agencies: The Independent Broad-based Anti-Corruption Commission (IBAC), the Ombudsman, and the Auditor-General. All of these agencies have recently investigated the actions of government members or its departments. And all of them say the government has underfunded them. To be truly independent and have the proper resources to investigate politicians, funding for integrity agencies must be decided at arms-length from government.</p> <p>The Greens plan includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create an independent tribunal to determine funding for anti-corruption agencies, taking these decisions away from government. • Broaden IBAC's powers to fight corruption, including widening its jurisdiction to investigate potentially corrupt behaviour. <p>The Victorian Greens Bill to Clean Up Politics</p> <p>Anti-corruption and Higher Parliamentary Standards (Strengthening Integrity) Bill ... The Greens Integrity Bill will address three main weaknesses in Victoria's current integrity framework:</p> <p>1. Lobbying Victoria introduced a lobbyist code and register in 2009. However, unlike NSW and Queensland, Victoria's lobbying rules are not enshrined in legislation, there are no prescribed penalties for breaches, and the Public Sector Standards Commissioner has minimal oversight and enforcement of the code. Also, unlike in NSW and QLD, Victorian ministers do not disclose diaries detailing who they meet with ... Evidence heard by the IBAC's Operation Sandon, and the conflict of interest between the new planning minister and her developer lobbyist brother, illustrate that Victoria urgently needs stronger lobbying laws.</p> <p>2. Parliamentary Standards There is a pressing need to change toxic culture in all Australian parliaments, which has become increasingly apparent from the many revelations that have emerged in recent years ... Victoria's Code of Conduct for Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries is not enshrined in law, and investigations of any potential breaches of the Minister's code must be initiated by the Premier. This is a clear conflict of interest. ... the Greens introduced amendments in 2019 to establish a parliamentary standards commissioner, responsible for overseeing the appropriate use of entitlements and observance of the code of conduct. These amendments were rejected by the current Labor government. Now the IBAC Operation Watts report has recommended a Parliamentary Integrity Commissioner be created with similar powers to those which the Greens previously proposed.</p> <p>3. The Victorian Independent Broad-based Anti-Corruption Commission (IBAC) ... the Victorian IBAC's investigative functions are hampered by undue limitations on its jurisdiction and its powers to launch investigations under the Independent Broad-Based Anti-Corruption Commission Act 2011. This limits IBAC's ability to investigate suspicious behaviour and potential 'grey' level corruption or</p> |

| Party | Policies |
|-------|---|
| | <p data-bbox="391 237 1294 300">misconduct, which has frequently been associated with MPs, Ministers and Lobbyists in Victoria.</p> <p data-bbox="391 342 580 371">The Greens Bill:</p> <ul data-bbox="391 383 1385 701" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="391 383 1294 412">• Creates a powerful, independent Parliamentary Integrity Commissioner <li data-bbox="391 421 1385 483">• Requires legislated codes of conduct for lobbyists, ministers and parliamentary secretaries, publicly available, and introduces sanctions for breaches. <li data-bbox="391 492 932 521">• Requires ministerial diaries be published. <li data-bbox="391 530 1374 629">• Strengthens the powers of the Independent Broad-Based Anti-Corruption Commission so it can investigate MPs, Lobbyists, Ministers, and Parliamentary Secretaries. <li data-bbox="391 638 1270 701">• Removes government dominance over membership of parliamentary committees charged with investigating the government. <p data-bbox="391 743 1262 772">Creating a powerful, independent Parliamentary Integrity Commissioner</p> <p data-bbox="391 781 1331 880">The Commissioner will oversee MP standards and the lobbyist register, and independently investigate potential breaches of the codes of conduct for MPs, Lobbyists, Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries.</p> <p data-bbox="391 889 1390 952">The Commissioner will have powers to compel witnesses and documents to appear or be presented as part of its investigations.</p> <p data-bbox="391 960 1390 1095">The Commissioner will also advise on the further development of ethical standards, codes of conduct, and legislation regarding MPs, Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries, and provide specific advice to Ministers regarding how they should manage specific potential conflicts.</p> <p data-bbox="391 1137 1347 1236">Requiring legislated codes of conduct for lobbyists, ministers and parliamentary secretaries, introducing sanctions for breaches, and requiring diaries to be published.</p> <p data-bbox="391 1245 1390 1379">The bill will legislate and strengthen the existing Victorian lobbyist code of conduct, including inserting new offences for non-compliance with rules on success fees, interactions with lobbyists, and cooling-off periods for ex-ministers who wish to become lobbyists.</p> <p data-bbox="391 1388 1362 1523">Other rules under the existing code will also be strengthened, including requiring specific oversight arrangements for potential conflicts between lobbyists and current government Ministers, and requiring breaches of the code and cancellations or suspensions of the code to be publicly reported.</p> <p data-bbox="391 1532 1243 1594">The bill will also legislate the existing code of conduct for Ministers and Parliamentary</p> <p data-bbox="391 1603 1362 1702">Secretaries. Some rules under the existing code will be strengthened, and a requirement for Government Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries to publicly disclose their diaries will be mandated.</p> <p data-bbox="391 1744 1337 1807">Strengthening the powers of IBAC to investigate MPs, Lobbyists, Ministers, and Parliamentary Secretaries.</p> <p data-bbox="391 1816 815 1845">The bill will amend the IBAC Act to:</p> <ul data-bbox="391 1854 1394 2020" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="391 1854 1302 1917">• Expand the jurisdiction of the IBAC so it can investigate beyond conduct constituting a ‘relevant offence’. <li data-bbox="391 1926 1394 2020">• Abolish the prohibition on IBAC that prevents it from commencing a corrupt conduct investigation unless it already suspects on reasonable grounds that the conduct constitutes corrupt conduct. |

| Party | Policies |
|-------|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarify that IBAC can investigate potential substantial breaches of the legislated codes of conduct for Ministers, Staffers and Lobbyists. <p>The bill also seeks to specify a timeframe within which subjects of adverse findings are required to respond to proposed IBAC reports, ensuring there is no undue delay in the publication of these reports.</p> <p>Removing government dominance over membership of parliamentary committees responsible for investigating the government.</p> <p>The bill will amend the Parliamentary Committees Act 2003 so that no more than half of all the Parliament’s Investigatory Committees, nor the chairperson, can be members of the political party forming the government.</p> <p>This change removes the current potential conflict of interest where the government of the day has oversight of budget decisions, human rights compliance and the management of integrity agencies.</p> <p>The bill also ensures that the veto power over the appointment of a new IBAC Commissioner is not held by the same government that proposes the appointment</p> <p>...</p> <p>Democracy and Integrity Policy (27 Nov 2021)</p> <p>AIMS</p> <p>... 46. Remove the limits on public hearings for integrity bodies ...</p> <p>See also: Anti-corruption and Higher Parliamentary Standards (Strengthening Integrity) Bill 2022</p> |