

Effective Action This Election: Conversation Guide v2

Get out there and start talking to your community about how important clean energy is this state election – for cost of living and the environment

If you host a conversation, please join the **EV What's App community > Vic Votes 2026** and let us know how it went!

Goals:

- Have meaningful conversations to **build community power for the upcoming election** and underline the importance of good policy
- Ask folks to [sign the petition](#) for **affordable clean energy for everyone**

Conversation script – This is a guide from July 2026, please adapt as needed!

Opening	Hi, I'm [your name] . I'm a volunteer with Environment Victoria, an environmental charity. We're chatting with locals here in [suburb/place] about their experience accessing clean and cheap energy like solar. Have you got a couple of minutes?
Explain our purpose and ask about their experiences	The reason we're talking with people is because we'd like to ensure that community views about clean, affordable energy are put front and centre at this upcoming Victorian election. Clean energy – like solar, batteries and efficient electric hot water - is already saving Victorian households money, and is key in protecting our environment and climate. Ask: Do you have solar on your roof? And what are your power bills like at the moment?
Share your story and connect with their experience	<i>Validate what they said, e.g. Yes, solar is great hey? Or Yes, energy bills have been out of control these last few years.</i> I care a lot about this because [insert your short motivation here] <i>Examples include:</i> Lower bills, less pollution, I currently can't get solar at my place, I think we have a real opportunity to expand clean energy access, etc.
Learn more about their experience and concerns – get curious	Tell me more about your experience. <i>Questions could include:</i> Do you have batteries, solar, split system heating? <i>Is there anything preventing you from getting those things?</i> <i>Do you rent or own?</i>

	[Listen] Validate their experience
Re-emphasise benefits of clean energy if they're aligned (If not, let them go!)	Volunteers at Environment Victoria have been having these kinds of conversations for a few years and what we're finding is that Victorian households with solar and batteries are paying very little for electricity. But others are stuck paying sky-high prices for electricity made in part from coal and gas. We know that gas and fuel prices have gone through the roof in the last few years. Our politicians can speed up our transition to affordable, clean energy for everyone, for example by helping Victorians access solar and batteries. Or they can slow us down and keep bills high. That's why it's important for us to show politicians that this is an issue we care about this election. I'd like to see that every political candidate has a fair, credible energy policy this election. And that should include helping everyone access clean, affordable energy What do you think, do you agree? (if appropriate)
Ask them to sign, and if they are deeply aligned, ask them to volunteer.	Well, EV has a petition asking candidates to put forward affordable clean energy policy, and ensure everyone can access it. Would you sign the petition to show your support? <i>If appropriate:</i> I can sense we're really aligned in values, can I follow up with you if you'd like to join in on volunteering for our state election campaign? How would you like to be involved? There are plenty of opportunities to help, and we'll be meeting with candidates as the election draws nearer.
Objection handling (if needed)	But I'm not a renter or apartment owner / I already have clean energy in my home That's ok! If you support clean energy, you should still sign. These policies will make Victoria's energy transition stronger and fairer. Clean energy should be for everyone, not just wealthy homeowners. Renewables are too expensive, it's not the time to worry

	about this Renewables are now much, much cheaper than fossil fuels. In 2024, they cut household bills by \$417 on average (that's \$3.8 billion in savings for Aussie families that year). And the savings have only grown since then. Clean Energy Investor Group, March 2025 Over 40% of Aussie electricity now comes from renewables, and Victoria is leading the way. If we elect people that don't care about this, we risk going backwards – and that will be very expensive. Even a one-year delay in rolling out clean energy could increase household bills by up to 20% (AEMC, Residential Electricity Price Trends 2025, December 2025) It's hopeless, we're screwed We're not screwed! Victoria is a global leader in renewables, and a positive election outcome means we'll continue down that track. A future where we electrify everything and have next to no energy bills really is possible here. But we need you to sign and join us! I don't know enough about energy to sign this That's ok. The bottom line is we are asking candidates to do their research and come up with a fair and credible policy that works for Victorian households, not just the oil and gas industry.
--	---

Authorised by Jono La Nauze, Environment Victoria, 60 Leicester St, Carlton, VIC 3053