

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

### **Notes from Stakeholder Workshop: West Beach, Friday 18 September 2015**

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#### **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**

- Develop a plan for energy supply across the state to determine low carbon opportunities such as renewables/battery storage, particularly for regional areas.
- Use positive messages to encourage participation in Climate Change action.
- Education about lifestyle choices to show how eliminating or reducing meat and dairy from diet can reduce greenhouse gas emissions significantly.
- Energy Policy that sets a direction to encourage:
  - Grid
  - Small scale

- Regional ~ involving:
- Line transmission
- Battery storage
- Generation technology.
- Develop Renewal SA land with conditions that require passive solar layout, water sensitive urban design and greening (open space, street trees).
- Education: Dictate SA to be the most climate sensitive state ~ schools, environment, industry, community. Let it become second nature.
- Cross State Government coordination on climate change at Executive and operational levels.
- Increase educational awareness in Climate Change.
- Educating our kids on climate change by simple messages and education centre in Adelaide.
- State Development planning policy reform – in favour for “State of Art” green infrastructure.

## **REDUCE**

- Regulate energy efficiency standard for SA Power Networks – owned street lighting. Or any other means to get SA Power Networks to install LED lighting.
- Urban green space need to be revegetated with endemic plant species to reduce carbon.
- Renewable grid – greener grid – is this the cost effective way of holistic Climate Change Adaptation.
- Encourage demand management of energy ~ grid and transport.
- Invest into carbon sinks e.g. mangroves and sapphire forests.
- Measuring carbon sink in reserves – investing in mitigation.
- Compliance for energy efficient buildings. Making sure we’re building energy efficient homes.

## **ADAPT**

- Planning for the public health impacts of climate change.
- Adopt lifestyle choices (diet) to reduce emissions.
- Model Climate Change strategy actions on zero waste model.

## **INNOVATE**

- Encourage/recognition of climate reducing action. Value. Climate reduction action and climate change preparation industry and communities through public branding and regulation and ‘protection’ economic support.
- Support innovation ~ young scientists.
- Centre for Excellence in Climate Change Adaptation here in SA.
- Greening the electric grid to cater for sustainable transport.
- Competition \$\$\$ for innovation in green technology/business development to be based in SA → jobs → low carbon → adapt.
- Reward good action by businesses.

- Environment leadership that is bold and lasting. Make SA known for its approach to climate change. Run an International Conference here on Climate Change Innovation/Adaptation and show case what local businesses are doing.
- Develop policies that encourage innovation and incentivise change e.g. to use public transport or low emitting vehicles.
- Connect electric vehicle highways across regional tourism regions leading to Adelaide. Adelaide adaptors of an alternative vehicle mode i.e. Hamilton Island.

### **Something Else**

- Support small scale energy production.
- Finding mechanism to fund Adaptation and mitigation.

## **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**

- Accountability in environmental levies – ensuring the \$\$\$ goes to environmental causes.
- Support the idea of working with other state governments and regions around the world i.e. Compact the Climate Group's States and Regions Alliance.
- Climate Change Council to assist/facilitate industry group to tackle issues with Government requirements e.g. lack of motives for law, carbon transport, hard to get electric vehicles into Australia.
- Have to solve adaptive problems that industries share.
- Adelaide City Council/Government to take initiative to start awards for carbon reduction, innovation etc.
- Revegetation using endemic plants in urban spaces.
- EPA waste levy \$60M (?) not being used.
- Levy for climate change education.
- Professional awards for building profession – e.g. Adelaide City Council or SA Government.
- Greening the Government's own operations.
- Promote good stories from business and help them to collaborate.
- Financing arrangements.
- Policy certainty and consistency.
- Just do it and do it well! Conservative culture.
- Communication across networks. Innovate in how they disseminate information.
- Lead by branding "Climate Change" effectively to send key messages into the community.
- Leadership and investment in big infrastructure.
- Incentives.

## Table 2 notes

- 90 Day Challenge ~ What is happening in government in this space? Incorporate all agencies – including education: Ability for innovation to know where to go.
- Leadership commitment in government at minister level.
- State coordinated response on Climate Change Adaptation.
- Whole of Government Accountability:
  - Department of Education.
  - Department of Health.
  - Economic Development.
- Climate Change Education Centre.
- Health gap in Chief Executives Group.

## 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

- Should be ongoing non-partisan program. An ongoing commitment to adaptation with flexibility.
- Needs funding to support industry adaptation.
- What are the costs of no action?
- People want to talk about both mitigation and adaptation together.
- Economic narrative is needed in communication with the community.
- Communication in broader community between departments and between councils.
- Equal focus on adaptation and new technologies and current economic climate re: automotive transformation major focus on advanced manufacturing. Need new focus i.e. adaptation.
- We need mitigation and adaptation planning to come together to get the community's interest and involvement.
- Needs an economic imperative – the cost of not adapting or not mitigating.
- Need leadership e.g. in promoting low emission and transport e.g. 1<sup>st</sup> floor and corporate electric vehicles and bikes only – U-Parks.

### Table 2 notes

- Liability cost to adapt conflicting development and environmental impacts.
- Change to adapt – be prepared for change in all areas.
- Increasing role for Local Government and State Government to coordinate levels. Elizabeth River protocols to coordinate.
- Levy and charges in councils rates, bills etc.

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

### Table 1 notes

- Regulation – building inspections and compliance should be happening.
- Give priority to bikes.
- Engage businesses. There is some great work going on – promote it and share stories re efficiency, savings and innovations.
- Electric bikes – charge points at cafes etc., (for the elderly).
- Use zero waste model and adapt it to climate change.
- Car parking nodes at public transport.
- Carbon neutral car parking (10c a ticket) \$ goes to planting trees which can become assets.
- Carbon neutral – provide incentives for people to drive less/invest in more public transport.
- Free bikes at train stops.
- Awarding and recognising councils that do check sustainable/efficiency requirements.
- Encourage a bike culture – second nature to walk or ride.
- 8 star minimum in building code.
- Provide better public transport system.
- Urban forests.
- Councils awarded for Zero Waste strategies in landfill reduction.
- Encourage individuals and communities by reporting that individual actions do make a difference.
- Lifestyle and diet changes can reduce carbon and methane emissions by eliminating or reducing consumption of meat and dairy.
- Are the kids of today greener than our generation? We need to embed principles through educating youth.
- Create a bike culture ~ no helmets.
- Open space levy should be used to create more green spaces.
- A bike track through the median strip on Port Road – Tram may come later 😊.
- Train from Murray Bridge to Mount Barker. Train from Mt Gambier to Adelaide.
- Carbon neutral ~ value trees and other plants as carbon positive
- Promote (by incentives) low emission taxis. Engage with taxi council.

## Table 2 notes

- Adelaide City Council ~ Zero Carbon Plan ~ electric car connection for city communities.
- Demand side management of power to reduce the peak power and fossil fuel generation demand.
- Address dislocate between Departments i.e. State Department and Climate Change DEWNR.
- Electric car Darwin to Adelaide developing electric vehicle domestic cars raises profile. Support this event.
- Electric Car (EV) Mitsubishi – EV 10km turn over plan to introduce more EV to 2% market.
- Branding and recognition of achieving improvement ~ greenhouse gas emissions efficiency.
- Decentralise power distribution v centralise.
- Not nuclear. Choose solar, wind, wave, geothermal.
- Re: technologies that give the optimal mix of generation for SA region grid. Green the grid.
- 70% in local government is street lighting – SA power networks own lights ~ LED installation.
- What is Energy Policy for next 30-50 years driven by C/kwh?
- \$ signal to disincentive fossil fuels transport:
  - \$ change in technology.
  - Change in lifestyle.
  - Use of public transport.
- Investment/development decisions on new based and generation assets driven by a carbon standard per MWH.

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

### Table 1 notes

- Promote Education Centre on Climate Change to get tourism gains and link to education.
- Need scientists, students, innovations working with government and schools to promote new ideas and innovation.
- Collaboration by businesses e.g. Tonsley – do it more.
- Funding overseas investment – use Zero Waste model.
- Embed knowledge in our youth – so they are innovators and have climate knowledge.
- Investment in green industries and new technologies.
- Covered bike ways with solar panels – encourage riding and generate energy.
- Encouraging:
  - Sustainability.
  - Health.

- Economic development, particularly in the regions through encouraging entrepreneurship!
- Clean green food. Supporting local food producers.
- Innovate competition for Industry, Business Start-ups ~ youth.
- Shared economy e.g Air B & B – charge points for electric vehicles. Value add what is already there.
- Building design eaves covered with solar panels (engage architects and building industry).
- Eco-tourism potential in SA ~ hire of electric vehicles.
- Attract funding from overseas.
- Encourage new technologies to be adaptors.
- Education Centre for Excellence in Climate Change ~ tourism gains and education our youth.
- Run a climate change Innovation International Conference here and take groups out to industries to showcase what they've done by Airport, Coopers and Tonsley.

#### **Table 2 notes**

- Drive innovation to progress to commercial ~ manage risk and lead in development early.
- Climate Change centre to exchange ideas and progress.
- Government to lead on precinct design standards for local operation and development embedded with construction.
- Managing business risk by supporting incremental change and investment CRCs.
- Encourage positivity and achievements.
- Policies such as emissions trading to incentive innovations.
- Interface of utilities and infrastructure to users that sets up 1° low carbon.
- Support young scientists.
- Set a standard in building design ~ expect improved standards. Incentive making green choices at design condition on land for building standards.
- Innovation that encourages young scientists.
- Integrate nature with design:
  - House.
  - Product.
  - Solutions to built environment staff planning and government leadership.

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

#### **Table 1 notes**

- Protect saltmarsh, mangroves, coastal wetlands as carbon sinks.
- Council integrated in Learn from LGA model in purchasing electric vehicles from financial benefit perspective and investing in electric charging infrastructures as a possibility.

- Electric vehicle highway and charging points with solar generation.
- Remove fuel subsidies.
- Support of small scale (e.g. 10 households) wind energy production.
- No nuclear energy production ~ leave it in the ground.
- Green infrastructure opportunities e.g. along train lines and highways etc.
- How does SA get a fair share of the emissions reduction fund?
- Legislate for 30% tree canopy cover in urban areas.
- Encourage green industries e.g. solar power, renewables and wave.
- Solar planes in SA ~ research and trial new industry opportunity.

## **Table 2 notes**

- ZEN at Tonsley.
- Adelaide Airport.
- Renewal SA- demonstrate low carbon housing standards ~ commercially available examples.
- Metro grid plan: feed in; battery; small scale.
- Soil carbon to assist in soil conditions.
- Base load. Painted.
- Government procurement policy to encourage local content and greenhouse gas /efficiency action items. Change specifications.

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*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.*