

# 100% RENEWABLE VICTORIA

## THE GREENS' PLAN TO REPOWER VICTORIA WITH 100% RENEWABLE ENERGY AND PHASE OUT COAL BY 2030

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All Victorians should have access to cheap, clean energy that doesn't pollute our air or damage our climate. The Greens' plan will transition Victoria's energy away from dirty, polluting coal to 100% renewable energy by 2030.

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The energy market is broken. It is dominated by a few big companies who are pushing up prices and holding back the transition to renewable energy for their own profits.

When Kennett handed over our electricity system to private corporations to make a profit, it made electricity more expensive, less reliable and kept it dirty.

By selling our public assets and essential services, Labor and the Liberals shirked their responsibility to our community and expect all of us to pick up the tab.

When we, the public, own our energy system, it exists to benefit all of us. Electricity is essential for all of us to live a good life, and it's too important to leave to a few big corporations who put profit before people.

### OUR PLAN

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The Greens' plan will transition Victoria's energy away from dirty, polluting coal to 100% renewable energy by 2030, while bringing power back into public hands. We will:

- Build \$9 billion worth of publicly-owned large-scale renewable energy - to undo the past damage of power privatisation and begin returning power to public hands.
- Build \$500 million worth of publicly-owned storage, centered in the Latrobe Valley.
- Upgrade the transmission network to unlock a renewables boom across north and west Victoria.

- Significantly increase the Victorian Renewable Energy Target, up to 100% by 2030.
- Deliver a planned transition out of all coal in Victoria, with a timeline to remove the license to operate for all of Victoria's coal plants by 2030.
- Ensure a just transition plan for the Latrobe Valley with new jobs in renewable energy.
- Introduce new pollution standards for coal plants, so they can't continue to put toxic chemicals like mercury and sulphur into our air and damage our health.
- Fund 10 Community Energy Hubs, so our communities can create their own clean energy.

### THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY

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In addition to our plan for a 100% Renewable Victoria, the Greens will establish a new Climate Commissioner, to safeguard our communities and environment from climate change. Visit [www.greens.org.au/vic/climatecommissioner](http://www.greens.org.au/vic/climatecommissioner) for further information.

### POWER IN PUBLIC HANDS

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Bringing power back into public hands is central to the Greens' plan for a 100% Renewable Victoria. We will ensure clean, cheap and reliable power is available to all Victorians with publicly owned generation, storage, network upgrades and a public retailer.

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### Publicly-owned renewables generation

The Greens' plan would build \$9 billion worth of publicly-owned renewable energy generation across Victoria over the next ten years. This will create jobs, drive down energy prices and give our kids the chance of a future free from dangerous pollution and climate change.

### Publicly-owned renewables storage

The Greens' plan would also invest \$500 million in big batteries and pumped hydro storage, centred in the Latrobe valley and owned by the public.

This investment will position the Latrobe Valley as the battery test bed for the world, creating new industries and jobs and attracting battery innovators from across the world to the Latrobe Valley.

### Public network upgrades

There is an enormous renewables resource in North and West Victoria, with great wind and solar power potential ready and waiting. But right now, 2300 megawatts of renewables projects across north and west Victoria are being held back because the grid hasn't been upgraded by its profit-driven corporate owners. That's the equivalent of 1.5 Hazelwood power stations!

Our plan will urgently invest the money needed to upgrade the grid, with the upgraded sections owned by the public. This will unlock a solar and wind boom across north and west Victoria.

### Power Victoria, a public electricity retailer

Earlier this year, the Greens announced their plan for a public electricity retailer: Power Victoria.

The Greens will establish Power Victoria as a publicly owned electricity provider. Power Victoria will provide lower-cost services, pushing uncompetitive private electricity retailers out of the market. Power Victoria won't need to make a profit. Instead, it will run 'at-cost' ensuring cheap, clean and reliable electricity for every Victorian.

The Greens will save the average Victorian \$320 a year by bringing our electricity retail system back into public ownership.

## INCREASE THE VICTORIAN RENEWABLE ENERGY TARGET

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Our plan is to increase the Victorian Renewable Energy Target (VRET) to 30% by 2020 and 50% by 2025, to help us get to 100% by 2030.

The Greens would achieve this by a combination of building publicly-owned large-scale renewable energy, which all Victorians will own, and supporting private and community projects through an expanded VRET.

## COMMUNITY ENERGY

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For too long, big energy corporations have created unfair barriers to community energy.

The Greens will continue to advocate to the Federal Government for reform to the regulation of electricity metering, and to network connection, to enable the community to take clean energy into their own hands.

The Greens will further support community energy by providing \$10 million to fund 10 Community Energy Hubs across the state, and by ensuring community energy projects are funded through the VRET auction process.

## BEYOND COAL BY 2030

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### Timetable for coal power station replacement

Coal plants and mines must be phased out, and quickly, to guarantee a safe climate. And we must do it in a way that supports people and communities.

The Greens have mapped a timetable for all coal power stations to be replaced by clean energy by 2030 (Table 1).

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**Table 1: Coal power station transition timetable**

Power Station	Year	Phase-out
Loy Yang A	2023	First unit closed
	2026	Second & third units closed
	2029	Full decommissioning
Yallourn	2020	First unit closed
	2021	Second unit closed
	2022	Full decommissioning
Loy Yang B	2024	First unit closed
	2030	Full decommissioning

A timetable of planned closures gives advance notice so workers and communities can transition to new industries and careers well before 2030.

### No new licenses or license extensions

The Greens' plan would see new laws introduced to stop any new coal mines and coal mining license extensions. License extensions, like those announced by the Andrews Labor Government in mid-2018, are disastrous for the climate and misleading for workers and the community. It puts their future in the hands of big coal companies, who are only interested in their own profits.

### Life-saving pollution standards

Victoria's power stations are Australia's dirtiest, and some of the dirtiest in the world, spewing out huge quantities of toxic sulphur, mercury, nitrogen and particle pollution.

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 wellbeing in the Latrobe Valley community.

### No more bad investments

In April this year, Victorian State Labor and the Federal Coalition gave \$100 million (\$50 million each) to a project

that will supposedly turn brown coal into hydrogen. This process will increase pollution for Australia, prolong the life of the dirty coal industry and add to damaging shipping activity in Westernport bay (the Hydrogen will be sent to Japan).

The coal industry continues to push carbon capture and storage, despite no proven success in decades of investigation.

The Greens will introduce new legislation to prohibit the government from investing money in climate-damaging fossil fuel projects.

### Divest the Victorian Funds Management Corporation

The VFMC manages funds of over \$60 billion for 30 Victorian public authorities and related organisations. The underpinning legislation for the VFMC, the Victorian Funds Management Corporation Act 1994 will be amended to mandate that it can no longer invest in fossil fuels by 2021.

## A JUST TRANSITION FOR THE LATROBE VALLEY

Privatisation was devastating for the Latrobe Valley.

Communities are often kept in the dark, like they were when Hazelwood closed. The Greens' planned transition will ensure this doesn't happen again.

The Latrobe Valley has huge potential for new industries and jobs. The planned replacement of coal with renewables is a new beginning.

With the enormous energy network capacity already in place, the Latrobe Valley is the perfect place to create a battery and storage test-bed for the world.

The Greens' plan for the Latrobe Valley would:

1. Make the Latrobe Valley the battery test-bed for the world, supported by \$300 million of government investment in a battery 3 times the size of the Tesla battery in South Australia

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2. Develop the Latrobe Valley as a global centre for innovation in energy storage, supported by \$200 million public investment in pumped hydro storage
3. Support new offshore wind projects through our publicly-owned energy build, bringing new jobs and industry to the region
4. Upgrade public housing with energy efficiency measures, put solar panels on all stand-alone public housing homes, and install solar panels and batteries in all public schools. These programs will be managed by Solar Victoria, located in the Latrobe Valley, creating hundreds more jobs.

## HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?

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Over the forward estimates, our 100% Renewable Victoria plan includes:

- \$4.5 billion in publicly-owned renewable energy generation (with a further \$4.5 billion beyond the forward estimates)
- \$500 million in publicly-owned big batteries and pumped hydro storage
- Up to \$1 billion to upgrade the transmission network in north and west Victoria
- \$10 million for 10 community energy hubs across Victoria.

Our plan will deliver billions in savings for Victorians through reduced bills and significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions and avoid the worst impacts of climate change.

The Greens' policy for a 100% Renewable Victoria will form part of our fully-costed election platform and is being costed by the Parliamentary Budget Office.