

as part of a cheaper, cleaner and consistent energy future.

## **Australia Needs a Balanced Energy Mix**

Australia needs a balanced energy mix to deliver cheaper, cleaner, and consistent electricity.

As coal exits the system, our plan is to replace it with zero-emissions nuclear energy.

Nuclear energy provides Australia's only credible pathway to net zero emissions by 2050.

It will keep electricity prices down and keep the lights on.

### **Other Countries are Embracing Nuclear**

32 countries are operating zero-emissions nuclear plants. Another 50 are looking to do so.

Of the world's 20 largest economies, Australia is the only one not using nuclear energy, or moving towards it.

## **Shifting from Coal to Nuclear Power**

A Federal Coalition Government will investigate building a zero-emissions nuclear facility in seven locations:

- Liddell Power Station, New South Wales
- Mount Piper Power Station, New South Wales
- Loy Yang Power Stations, Victoria
- Tarong Power Station, Queensland
- Callide Power Station, Queensland
- Northern Power Station, South Australia (SMR only)
- Muja Power Station, Western Australia (SMR only)

A key advantage of modern zero-emissions nuclear plants is that they can be plugged into existing grids.

This means they can effectively replace retired coal plants.

It means avoiding much of the new spending needed for Labor's expensive renewables-only system, including new transmission poles and wires.

### **Two Establishment Projects**

A Federal Coalition Government will initially develop two establishment projects using either small modular reactors or modern larger plants such as the AP1000 or APR1400.

They will start producing electricity by 2035 (with small modularreactors) or 2037 (if modern larger plants are found to be the best option).

The Australian Government will own these assets.

There will be extensive community consultation, including in tailoring the community benefits package.

#### **Benefits for Host Communities**

Shifting from coal to zero-emissions nuclear energy will re-energise our economy.

Host communities would particularly benefit from:

- A multi-billion dollar facility with an operational life of up to 80-100 years, providing hundreds of well-paid jobs for many generations.
- Cheaper electricity to support an industrial precinct, that has both traditional manufacturing and high-tech sectors.
- Flow-on benefits for local businesses providing goods and services during the build and operation of the plant.
- A regional economic deal, with investment in priority infrastructure and services.



## **Avoiding an Energy Crisis**

Labor has put all its eggs in one basket with their expensive renewables-only policy.

Australians are now paying among the highest power bills in the world. We risk the lights going out in the years ahead.

Under Labor, 90 per cent of our 24/7 baseload power is being forced from our energy grid over the next 10 years.

The Labor Government's 82 per cent renewables target by 2030, requires 4.5 gigawatts of additional large scale wind and solar every year.

Last year less than one third of this was delivered.

Labor's approach requires 58 million solar panels, 3,500 new industrial wind turbines and up to 28,000 km of new transmission lines across the country.

Experts have warned the cost of Labor's rollout will be between \$1.2 trillion and \$1.5 trillion.

No country in the world relies solely on solar and wind.

# A Logical Step for Australia

Australia is already a nuclear nation.

We have had a nuclear reactor operating in Sydney since 1958, which creates vital medicine that saves lives.

Australia is adopting nuclear propelled submarines, as part of the landmark AUKUS agreement with the United States and the United Kingdom.

Australia also has the world's largest reserves of uranium, which powers zero-emissions nuclear plants across the world.

Australians should be given the right to use zeroemissions nuclear energy to reduce power prices.

## What Experts Say:

"It is unequivocally zero emissions during operation...It integrates smoothly with our existing electricity grid and contributes to frequency control and system strength."

Alan Finkel AC, Australia's former Chief Scientist 1

"There's no way we're going to be able to get our carbon emissions down without going nuclear." Dick Smith AC, Aviator and Entrepreneur<sup>2</sup>

"Nuclear power is a mature technology, which has a proven track record of safe and reliable operation in many countries around the world." Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation<sup>3</sup>

"Nuclear provides the obvious back-up option, it has almost zero-emissions, its technology is proven and we have an abundant supply of uranium."

Committee for Economic Development of Australia 4

"Nuclear energy, in terms of an overall safety record, is better than other energy." Bill Gates, co-founder of Microsoft and Chairman of TerraPower <sup>5</sup>

- "It (nuclear) is a reliable, relatively cheap, energy source that can be used for baseload energy requirements." Geoscience Australia <sup>6</sup>
- "Nuclear energy is complementary to renewables. An industrial furnace may require temperatures beyond 1000 degrees Celsius, and current renewable energy options are not able to meet that challenge. This is where a civilian nuclear sector can step in and assist industry to decarbonise their operations in a competitive manner, without forcing them to look to other jurisdictions for their energy supply." Minerals Council of Australia 7
- "Nuclear power would be a win for the environment and an essential part of attacking global warming." Bob Hawke, 23rd Prime Minister of Australia<sup>8</sup>

- 1 SMH, 23/3/2024
- 2 SGB, 27/11/2023
- 3 Submission to Nuclear Inquiry, 16/9/2019
- 4 Australia's Nuclear Options, November 2011
- 5 WSJ, 26/3/2012
- 6 www.ga.gov.au, 29/4/2024
- 7 Media Release, 9/11/2023
- 8 Woodford Folk Festival, December 2016

For more Information

australianeedsnuclear.org.au

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