

THIS MATTERS

VIC ELECTION 2018

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Editorial

Mark Wakeham, Chief Executive Officer

So we're off! 2018 is under way, and at Environment Victoria we know we're facing the clearest and most important mission we've ever had.

NOVEMBER'S STATE ELECTION IS shaping as a pivotal moment for Australia's response to climate change, and an opportunity to solve some of the big environmental challenges of our time.

It can be the moment when we lock in and extend Victoria's leadership in the transition to renewable energy and cutting greenhouse pollution. It's our opportunity to spotlight neglected issues like the protection of our native forests, the fate of our rivers and the opportunity to make Victorian homes and businesses more sustainable. And this is when we can build powerful momentum for environment and climate protection in the lead-up to a federal election likely in early 2019.

Or it could be a moment when the state takes a great step backwards and decides to dismantle much of the progress of the past three years.

We are not going to let that happen.

We've been here before. We've spent five years building a formidable people-powered presence in the electorates that will determine the outcome of the state election. We have honed our communications expertise, increased our capacity and can now reach more Victorians with powerful messages for the environment. We've deepened our campaigns and added greater lobbying capacity to increase the pressure on all political parties to deliver for the environment. And

we've notched up some big wins that have built our power, including retiring Hazelwood and beginning the critical transition away from coal, embedding climate change and renewable energy targets in legislation and reversing the decline in environmental spending in the state budget.

But this year we intend to shift up another level and deliver the biggest people-powered campaign for our environment that this state has ever seen.

That's our mission and yours. We hope you are inspired and excited about the plan we lay out in the pages ahead. Together we can make 2018 the turning point that Australia and the world so urgently need.

How Victoria can lead the way

Every day we see the impacts of environmental destruction – more severe weather events, loss of precious species and rivers under strain. But as Victorians, we know things can be different.



Dean Rizzetti
Public Policy and Advocacy Manager

OUR STATE CAN BE RENOWNED FOR

its environmental leadership – embracing renewable energy, transitioning away from destructive practices and putting in place strong laws to protect our environment.

For this we need to have a government willing to face the sheer scale of our environmental challenges. We need bold laws that reflect scientific realities and respond to community demands. But with timid government we risk taking serious backwards steps – propping up outdated coal power stations, failing to protect our precious critters and shifting the burden for cleaning up coal mines onto communities.

Every election, we work with parties from across the political spectrum to encourage them to adopt strong environmental policies. We take the responsibility of providing good ideas very seriously. That's why we developed a comprehensive election policy agenda, which puts forward solutions from reducing waste to driving the uptake of electric vehicles.

To read our full election policy agenda go to envict.org.au/2018agenda

This year we have a chance to leave behind the old thinking that pits jobs against the environment, and embrace the opportunities of a sustainable, renewable energy-driven economy. This shift is possible in Victoria – let's make it happen!

Our key priorities

1

Repower Victoria with clean energy

Parties must commit to bringing online 1000 MW of large-scale renewable energy each year for the next four years through the VRET, provide detailed plans to increase energy storage and support the transition away from coal-burning power.

2

Restore and protect nature

Parties must commit to establishing the Great Forest National Park and increasing spending on environmental programs across the state, such as riverside restoration.

3

Make Victoria a leader in tackling global warming

Parties must commit to science-based emissions reduction targets and set CO₂ limits on highly polluting facilities through the EPA.

4

Help every Victorian share the benefits of clean energy

Parties must commit to supporting 250,000 vulnerable Victorian households to repower their homes through residential renewable energy and energy efficiency, guarantee a fair price for solar and support the Latrobe Valley community to move beyond coal.

Taking stock:

achievements and unfinished business of the Andrews government



Dr Nicholas Aberle
Campaigns Manager

SINCE THE ANDREWS

government was elected in 2014, together with people like you who care enough to act, we've gained some impressive wins for our environment.

Renewable energy is back on track, with the introduction of a Victorian Renewable Energy Target (VRET), an increase in solar feed-in tariffs, and the reversal of laws blocking wind farms. Hazelwood has finally been retired. The Andrews government has raised coal mining royalties and rehabilitation bonds so that coal companies are paying their way and communities are better protected when mines close.

We've also seen some important structural reforms. Victoria has a strengthened *Climate Change Act*, with a target to achieve net zero emissions by 2050. We have a long-overdue biodiversity strategy and better protection for river-side vegetation.

However, the work isn't over. Before the next election, the Andrews government needs to lock in support for renewables, set targets to reduce emissions across all sectors and finally establish the Great Forest National Park.

The VRET commits Victoria to sourcing 40 percent of its electricity from renewable energy by 2025. The target is delivered using reverse auctions, where sellers compete to win a contract for their renewables project at the lowest price. The first auction was announced in November, with results expected in the second half of 2018.

But the government hasn't

yet set a pipeline of auctions to deliver the rest of the target. This is a missed opportunity to give industry the certainty it needs. We'll keep pushing the government to set a timetable of auctions that will bring 1000 megawatts (MW) of new renewable energy online each year in the next term of Parliament.

We're also pushing the Andrews government to set ambitious interim targets for emissions reductions in 2025 and 2030. These are required across all sectors by the *Climate Change Act*. The government has appointed an expert panel to advise it, and we're working to make sure that the recommended targets are ambitious and consistent with what the science demands.

A stronger *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act* is also needed – this is Victoria's key piece of legislation to protect threatened species. A government review has identified its shortcomings – now it's time to fix it.

Finally, the Great Forest National Park would be a great legacy for this government – protecting 355,000 hectares of forest, creating 750 jobs and bringing 380,000 new visitors to our spectacular central highlands. And it would be a vital step in protecting the Leadbeater's Possum.

While there's an election in November, there's still eight months for the Andrews government to act on some of our biggest environmental problems, rather than just kick the can down the road to the next term of Parliament.

Where the this

THE GREENS

Bringing online new renewable energy

- Consistently supported the VRET, including it in their 2014 election platform and consistently pushing renewable energy up the agenda in Parliament.

Closing dirty coal-fired power stations and supporting communities in transition

- Have spoken consistently and forcefully for the need to transition away from coal and towards renewable energy.

Improving access to energy efficiency

- Campaigned to put in place energy efficiency standards for rental properties.
- Set a target to reduce Victorian energy demand by 20% by 2020, with appropriate sectoral targets across the economy.

Passing laws to protect our climate

- Supported the *Climate Change Act* and pushed to strengthen the Act by placing stronger requirements to consider climate change in all decision-making and establishing the right for communities to take action against governments failing to meet the *Climate Change Act*.

Protecting our precious flora and fauna

- Have consistently championed the need for a strong Act to protect Victoria's flora and fauna, including supporting Environment Victoria's calls for strengthened capacity to enforce any violations of the Act.

Creating new national parks

- Consistently championed the Great Forest National Park, introducing a bill to establish the park in November 2017.

Restore our rivers and waterways

- Have been largely silent in Parliament on the Murray Darling Basin plan.

parties stand – their actions term of government

THE LABOR PARTY	THE COALITION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passed into law a new Victorian Renewable Energy Target (VRET) of 40% by 2025, up from 12% in 2016. • Increased feed-in tariffs for rooftop solar. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voted against VRET and have promised to repeal it if they are elected. • Voted against the solar feed-in-tariffs increases. • Misinformation campaign spreading fear about reliability of renewable energy.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supported the Latrobe Valley community through Hazelwood's closure with \$270 million for diversifying the local economy. • Increased coal royalties and mine rehabilitation bonds to ensure the community and environment is protected when mines close. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Called for intervention to keep Hazelwood open. • Vowed to keep polluting coal power stations open. Nationals are pushing for a new coal power station. • Opposed increased coal royalties and have promised to reverse them.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased target for the Victorian Energy Upgrade Program (VEUP) and established new energy efficiency measures. • Restored funding to cut bills and reduce emissions from schools, hospitals and offices. • Launched the Green Bond, raising \$300 million for investment in energy efficiency, renewable energy, public transport and clean water. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In previous terms of government, rolled back energy efficiency – moving to scrap VEUP and defunding the Greener Government Buildings Program. • Dismissed the Green Bond as an attempt to increase debt. • Despite their stated concerns about energy bills, have not promoted energy efficiency as a solution.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthened the Victorian <i>Climate Change Act</i> aiming for net zero emissions by 2050. Set targets to reduce the state's greenhouse pollution by 15 to 20% by 2020. • Banned fracking and unconventional gas extraction, imposed a moratorium on new onshore gas projects. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voted against the <i>Climate Change Act</i> and has promised to repeal key elements if elected. • Advocated for an acceleration of onshore gas extraction.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewed the <i>Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act</i>, but is yet to propose new laws providing sufficient protection for nature. • Developed a new Biodiversity Strategy leading to over \$80 million investment in nature conservation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unclear position on <i>Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act</i> at this stage. • Oppose many of the EPA reforms and would likely reverse them.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explored, but so far failed, to create the Great Forest National Park to protect critical native forests. • Failed to significantly expand Victoria's parks. • Purchased the Heyfield Mill in Gippsland, with no transition plan for the mill or protection plan for the surrounding forests. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voted in Parliament to oppose the creation of the Great Forest National Park.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blocking progress to restoring rivers with the Murray Darling Basin Plan. • Provided \$30 million for fencing and restoration. So far it has protected over 1500 km of riparian land. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actively prioritising irrigator interests and showing no interest in securing water flows that would safeguard the health of our rivers.

Election 2018 – powered by you!



Jane Stabb
Community Organising
Program Manager



Alex Merory
Communications Manager

We will make this election a winner for our environment and climate

Election 2018 is our chance to speed up our shift to sustainability and make Victoria the leader the world so desperately needs.

We need to put a renewable-powered rocket under our efforts to cut greenhouse pollution. And we have to get serious about protecting nature in a time of climate change, starting by declaring the Great Forest National Park and ensuring Victoria plays a positive role in saving the Murray-Darling.

So this election we'll be throwing everything we have at ensuring that on election night on November 24, the environment comes up a winner.

Our election campaign: five smart strategies

1

ENGAGE TARGET VOTERS – talk to thousands of voters in the areas that decide elections to make clean energy, climate and environment big issues at the election.

2

HELP YOUNG PEOPLE ENROL TO VOTE – enrol 1000 young people ready to vote for a future with a safe climate.

3

HIGH PROFILE FOR OUR ISSUES – make clean energy, our environment and our powerful volunteer-led campaign the big story this election.

4

RAISE AMBITION OF THE PARTIES – get better policy promises for our environment in the lead-up to the election.

5

PRESSURE THE BLOCKERS – call out politicians who are standing in the way of clean energy and environment protection and let them know they're out of touch with what the community wants.

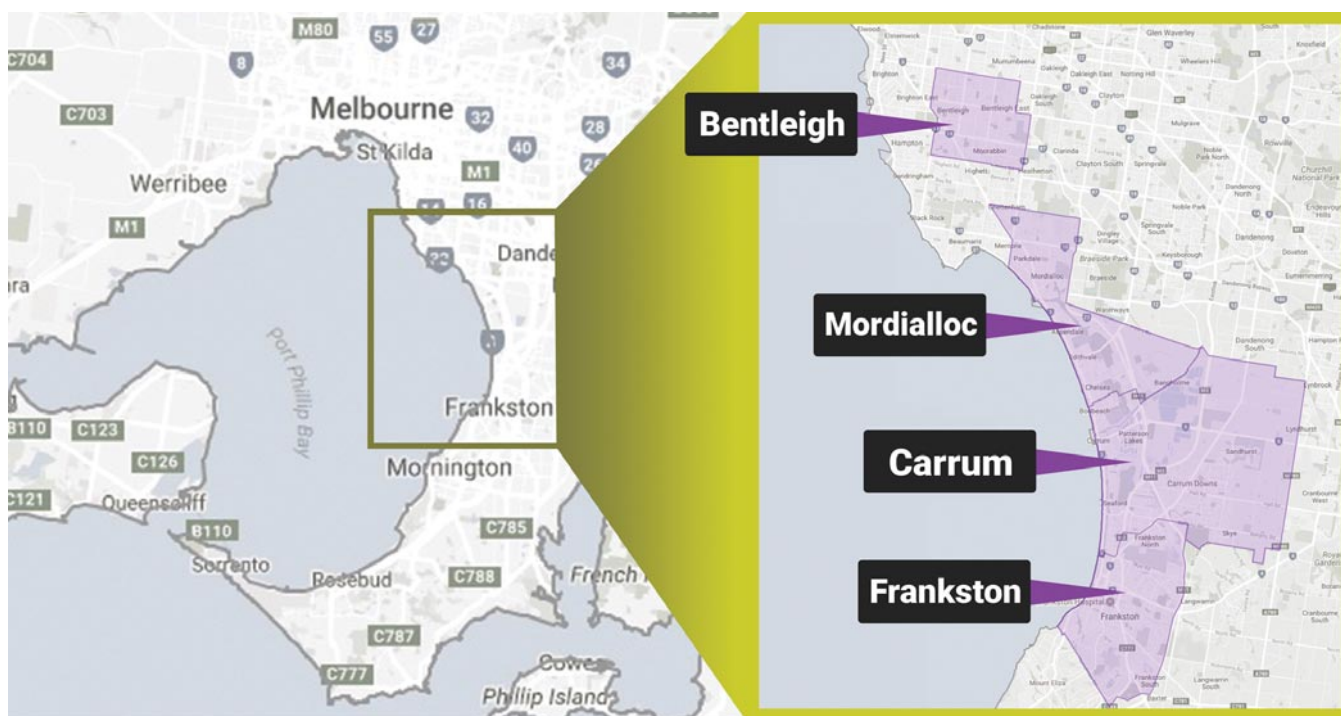


Introducing the team

Our friendly organising team and amazing NEST volunteers (NEST stands for Network Support Team) will coordinate and support our people-powered election activities.

JOIN US

To find out more about how you can be part of the 2018 election campaign please fill in the survey that comes with this *Environment Victoria News* or go to envict.org.au/election2018



We're working in key areas across the state, including the 'Sandbelt' seats from Bentleigh to Frankston

Talking to voters in key electorates

The campaign for clean energy and climate this state election will be powered by ... you. This election is critical for our environment. So we need to reach out to more people than ever before!

POLITICAL PARTIES PAY MOST

attention to what the community is saying in marginal electorates – that's where the agenda gets set, and so that's where we'll work to help set that agenda.

Over the last five years Environment Victoria has built a formidable people-powered presence in the 'Sandbelt' seats from Frankston to Bentleigh, a string of marginal electorates that decide the outcome of elections. This election is on a knife-edge so we know that if we work with the local community to stand up for our climate and environment, we'll have a big impact.

We'll also be making noise in seats held by some of the key blockers of clean energy and in regional areas that stand to benefit most from the clean energy boom.

We've taken lessons from some of the most exciting, innovative and effective campaigns from the past couple years – including the record-breaking marriage equality campaign and the Queensland election campaign – to build a plan for



Taegen Edwards, our Community Organising Program Manager, is going on maternity leave. We thank Taegen for her wonderful contribution this year and wish her all the best! She'll be replaced by Jane Stabb who is back from maternity leave, and the team has grown with a new Community Organiser, Anine Cummins.

our biggest campaign outreach ever.

That's where you come in. New tools and technologies make it easy to get involved wherever you are, which means we can turbo-charge our campaign. It also means that you don't have to live in a marginal electorate to make a big difference this election.

Through calling parties across the state, we're aiming to make a whopping 100,000 calls to have powerful conversations with people in our target areas about why it's important to use their vote for our climate and environment.

And those conversations will be backed up by our advertising blitz – with our clean energy message on billboards, in front yards in their communities, on our local campaign headquarters, through online advertising, from our volunteers on the street and personalised updates in the mail.

We can make our climate and environment a winner this election. We've got the research, we've got the technology, we've built the team – all we need is you!

Pressuring clean energy blockers

Poll after poll confirms that Victorians want action on climate change, more renewable energy and better environmental protection. But at the moment, the Victorian Opposition – Matthew Guy's Liberal-National Coalition – are proposing policies to take us backward on these critical issues.



Dr Nicholas Aberle
Campaigns Manager

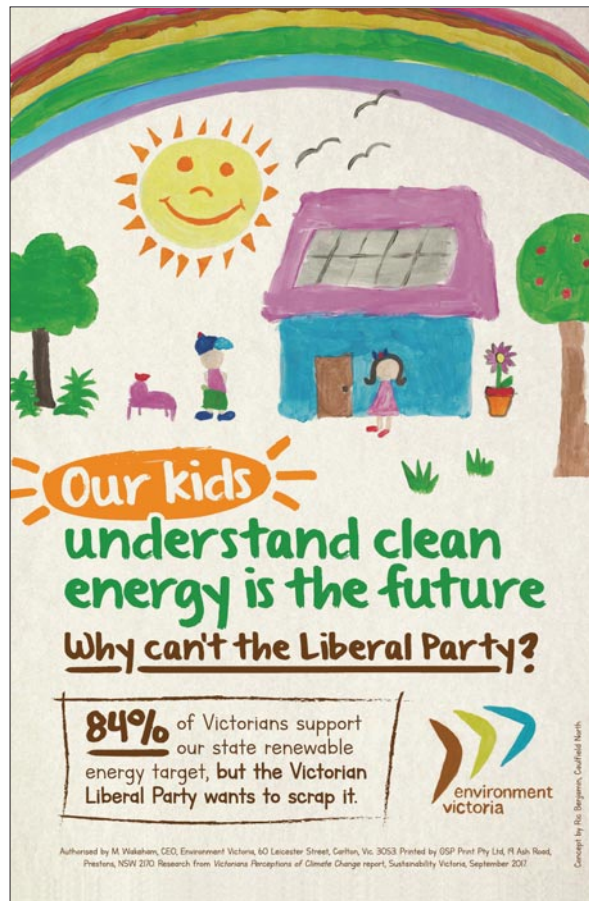
IN THE PAST 18 MONTHS, THE Victorian Coalition has voted against strengthening the *Climate Change Act*, paying a fair price for power from rooftop solar, and setting an ambitious Victorian target for renewable energy. Outside Parliament, they have said they will intervene (somehow) to keep dirty brown coal power stations open, overturn the ban on onshore gas and scrap the Victorian Renewable Energy Target. They also supported a motion to try to stop the Great Forest National Park from ever becoming a reality.

Elections are a contest of ideas. In a thriving democracy, every voter should be aware of what candidates stand for so they can make informed decisions.

Right now, the Opposition's climate and energy policies are irresponsible and out of step with the Victorian public. We want this election to be a race to the top, not the bottom. We want every party to have a positive story to tell about climate and the environment, and we're working hard to make sure that's the case.

Many Victorians don't know where the Coalition stands on key environmental issues. We'll be investing in prominent billboards and social media advertising to make sure they do!

During April and May a community-sourced billboard will be on display in Caulfield, the electorate of Shadow

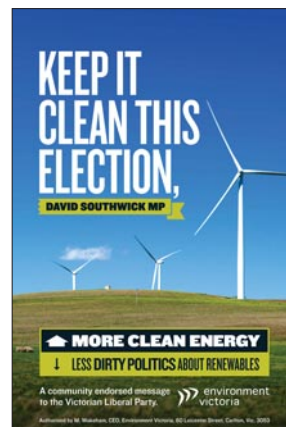
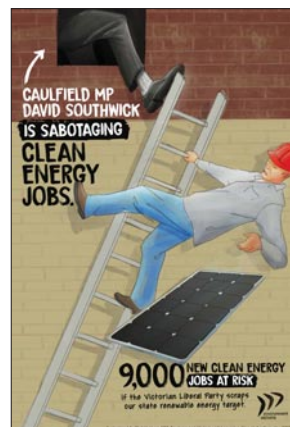
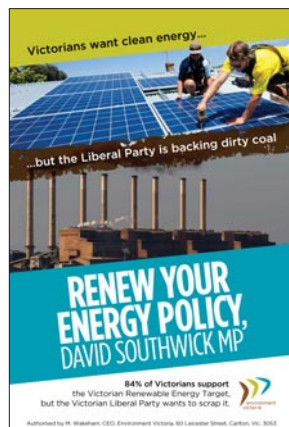


This billboard, suggested by Ric Benjamin from Caulfield North and chosen by the community, will be up on Glenhuntly Road in Elsternwick during April and May.

Minister for Renewable Energy David Southwick. (Right now, he's acting like the Minister for casting shadows over renewable energy.) We asked you to suggest a message to send to David Southwick, and 200 of you responded with some brilliant concepts which we narrowed down and then asked you to vote on. The winning billboard suggested by Caulfield local Ric Benjamin will be up for two months in the heart of Caulfield for all to see.

More billboards highlighting that the Coalition's plan to scrap the VRET will cost regional Victoria jobs and investment will go west of Melbourne in the regional electorate of Ripon. Many of the wind energy projects under the VRET would be built here and again it's a key seat in the election campaign. But the local Coalition MP doesn't seem to want those jobs in her electorate. Plus Repower groups in Melbourne's north-east will keep local community-driven pressure on Coalition MPs like Matthew Guy and Dee Ryall.

Politicians who oppose clean energy need to be held to account. Their views are out of touch, and they need to catch up with the rest of the community.



THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who submitted billboard ideas and donated to get this billboard up and spread the message that the community is ready for clean energy!

Other billboard ideas submitted by the community and selected as finalists.

Young people voting for a safe climate future



Cat Nadel, Safe Climate Campaigner

Signing up young voters to enrol to vote and join the campaign at 0-weeks at Monash Caulfield



Enrolment postcard

We're working to make sure young people are ready and able to have their say on climate change and vote for their future at the next Victorian election.

YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE THE MOST TO lose from climate change but the least say in how to fight it. Hundreds of thousands of young Australians are missing out on their chance to create change because they've never enrolled to vote. So in the lead-up to the Victorian election in November, we're doing our best to support enrolment by people aged between 17 and 24.

A key part of our strategy is recognising the reason young people aren't enrolling isn't that they're apathetic about political and social issues, but because they don't see traditional politics as caring about what's important to them.

We know young people will turn out to vote when politicians focus on these issues. In the two weeks before the rolls closed on Australia's marriage equality survey, for example, more than 60,000 people aged 16–24 enrolled to vote for the first time.

Our changing climate is one of the issues that concern young people. Research from Sustainability Victoria shows that people aged 15–24 are most likely to rate climate change among their

top three concerns. The issue consistently tops surveys of younger generations around the globe. Young people know we're rapidly running out of time to prevent the worst impacts of runaway climate change, and that they'll be the ones dealing with the consequences if we fail to act.

So in the lead-up to this election, we're



"If we don't vote and make policy for the future, then there won't be a future."

Oscar, first time voter in November's state election, Frankston

YOUTH ENROLMENT: OUR GOAL

Enrol 1000 young people and talk to them about their power as voters to take action for our climate.

putting climate and intersecting youth issues at the centre of our work and engaging with young people who want to see change. We're supporting young people not only to get enrolled and ensure their voice is heard in traditional electoral politics, but also to stand up and take action for our environment in ways that make sense to them where they are.

This is a new direction for Environment Victoria, so we'll partner with youth organisations wherever possible. We're already building a team of dynamic young volunteers who are helping to roll out strategies like attending orientation weeks and high schools, as well as experimenting with social media strategies and peer-to-peer texting parties.

To get involved in our exciting new youth enrolment campaign please email e.horsburgh@environmentvictoria.org.au.

Murray-Darling Basin at the crossroads – again!

PHOTO: GYPSY-DENISE, -CC-BY-SA-4.0

The historic Murray-Darling Basin Plan is in danger, with state and federal governments giving in to pressure to place irrigators' interests above the health of our rivers.

THE MURRAY-DARLING BASIN PLAN

to restore Australia's biggest river system began in 2012 with support from both sides of federal politics and all four affected states. Since then, we've repeatedly been assured that the plan will be delivered 'on time and in full', but in fact the governments involved are divided, accusing each other of treachery, hurling insults and threatening to walk out.

The issue at stake is a proposal to change the environmental water recovery targets that are at the heart of the Basin Plan. Victoria and New South Wales argue that less water is needed for the environment, while South Australia wants more, and all sides are refusing to budge. It is up to the federal Senate to make the final decision on whether any changes go ahead.

Earlier this year, after receiving thousands of messages from the community, (including many Environment Victoria supporters – thank you!) the Senate rejected an amendment to cut environmental water targets for the rivers in the northern basin. This decision, made by the Greens and federal

ALP with the support of the Nick Xenophon Team and Senator Hinch, was a major win for the environment, downstream users and Aboriginal people.

But now the stakes have been raised again. The Turnbull government is proposing another amendment, this time to cut water recovery in the southern basin. The Senate is due to vote on the amendment in May.

The amendment would mean less water for Victoria's iconic rivers and the forests, wetlands and billabongs that give them life. It comes at the request of the Victorian and NSW governments, who have been pushing for various projects intended to provide the same environmental outcomes with less water.

The trouble is, we don't know if this will work. The Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists assessed all 37 projects and concluded that only one of them was fit for purpose. It's dangerous to amend the Plan when the outcome is so uncertain. The amendment is also missing projects to increase environmental flows and get water where it is most needed.



Juliet Le Feuvre
Healthy Rivers Campaigner

The Andrews government has been losing focus on the environmental outcomes of the Plan and is now actively backing irrigation interests. Water Minister Lisa Neville recently told the Victorian Parliament that the government would "advocate strongly" in the irrigators' favour.

But changes to the Basin Plan are clearly premature. The proposed projects don't meet the conditions set by the Wentworth Group, and the parties can't agree on a realistic pathway to delivering the 450 gigalitres (GL) of environmental flows required to restore the rivers to health. This is essential if the Plan is to be delivered 'on time and in full'.

The Andrews government should stop focusing on the short-term interests of irrigators and look to the long-term gain that comes from healthy rivers. After all, there are no jobs on a dead river.

THANK YOU!

Thanks to everyone who took action and donated to this vital campaign to protect our lifeblood – our rivers.

Hazelwood 12 months on: a view from the Valley

A year after Hazelwood power station's closure, the Latrobe Valley is still facing challenges, but there are also bluer skies ahead.



Cat Nadel
Safe Climate Campaigner

FOR LORRAINE BULL, WHO LIVES

just across the freeway from Hazelwood in Morwell, the results of the power station's closure were immediate. She was no longer breathing its toxic pollution, and two days later her long-term sinus problems improved dramatically. "I had not even acknowledged that I was affected by the unseen pollution," she told us in March.

But of course it isn't all blue skies in Morwell. We ran a local online survey to hear what Latrobe Valley locals had to say about their experience. Community members told us that families and businesses are dealing with serious economic and employment challenges, with some employers abandoning the region. At the same time jobs are growing in the health and solar industries, and people were noticing an impact from increased government support for economic transition. (Read quotes from locals in the box below.)

The good news is there are already incredible local people and groups working hard to create jobs in renewable energy in the Latrobe Valley. Earthworker is about to launch their Energy

Manufacturing Cooperative, a worker-owned collective which will manufacture and sell high-quality solar hot water technology at their Morwell factory. The Gippsland Climate Change Network is now host to a Community Power Hub, which will work to bring community-owned renewable projects to the Latrobe Valley. Groups like the Latrobe Valley Sustainability Group and Voices of the Valley have also successfully advocated for the health of the community, demanding safe and proper mine rehabilitation and generating strong local interest in sustainable development for the region.

The Latrobe Valley Authority (LVA), a transition initiative of the Victorian government, is also making a difference. Since it was established last year the authority has helped to place 150 Hazelwood workers into jobs at other power stations, created a back-to-work scheme to enable local businesses to hire and train unemployed people, launched a retrofit of 1000 homes with energy efficiency upgrades and solar as well as providing ongoing transition support for all Hazelwood workers and their families.

Looking forward – election policies for the Valley

Based on the community consultation and our 'just transition' approach, Environment Victoria has developed three core election policies for the region:

1. Allocate 10% of Victoria's Renewable Energy Target exclusively to the Latrobe Valley.
2. Expand energy efficiency programs across Gippsland, including committing to upgrade 78,000 houses.
3. Make the Latrobe Valley Authority a permanent statutory authority and expand its funding and mandate.

WHAT LOCALS TOLD US:

"The government should pour money into developing renewable energy in the area and training workers in this new industry. The Latrobe Valley may still have the opportunity to be a WORLD leader in renewable energy despite the reluctance of those in power currently. I for one would love to see that."
— Mark Weymouth

"There is a strong movement who want the offshore wind farms to be built in the Bass Strait off the Gippsland coast. I hope locals research wind farms and how successful they are in Denmark, Scotland and Germany. Then they too will appreciate the opportunity for Latrobe Valley for clean energy to be fed into the energy grid in Latrobe."
— Dana Sang

"Invest in renewable energy industries. With a widely distributed population, we need to develop community based energy systems rather than relying on the grid. The core element of energy efficiency is education of the public. We need to invest in this."
— Gavin Wigginton

Tough conversations with friends: Dragging the EPA into the 21st century



Cat Nadel
Safe Climate Campaigner

We wouldn't have expected to be running a campaign against Victoria's Environment Protection Authority (EPA), a regulator whose main job is to prevent pollution in Victoria. It certainly feels strange to find ourselves at odds with environmental experts we greatly respect and have worked with for many years. But sometimes to create real change, you have to have tough conversations with your friends.

The EPA was established in 1970 as Victoria's environmental watchdog. Now almost 50 years later, it's undergoing a \$160 million upgrade to turn it into a modern regulator capable of meeting today's environmental challenges. So far, though, there's been no word on how it will address the biggest threat to our environment – climate change.

The independent inquiry that triggered the upgrade recommended the EPA's role in reducing emissions be

clarified and that periodic reviews be conducted for licences of polluting facilities. As a result the EPA is now reviewing the licences of Victoria's coal-burning power stations. These power stations are responsible for over a third of Victoria's CO₂ emissions, so putting limits on their emissions is our best chance for reducing pollution.

The government is also setting emission reduction targets for the years 2025 and 2030. We're participating in

this process and have highlighted the fact that the EPA can play a critical role in reducing emissions by amending coal-power station licences and holding our biggest climate polluters to account.

The power station licence review has provided an important opportunity to work with other groups who are concerned about pollution from coal in Victoria. This includes local groups in the Latrobe Valley who experience the direct consequences of toxic particulate pollution and health organisations concerned about the dual risks of coal pollution and climate change to public health.

Recently, Environment Victoria supported an action from local group, Healthy Futures, to deliver a letter signed by eleven professional organisations (including unions, GPs, medical scientists, pharmacists and more) calling on the EPA to do more to limit toxic pollution and greenhouse gas emissions for the protection of public health. (See photo below left.)

This was just the beginning of our plans to ramp up the pressure on the EPA as we approach the next stage of the licence review, which will involve a statutory conference to hear views from community members and power station operators alike.

If you would like to be part of these plans, please email Cat at c.nadel@environmentvictoria.org.au



Presenting an open letter from Healthy Futures signed by major health professional organisations calling on the EPA to put stricter limits on pollution from coal-burning power stations.

THANK YOU!

Thanks to everyone who donated to support this important campaign and to the thousands of you who have called on the EPA to crack down on big polluters!

Jean Christie is FOREVER GREEN

Jean Christie is a dedicated volunteer who has been campaigning with Environment Victoria to protect our environment for more than five years. She recently made the decision to include a gift to Environment Victoria in her will. Here's what she had to say about why.

I LOVE THE FACT THAT WE HAVE AN ENVIRONMENT THAT IS, FOR the most part, pleasant to live in. I love our coast, our alpine regions and our forests. My favourite spot in Victoria is the Bellarine Peninsula, where for decades my extended family has gone for holidays. The town of Anglesea has a glorious bay, and I have noticed a species of orange-red eucalypt there, which I haven't seen elsewhere.

My greatest environmental concerns are global warming, plastic in our oceans and deforestation. And the very nasty practice of fracking.

I started supporting Environment Victoria just on five years ago, after attending an information session the organisation gave at Deakin Edge. I was so horrified by what I learnt there that I signed up on the spot and became active immediately.

I support Environment Victoria because I know that it is caring, well informed and effective. Its success and determination inspire me most.

I decided to leave a bequest because I realise that the struggle to protect the environment is essential and likely to continue for some time. While I love all of Australia and support several environmental charities, I chose Environment Victoria for my legacy because I want to ensure that future generations will be able to enjoy my home state.

I dream of an environment where we have energy that is 100 per cent renewable, and where our native forests and species are fully protected and can flourish. We can't let up for a minute. We must go on holding events large and small to engage and educate the public on the need for renewable energy and environmental protection.

In 100 years, Victoria will have healthy oceans, flourishing forests well populated by native animals, and believe it or not, a clean Yarra!



BECOME FOREVER GREEN

Leaving a gift to Environment Victoria in your Will is an exceptional legacy for future Victorians who will inherit this beautiful state from us.

It's a simple change when you next review your Will.

The wording below is a guide for your solicitor or trustee:

"I give to Environment Victoria Inc. (ABN: 84 495 053 605) of Level 2, 60 Leicester Street, Carlton, Vic, 3053 for the purpose of safeguarding Victoria's environment [the residue [or...%] of the residue of my estate] or [...% of my estate] or [the sum of \$....] or [specified property....] free of all debts, duties or taxes and declare that the receipt of an authorised officer shall be a sufficient discharge for my executor(s)"

To find out more contact Gifts in Wills Coordinator John Macdonald on 9341 8109 or j.macdonald@environmentvictoria.org.au

BEQUEST VOLUNTEER WANTED

Enjoy creating interesting conversations and listening to people's stories?

We're looking for a person to thank some of our most loyal and committed donors by phone. They may have recently made a donation, responded to a campaign, experienced a birthday or a significant life event, or would just like to hear a little more about our work from someone who cares as much as they do.

As part of the conversation, you'd be asking them to consider the long-term sustainability of their donations through giving 'A Future Gift' of a bequest in their Will. If you're interested, please call our Gifts in Wills Coordinator, John Macdonald, for a chat on 9341 8109 or email j.macdonald@environmentvictoria.org.au.

Repowering Victoria

Since we launched the campaign to Repower Victoria with clean energy from the wind and sun, local Repower groups have been sprouting up all around Melbourne and Victoria! Here are some photos from local events.



Emma Horsburgh
Community Organiser



DIVEST YOUR HOME LOAN

You've probably heard of divesting your superannuation away from industries that cause harm to our planet and society. But what about divesting your home loan? Environment Victoria has partnered with Bank Australia, which has never loaned a cent to the fossil fuel industry, and never will. That means no coal, oil,

gas or coal seam gas. Together, we're running a home loan divestment campaign, moving many millions of dollars away from banks that loan money to dirty energy. Right now, you can switch your existing home loan or take out a new home loan and get a very competitive rate with a bank that matches your values.

WANT TO DIVEST YOUR HOME LOAN?
Find out more at envict.org.au/divest



Dear Mark, I want to help make the Victorian election a turning point in our shift to clean energy.

Please make this a donation by credit card:

(All donations over \$2 are tax deductible.)

☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$1000 ☐ Your choice \$ _____

Please find enclosed: ☐ Cheque or ☐ Money Order (payable to Environment Victoria Inc.)

Or please debit my credit card: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Amex

Cardholder's name: _____ Expiry date: ____ / ____ Signature: _____

Card number:

☐ Please send me info about how I can make a gift to Environment Victoria in my Will.

☐ Please send me info about how I can support Environment Victoria with a monthly gift.

Are your personal details correct on your letter? Or are you moving soon? Please update your personal information here if necessary.

PERSONAL DETAILS

Title: _____ First name: _____ Last name: _____

Address: _____

Suburb: _____ State: _____ Postcode: _____

Email: _____

Mobile: _____ Home: _____

Please complete this form, cut off this page and return it to **Reply Paid 12575, A'Beckett Street, Melbourne, VIC 8006** or visit www.environmentvictoria.org.au and make your donation online. **Thank you for your generosity!**

Personal information is collected to process donations, issue tax receipts and keep you updated about our work. Please contact us at the address below if you wish to limit the use of your personal information or stop receiving direct marketing material from Environment Victoria. Our privacy policy is available at environmentvictoria.org.au/privacy and outlines how you can access or correct your personal information, who we disclose your personal information to (including overseas recipients) and how you can lodge a complaint. ☐ Please tick if you do NOT want to receive communications from other organisations. Occasionally we allow like-minded organisations to contact you with information that may be of interest to you, including organisations outside Australia. Those organisations allow us to do the same and this way we can reach more people with vital information.





Thanks to wildlife photographer and Environment Victoria supporter Doug Gimesy for this amazing long-nosed potoroo image. You can see more of his work at gimesy.com

WHO'S WHO AT



Chief Executive Officer
Mark Wakeham

CAMPAIGNS & PROGRAMS

Campaigns Manager
Nicholas Aberle
Healthy Rivers and Nature Campaign Manager
Juliet Le Feuvre
Safe Climate Campaigner
Cat Nadel
Senior Climate Campaign Advisor
Erwin Jackson
Efficiency Campaigner
Anne Martinelli
Public Policy and Advocacy Manager
Dean Rizzetti
Community Organising Program Manager
Taegen Edwards / Jane Stabb
Community Organiser
Adele Neale
Community Organiser
Emma Horsburgh

Community Organiser
Anine Cummins
Communications Managers
Alex Merory, Greg Foyster
Communications Officer
Cameron Wheatley

OPERATIONS

Finance Manager
Kate Rogers
Accounts Officer
Jing Lu
Office Manager
Cate Hoyle
Fundraising Programs Manager
Lena Herrera Piekarski
Fundraising Officer
Heather Bruer
Major Donor and Gifts in Wills Coordinator
John Macdonald
Database Officer
Karly Roolker

BOARD

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Emma Humann
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Tim Watts
Paul Bailey
Peter Christoff
Elaine Montegriffo
Tabatha Fulker
Ben Krasnostein
Tim Watts
Ralf Thesing
Katherine Lake

REGULAR VOLUNTEERS

Environment Victoria would like to thank our amazing crew of regular volunteers, who are now too numerous to mention.

TALK TO US

Phone (03) 9341 8100
Email
admin@environmentvictoria.org.au
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[@EnviroVic](https://www.facebook.com/EnviroVic)
[facebook.com/EnviroVic](https://www.facebook.com/EnviroVic)



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