

What should be included in South Australia's new Climate Change Strategy?

Notes from Stakeholder Workshop: Marion, Wednesday 23rd September 2015

Objective of workshop

To seek input from industry, government and the community in the development of the Climate Change Strategy and Carbon Neutral Adelaide action plan.

Desired outcomes

- Increased stakeholder awareness of the objectives and process for developing the new Climate Change Strategy
- Stakeholder input/views provided regarding what should be included in the strategy, including input on innovative solutions for climate action, state-wide priorities for action in relation to adaptation, an industry-led low carbon transition and government leadership

Workshop principles

- Accessible for participation by stakeholders with varying levels of skill, knowledge and expertise
 - Conversation based workshops which promote 2-way dialogue between all stakeholders
 - Whilst conversation based, workshops include clear prioritizing of issues/topics raised
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What should be included in the new SA Climate Change Strategy?

Small group conversations enabled participants to talk about what they felt was important to be included in the strategy. Participants were guided through a series of questions and the notes were made by each small group and are included in section 2.

As a result of these small group conversations, participants were asked to write down their top three individual priorities that they would like to see included in South Australia's Climate Change Strategy.

1. Priorities for inclusion in South Australia's Climate Change strategy

LEAD

- Government generation/communication a sense of hope around the doom and gloom of Climate Change.
- More incentives/grants from the State Government to local Communities and Businesses.
- Carbon neutral not just for Adelaide City Council but incentives for all Councils.
- Remove fossil fuel subsidies including to industry/agriculture. Have Tesla re-tool to Ford/Holden factories to make electric vehicles i.e. cars, trucks, buses, trains and trams. Ban the sale of new petrol/diesel vehicles after Ford/Holden shut down.

- A better and closer connection to community opinion on suggested management strategies – community surveys.
- Instigate community networks to share knowledge and ideas, and lobby at appropriate level for change.
- SA Government leadership in introducing an across the economy measure (such as carbon pricing) and building support for this across other states and territories.
- Government/Business ~ consistency in Policy, Direction, Community Goals.
- Federal, State and Local Policy alignment that enables action in all areas.
- Fossil Fuel Divestment.
- Integrate other community needs e.g. health, social wellbeing and industry advancement with energy/emissions strategy.
- Create focal group hubs (dozens) to integrate public (community) with experts for synergy.
- Information ‘harnessing’ from experts then dissemination (in all elements of discussion).

REDUCE

- Stop the Super Trawlers from devastating our oceans.
- Carbon neutral Adelaide expanded to whole metropolitan area and then to the whole state.
- Eliminate Animal Agriculture.
- Regulation of carbon emissions.
- Reduction in animal agriculture and making sure people know how important it is what they put on their forks matters.
- Let’s look to leave a better future for our future generations.
- Development and implementation of Fleet Management programs, starting with government vehicles.
- Innovative public transport solutions for greater Adelaide.
- Remove fossil fuel subsidies and transfer these to roof-top solar so that each home can be self-sufficient in energy.
- 100% renewable generation / set a 100% renewable energy target by a set (not distant) date. – e.g. 2030.
- Reduce methane emissions into the atmosphere by limiting meat and dairy in diet.
- Acknowledge and adapt lifestyle choices to reduce methane emissions from animal agriculture.
- Public information sessions to share information about ways to reduce the impact of climate change.
- Government/Industry/Community initiatives to establish emissions reduction as community norms.
- Government/Industry/Community partnership and strategy to drive a zero carbon energy supply that integrates: distributed renewable generation; storage; and electric vehicles.
- Tangible and real incentives for renewable energy use plus reduction of energy waste from distribution.
- Stop urban sprawl.

- Develop urban food forest to promote local food (seasonal) and reduce transportation and create a healthier population.
- Support local government in transitioning their communities to a low carbon future.

ADAPT

- Increase urbanisation density of Adelaide.
- Density compounds benefits such as public transport use, innovation, and community interaction and education levels.
- Vertical Forests ~ forested apartment buildings.
- Focus on the achievable goals.
- Re afforestation for carbon syncing ~ ecological benefits.
- Improving health by what people eat ~ non animal diet ~ effects greenhouse gas emissions as well.
- Eco mapping to discover and improve efficiency design and waste containment.
- Mandate rainwater collect for households and especially for large buildings ~ use for sprinkling to reduce dust which is going to increase with high heat.

INNOVATE

- Show clear alignment between Department, State Development ('the carrot' for providing incentives) and DEWNR ('the stick') in developing the policy.
- Remove bans on growing agricultural hemp.
- Hydroponic/Aquaporin vertical farms to grow hemp/vegies organic reducing transport distance and exhibiting organic low water produce.
- Alignment between increased productivity (GDP) from SA through innovation, how business will be supported and research funding to evaluate the technological/innovation options for Climate Change adaptation and their cost benefit.
- Big businesses and their shareholders making sacrifices as well as individual households.
- Facilitate community ownership of energy for public transport. Grow public transport – make it free.
- Community engagement through better incentives for social enterprises. Low emission transport (LETs) – like schemes to promote local growth, farmer's markets, innovation and low carbon growth oven food chains/markets.
- Improvement of industry processes efficiency (process intensification).
- Redesign public transport:
 - Small, flexible, electric vehicles.
 - Integrated bike plan.
 - All public transport free.
 - Extend tram/Obahn/train network.

Something Else

- An audit at council levels by independent commission for:
 - Eco.
 - Social.
 - Environment.
 - Cultural

2. Notes from Small Group Conversations

2.1 LEAD: What does it mean to you for South Australia to be a leader in taking action to respond to climate change?

Table 1 notes

- Support and lead the solar thermal plant in Port Augusta.
- There are significant financial gains through timely investment into Climate Change adaptation.
- Would be proud for SA to show leadership. We were one of the first to give women the vote.
- Small countries seem to be able to 'turn the ship around'.
- We have a very diverse set of challenges with respect to Climate Change – it is a bold ambition to lead.
- We have natural advantages with respect to energy production: solar; nuclear and wind.
- Sense of hope.
- SA has led in the past and should again. Somebody in Oz needs to nudge the Federal Government towards more action.
- Leading can influence private investment into SA.
- % budget is for renewable green energy compared to other states.
- More community leaders. Everybody involved and informed.

Table 2 notes

- Providing and enabling social and community enterprises.
- Local Government engagement with communities.
- Internal enablers within government need to support overarching policies.
- Lead by example ~ by doing.
- How to address and engage different views that conflict.
- Lead development of cyclical economy (v's linear).
- Links with innovation and change to supportive industry and manufacturing opportunities.
- SA is a unique state to educate others about ~ driest state in driest continent.
- Opportunity for SA in development and export.
- Create Regional Government.

Table 3 notes

- Extension services for businesses – efficiencies, compliance etc., through EPA etc., ‘Eco-mapping’.
- Mining – self regulation legislation.
- Leadership – stopping sprawl; increasing density; increasing public transport.
- World stage leadership – look at emissions on a consumption basis e.g. China, India emissions which go into our consumables. Include all emissions not just scope1/2.
- Accepting the science by all parties and work toward positive solutions.
- Lead by example – SA government model low emission/zero emission practices.
- SA government to build partnerships with other states and territories in overcoming party political barriers.
- Sharing bottomless tanks – pilot projects at local level.
- Increase public transport in South Australia and make it affordable. Lead by example – more affordable emission strategies for communities.

2.2 ADAPT: How can government, communities, businesses and individuals work together to prioritize and fund activities that build our resilience to climate change?

Table 1 notes

- Education.
- Look at example of Eyre Peninsula study and community actions.
- Leadership; Need research and factual information; Education and social programs.
- Look at David Attenborough’s Global Apollo Scheme.
- Making information on the likely changes that are coming more accessible to the community (this will build an acceptance of need for adaptation).
- Community Forums; Provide incentives for renewable energy for businesses and communities.

Table 2 notes

- World famous Oceanographer Sylvia Earle, states 90% of our large fish are gone. WWF says 50% of fish stocks are gone.
- Integrate community with focus grouping.
- Make a movie – create participation and interest.
- 1 hour SA movie to ‘sell’ the idea. SKTP/Community/Drama School/Environment School/PCCC.
- Acknowledge and adapt our lifestyle and dietary choices to reduce/eliminate meat and dairy to limit methane emissions.
- People need to realise what they put on their forks is one of the most important issues of the destruction of our planet.
- Marketing plan.

- Integration of issues with climate change e.g. social wellbeing.
- Education and information sharing is the key.
- Acidification of our oceans is our main source of the destruction of our planet. What are we leaving our grand children.
- Carrot and stick approach?
- Don't get bogged down in debates about whether climate change is happening or not!
- Stick vs carrot. Choose carrot create vision/incentive.
- Link back to values of individuals/businesses – contextualise!
- The science is in!
- Integrate issues of what they eat: Western diet of meat and dairy is ruining our eco systems. Dairies consuming our water and causing pollution.
- Methane is many times more harmful to the atmosphere than carbon. Lifestyle adaptations to reduce these emissions are essential.
- Over fishing is ruining our oceans.

Table 3 notes

- Local government partnering with community groups especially for vulnerable communities.
- Pilot project to show community the benefits of new technology.
- Communication for the community to learn from each other and make funds be targeted.
- Need increased water tanks in the city.
- Use solar power as primary source for houses with grid as a backup.
- Identify projects constrained by upfront capital costs (e.g. solar rainwater) which could deliver a financial return over time with funding mechanism.
- Installation of rainwater tanks – barrier is upfront funding.
- Proactively offer cooling solutions for vulnerable communities – in innovative financing mechanisms.
- Designs to power overcoming failures.
- Geological footprints to find efficiency of water use.
- Sprinklers established through government assistance.
- Focus agriculture on water efficient plants like hemp. Make and promote industries which use these.
- Focus on people with disabilities ~ put systems in place to help (e.g. neighbourhood watch).
- Local groups engaging with local government.
- Agriculture and industry make up 70% of water use e.g. grains irrigated – then exposed. We could change agriculture focus from high water use to low water use.
- Solar batteries – improve efficiency.
- Organic; permaculture; food forest; anti-monoculture.
- Water; agriculture/industry 70%; hemp; aquaponics and hydroponic.
- Community sharing of water storage, renewable energy and battery storage.
- Require building design to include rainwater tanks.
- Underground powerlines to reduce power going out in heat waves.

2.3 REDUCE: What are the opportunities for South Australia to substantially reduce our emissions?

Table 1 notes

- Encourage: walking; local shopping; bring back low fuel transport modes.
- Local food.
- Incentives to redevelop areas where transport hubs are.
- Wind and solar better prices.
- Reduce consumption.
- Share sharing of surplus vegetable with neighbours.
- Increase electricity prices.
- Mechanisms to dissipate heat climates through better urban planning and development.
- Enhance the social contacts ~ social capital.
- Stop the urban sprawl ~ more open space in cities.
- Low consumption: Lifestyle ~ educate to use seasonal local food ~ community gardens.
- Reduce emissions.
- Increase efficiency of using electricity.
- Education on efficiency and local food growing/use.
- Promote growing local products ~ fruit and vegetables.
- Charge more for water.
- Promote Farmers Markets through various mechanisms (over food chains).
- Planning: Urban infill. Increase population in transport hubs.
- Discourage agriculture practices that use too much water ~ dairy that send milk to China.
- Reduce methane emissions from cattle.
- Councils to encourage people to use public transport. Better parking – improve the system.
- If infill 'up' (buildings) still need to take into account for open space/green space.
- Rain water tanks for everybody.
- Restrict refrigerated air-condition in preference for evaporative.
- What about encouraging smaller families ~ too many people.
- Nuclear Power?
- Provide dividends for households that increase: efficiency of resource use; reduce emissions.
- Incentives for electric vehicles over fossil fuels.
- Geothermal energy for urban areas.
- Community education, motivation for zero waste and to reduce emissions.

Table 2 notes

- More integrated bike lanes through the greater city.
- State when 100% reduction is to be achieved.
- Disclosure schemes when houses are sold/leased ~ new homes.
- Look at solutions for regions especially remote communities to convert to solar/wind (where power is privately supplied).
- Look at areas of providing solutions for solar power storage (battery) and delivery at community level (or through grid).
- Make all public transport free.
- Food miles- local produce, farmers markets etc.
- The fact that changing lighting etc. make business sense.
- Capitalise on the synergies i.e. health and not car i.e. cycling; Buy local and food markets.
- Isolate key strategies 80/20 principle.
- Educate and generate options.
- Integrate emission reduction with other major community needs e.g. fitness.
- Modelling emissions reduction pathways i.e. what does an 80% reduction target mean for energy, industry and transport?
- Do we need a benevolent dictator? E.g. Brazil.
- Making externalities explicit: costs of remote power supply; cost of carbon emissions.

Table 3 notes

- Carbon absorbing – concrete should be used more widely.
- Reduce emissions from agriculture – animal production. Diet changes to vegetarian, change clothing.
- Government partner and meet with industries to identify emissions reduction opportunities.
- More revegetation of green urban spaces using endemic plant species.
- Provide incentive based behavioural change programs.
- Community awareness campaign for climate change action.
- Behavioural change- promote benefits of change to the public e.g. health.
- Tesla motors - local company to take over Holden/Ford factories ~ electric cars; ban new petrol cars; electric cars, bikes, trucks, trams and trains.
- Minimise fuel consumption in transport ~ efficiency of engines and machines.
- Bring people together e.g. councils, NGOs and community groups.
- Changing building codes to drive uptake of efficient products and lower cost (e.g. double glazing).
- Reducing meat – lobby power; removing meat subsidy; removing meat advertising.
- Cooperatives; community engaged; local economy; tax breaks; plasma are combustion for waste; new building codes.
- Kathryn Bellette: Premier's Climate Change Council; lead; innovate; reduce; adapt; Climate Change Act 2007/2011.
- Role of regulation to ensure compliance and drive higher efficiencies.

- Fleet management to choose more efficient vehicles.
- Incentivise conversion of buildings to increased efficiencies ~ retrofit existing; higher building standards for new buildings.
- Create a fund to make industry more efficient (divert existing funds).
- Private car use ~ hybrid and electric.
- All curriculum should have a mandatory Climate Change class.

2.4 INNOVATE: How can South Australia be the innovator in climate change action?

Table 1 notes

- Differential rates for housing/vehicles etc.
- Individual initiative e.g. ask council to act on requests.
- SA Government partnering in research with universities.
- Planning houses; urban infill; limiting sprawl; standards for new developments.
- Subsidies and incentives.
- Financial incentives to promote uptake of new technologies.
- Negative gearing – like incentives for solar power on properties.
- SA Government funding to support the connection between (applied) research and business.
- Strengthening ties between the private sector and research sector.

Table 2 notes

- SA unique due to very harsh climate but reliance upon it as a food bowl.
- Innovation Fair.
- Community sponsorships for attendance at NCCARF Conference.
- Mini – make a fair Tonsley.
- Think Tank – come together of leading thinkers ~ academics, scientists and entrepreneurs for climate change innovation.
- Seriously harness our intellectual resources. Provide an avenue for people to contribute. E.g. common thread – Marion Council or Sustainability Hub.
- Inventory and Expertise ~ Inventors, entrepreneurs, innovators with a list of their skills for all areas to identify synergies.
- Integrate with other general community needs.
- Mechanisms like ‘common thread’ ‘sustainability hub’ to promote community led innovations.
- Vertical forests; vertical farms; entrepreneur schools and Transition Towns Network.
- Best practice in psychology of climate change adaptation practices and knowledge sharing.
- Bring in ideas from other countries ~ generate additional ideas and harness information.
- Register of innovators and scientist and entrepreneurs on Climate Change skills.

- Sharing best practices on disability care and psychology.
- Educate the population. Are we all talking to each other ~ different sectors.
- Councils: innovative ideas; contest – innovative ideas in carbon reductions to mentor regional sister councils.

Table 3 notes

- Renew the 'grid' to incorporate battery storage, electric vehicles etc. including infrastructure planning.
- Make the renewable target 100% by 2050.
- Community survey for suggested change.
- Reward innovation e.g. big \$ for big change rather than little \$ for little change (or both!)

2.5 LOW CARBON GENERATION: What plans or commitments does industry and community have with respect to low carbon generation?

Table 1 notes

- Adelaide City Council providing subsidies for solar power storage – other councils could do this.
- Community ownership of energy.
- Local Government to set course with action and leadership.
- Local Government to drive an urgent Transition Towns initiative.

Table 2 notes

- Increase feeding tariff on solar for households and businesses.
- Plasm are generation from landfill: base load power; on demand; small units/decentralisation and carbon emission.
- Transfer fossil fuel subsidies to renewables.
- Lead – change.
- Less shareholder profits for fossil fuel.
- Reduce electricity usage.
- 100% renewables.
- Increase green waste, food waste and composting.
- We have a focus on small community initiatives. We need to look at big business profits.
- Promote composting through social enterprises.
- Divestment – take money out of fossil fuel markets. Reduce subsidies.
- More landfill gas recovery.
- Low carbon generation at Port Augusta.

Table 3 notes

- Tesla Motors to take over Holden/Ford factories; ban petrol engine cars; electric cars, trucks and trains.
- Port Augusta solar thermal.
- Should government have a role or leave it to the market?
- Government interventions that enable people to 'follow the money' in a way that reduces carbon emissions.
- No coal electricity generation.
- Electrical vehicles.
- Incentives for feed in tariffs.
- Re: targets.
- Contract for different schemes.
- Carbon pricing.

The content contained in the workshop outcomes summary does not reflect the position, policies or views of the Government of South Australia. We have made every effort to record comments as accurately as possible. However any inappropriate comments have been removed.