



**THE  
GREENS**

# **NT ECONOMIC RENEWAL PLAN**

Transitioning the Territory to a renewable economy with sustainable jobs for the future

# NT ECONOMIC RENEWAL VISION

**From the bottom up, not the top down.**

The NT Greens have a strong plan for jobs and economic renewal based on clean energy, sustainable use of natural resources, new technologies, investment in community infrastructure and support for local and Indigenous business.

The current economic approach of ALP and CLP governments is outdated and unsustainable. We are \$8 billion in debt and growing, with worsening economic and social issues and no real solutions in sight. This leaves us vulnerable to global economic shifts, political interference from Canberra (such as the withdrawal of GST revenue in response to the moratorium on fracking) and constant pressure from industry lobbyists for further de-regulation - which will only make existing problems worse.

A rapid transition to renewable energy and improving the quality of life of Territorians must be central to any sound economic recovery plan.



**The Greens NT Economic Renewal Plan provides a road map for the Northern Territory to be at the forefront of innovation in renewable energy technology and deliver sustainable jobs for long term prosperity.**

# JOBS FOR THE FUTURE

Through embracing the solar economy and investing in sustainable land management and resource use, the NT economy can generate new and long-lasting employment opportunities.

## ENERGY ECONOMY

- Renewable hydrogen: 3,700 direct and indirect jobs
- Renewable energy exports: 900 jobs
- Renewable powered manufacturing: 1,200 jobs
- Renewable powered mineral processing: 2200 jobs

Reference: Beyond Zero Emissions 10GW Vision (2019)

## WORKFORCE TRANSITION

- Retraining of the NT workforce into green collar economy.
- Employment in retrofitting and renovating existing infrastructure to create energy efficient and livable buildings.
- Building social & community housing throughout the NT.

## SUSTAINABLE LAND USE & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Full time, part-time and casual jobs across multiple sectors including:

- Indigenous horticulture and bushfoods industry - 1000 jobs
- Indigenous rangers and carbon abatement program - 1000 jobs.
- “Green Army” invasive species eradication programs and mine site remediation - 500 jobs


## ARTS & CULTURAL ECONOMY

- Employ artists and musicians for youth diversion and social programs.
- Invest in Indigenous arts trail and cultural tourism opportunities.

# OUR PLAN



- Deliver 100% renewable energy for homes, businesses and industry that is cheap and reliable.
- Invest in a 21st Century 'smart grid' designed to harness the solar energy revolution and reduce power costs for households and businesses.
- Rapidly transition from gas to solar coupled with battery and pumped hydro storage to replace baseload power by 2030.
- Establish solar/hybrid microgrids in remote communities across the NT.
- Connect to South-East Asian Supergrid via SunCable project to export solar energy through the 10GW Vision.
- Develop renewables-based hydrogen industry to position the Territory to lead the emerging green hydrogen industry.
- Fund retraining of the NT workforce to support a just transition to a zero-carbon economy.
- Undertake Utilities Commission reform so that the public/private energy sector is fit for purpose.
- Create 8,000 new jobs in renewables and value-added mining and manufacturing industries.
- Create new opportunities for NT farmers and Indigenous communities.
- Support Indigenous rangers and carbon abatement programs.
- Invest in sustainable business development and innovation through an NT Future's Fund based on Clean Energy Finance Corporation model.
- Invest in arts, cultural tourism and creative industries to foster a thriving creative economy.



“Cheaper renewable energy can reduce living costs for all Territorians...An ambitious renewables strategy can spark a vibrant manufacturing sector in the Territory... Remote communities can participate in and share in the revenues of renewable energy systems sited on their land, with opportunities for Aboriginal-owned enterprises to install and operate community energy systems or use renewable energy to power small-scale businesses.”

- Beyond Zero Emissions  
The 10GW Vision, 2019

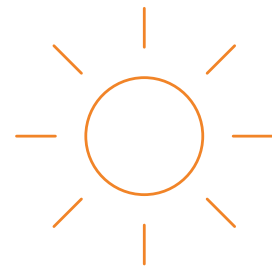
**FIND OUT MORE ON THE  
RENEW NT WEBSITE**

**[GREENS.ORG.AU/NT/RENEW](https://greens.org.au/nt/renew)**

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# NT JOBS & ECONOMIC RENEWAL PLAN



## TRANSITION TO 100% RENEWABLE ENERGY

The Northern Territory can transition to a 100% renewable energy economy by 2030 and become a solar energy superpower. Renewing the energy sector will lower power prices across the Territory by up to one third, creating thousands of jobs and future-proofing our economy.

Investing in the renewable energy transition will save the NT Government \$1 billion in power subsidies over ten years and provide more than \$2 billion in revenue by 2030 (BZE 2019).

## SMART GRID UPGRADE

- Redirect funds from the \$3 billion North Australia Infrastructure Facility (NAIF) to invest in the smart grid infrastructure required to accommodate large scale solar and renewables.
- Invest in lithium battery and pumped hydro storage infrastructure to replace baseload power from gas generation.

## UTILITIES REFORM

The current electricity market of the NT is inefficient, unprofitable and unsustainable.

- The Utilities Commission must create a stable framework for PowerWater Corporation, Territory Generation and Jacana to cooperate effectively in transforming the energy and electricity market for maximum efficiency and lowest cost.
- Implement large scale power-purchase agreements to provide ultra-low cost electricity pricing for major projects. This will provide greater opportunities to foster a home-grown manufacturing industry boom.

## NT FUTURES FUND

A \$50 million NT Futures Fund will direct equity-based investment toward innovative new business models.

- Establish a low-interest Green Loans Program to support residential, business and industry energy efficiency measures and smart-building upgrades. These loans will return substantial net dividends and create jobs for Territorians.
- Establish a sustainable enterprise and innovation think tank to support the development of new industries and business models, based on the Clean Energy Finance Corporation model.

## VALUE-ADDED INDUSTRIES

- Low-cost solar power will reduce obstacles for new industries to thrive.
- The NT has significant opportunities in downstream mineral processing and value-added industries including the manufacture of renewable energy components.
- Renewable powered minerals processing using manganese, zinc, lithium and other resources can deliver thousands of new jobs and over \$1 billion in export revenue.

## MINING REFORM

- Rehabilitation of abandoned mines and other contaminated sites is needed across hundreds of locations. This clean up will cost an estimated \$1 billion and require hundreds of jobs over the coming decades.
- This program will be financed by an industry levy paid by all companies into a dedicated NT Land Rehabilitation Fund.
- All mining companies must pay full and fair royalties on the minerals they extract.

## THE CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

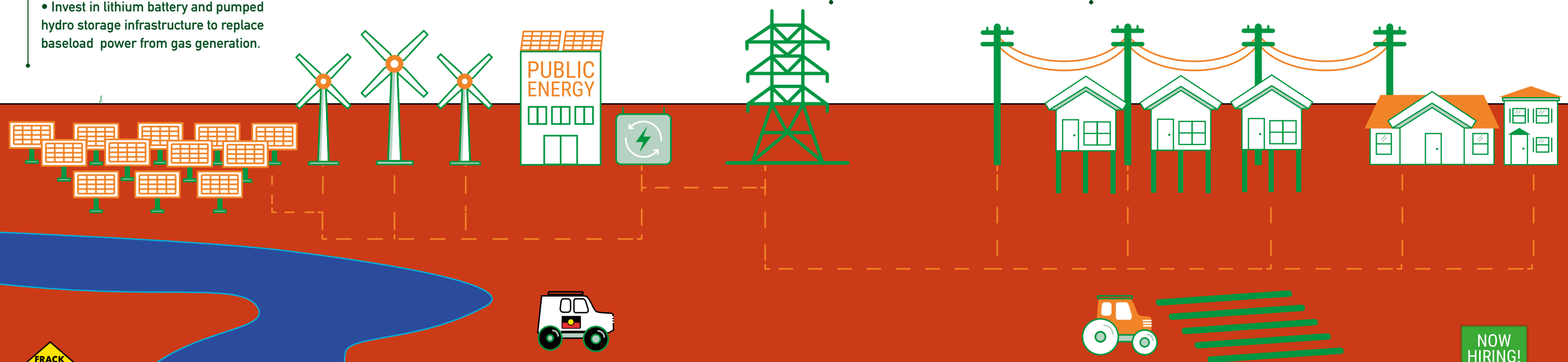
- Arts and the creative industries are worth over \$750m a year to the Territory economy and are driving forces of the tourism industry. Public investment should reflect the value of this sector.
- Invest in and expand Indigenous visual arts and cultural centres.
- Employ community development arts workers in social services, the education sector and youth diversionary programs.

## LAND & SEA MANAGEMENT

- Support and expand Indigenous Ranger and carbon abatement programs managed by Traditional Owners as essential services with ongoing funding.
- This sector restores and protects our natural ecosystems and helps reduce the NT's carbon emissions while employing over one thousand Indigenous people across the Territory.
- Invest in a Territory-wide "Green Army" initiative with an aggressive invasive species eradication program.

## SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

- Develop industry partnerships with Indigenous communities and local agriculture and aquaculture businesses to produce high quality, healthy organic produce.
- Prioritise the Indigenous horticulture and native bushfoods sector as a major economic opportunity for remote communities.
- Support Indigenous communities to establish community gardens that will provide fresh, affordable produce for healthy living.
- Support remote area supply-chains to foster agricultural and horticulture industries for domestic consumption and high value-added products for interstate markets.
- Develop infrastructure and sustainability criteria for hemp and other emerging value-added agricultural industries.



The Greens NT acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the lands and seas of the Northern Territory. All development, including renewable energy projects proposed on Country, must attain free, prior and informed consent before proceeding.