

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

### **Notes from Stakeholder Workshop: Port Lincoln, Tuesday 15 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**

- Any change (major) e.g. Alinta closure to have a transition strategy and make it known and transparent.
- Clear leadership and direction not just plans, financially as well as strategies.
- Capacity building understanding science. Adaptation principles and mitigation opportunity.
- Legislate – to face change and adoption of better practices.
- Educate the general community and industry.
- Positive and consistent discourse from all levels of government on Climate Change Adaptation and renewables → visionary:

- Financial benefits.
- Mitigation.
- Reducing and adaptation to impacts.
- Pitching SA as innovators.
- Produce a regional vision for (ecological) sustainability goals by 2050 (?) as a basis for guiding the direction of decision making.
- Support \$\$, policy for industry (e.g. seafood, farming etc.) to adapt and innovate.
- Greater understanding of and consideration of climate change in regional South Australia.
- Capture this regions priorities in a single strategic plan for the region.
- Maintain leadership in this area by ensuring the community are brought along too.
  - Education.
  - Incentives.
  - Entrepreneurship.
  - Communication plans.
- If it does not already exist ~ produce a document explaining the science of Climate Change, with a section for Eyre Peninsula.

### **Collaboration**

- Collaboration between government, industry, business and community and community service providers to develop innovative initiatives.
- Collaboration ~ Industry, Federal Government, Landcare, Community Groups, State, Local, University and kids- schools.

### **Education**

- Responding to climate change doesn't necessarily mean change in the standard of living.
- Educate people on the need to reduce emissions and why some people or bodies are against energy conservation.
- Clear messages about what is climate change and what "the change" is (e.g. +4°C).
- Education ~ alleviate the myths and tell the stories.

### **REDUCE**

- Develop transition strategies to ensure existing businesses and communities remain in place – not shut down or subject to lost services.
- Create acceptance/support for emissions reduction as a key society goal, not just cost savings.
- Help industry reduce their emissions without going broke.
- Given the need to manage already existing atmospheric carbon ~ it's important to do further work on sequestration across the landscape.
- Generate ideas amongst schools and young people.
- Regulate buildings to make them more energy efficient.
- Price signals (either positive or negative) to encourage carbon reduction. (for example – discount on sales tax on energy efficient houses or lower regulation on efficient cars.

- Low Carbon Generation ~ coordinated opportunities across regions to implement carbon sequestration in soils for economic benefits into the future.
- Low carbon energy – regional low carbon economic plan and vision.

### **Collaboration**

- Community consultation and involvement.
- Educate people to reduce their energy consumption without reducing their level of happiness.
- Generate action and choices for “Reduce” by individuals for collective impact.
- Facilitate transition of land use with change in climate.
- Incentives – provide financial support for programs and the adoption of better principles.

### **ADAPT**

- Adaptation planning ~ continue to map adaptation planning at the industry/community individual level.
- Build bike specific lanes in cities and towns.
- Representation of community (and involvement in decision making) in Regional strategies and plans. What does it mean for them?

### **INNOVATE**

- More effective and efficient power storage. So as to overcome problems with leakage and renewable energy production.
- Recognise innovation is continually occurring embrace and support.
- Identify the need to address ecological consequences of climate change and the inadequacy of our approach to date.
- Drive innovation.

### **Investment**

- Invest in renewable energy in regions and sell-back to Adelaide.
- Small nuclear power plants to power regional cities and towns until battery storage becomes cheap.
- Innovation incentives to drive investment in a low carbon economy and innovation.
- Generational funding – long term.
- Investment in low carbon power generation, both at the “house” level (off-grid) and for SA as a state.
- Plan and research pilots and investment into local resources that will create the transition to a diverse low carbon economy.
- Exploit EPs renewable resources to generate energy to the rest of Australia – requires transmission upgrade.
- Carbon sequestration for our industries ~ fishing, agriculture, heavy etc.
- Invest in land and sea sequestration.
- Invest in adaptive technology:
  - Support industry transition.

- Support regional innovation.
- Sympathetic of cost of living.
- Tax incentives to adopt efficient technology and research viable options.
- Reform power generation and distribution “institutional arrangements” to align to low-carbon needs.
- Teach people how to save \$ through low carbon reducing emissions. Partnerships. Need to provide more than just information. Reward incentive programs.
- Focusing financial investment upfront (renewable, mitigation, transport etc.) to reduce costs down the track.
- Partnership – regional stake holders, industry and community.

### **Communication**

- Community engagement – under all topics discussed ~ there needs to be strategies to engage the community.
- Web site – 100 best ideas to save energy. Voted on by public and then the top 10 widely promoted.
- Make use of social media to create informal discussions groups, based around specific issues/topics.
- Communications strategy for implementation.

### **Something Else**

- “Big Picture” consideration of impacts of innovation and adaptation both positive and negative.
- Undertake regional studies to recognise/acknowledge what positives (current opportunities) are and to ensure we can have sustainable regional communities.

## **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**

- Wealthy nations have a responsibility to invest in tackling ‘wicked problems’ – to be a part of the solution and show leadership globally.
- Opportunities for all levels to contribute and play a role including community.
- Regional collaboration – RDA, LGA, NRM, Industry and community.
- To be collaborative in its decision making.
- Be bold take risks.
- State adaptation framework region based. State leadership in national space.
- Ensure sufficient \$ to support measures.
- Government to engage communities and make decisions.

- Not be distracted by scepticism – educate middle-ground population with assessable science.
- Proudly support advice and financial.

### **Table 2 notes**

- All partnerships to include community representatives from outside the 'organisations' that are prominent.
- Maintain existing leadership – wind/solar – collaboration.
- Social media.
- Leadership should have community as a key partner to hear and ensure community is involved in decision making and discussions.
- Transparency – deliberate process to include representative outside of partnerships.

### **Table 3 notes**

- Local leadership needs to support Industry, Community and individuals to adjust.
- Good to see SA is already a leader.
- Effects on coal industry ~ need to ensure transitional plans for exit.
- Education required to alleviate sceptics and need to improve narrative at all levels.
- Clear policy signals from Commonwealth, State and Local Governments.
- Invest in strategies to guide funding.
- Support transition of industries.
- Leadership – SA needs transition strategy to renewables etc. e.g. Alinta Closure – no strategy affects regional economy etc.
- Support risk investment to innovate.
- Regional Leaders – Okay – but getting right message in media and right messages out to community are the issues.
- Leadership has to come from all levels ~ State and Local.
- Consistent messages are needed, to ensure we are all in the same space.

## **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**

- Ensuring current decisions (already funded) take into account long term projections – especially long lived asset decisions.
- Self-efficiency → your changes can make a difference – don't look too far ahead.
- Low knowledge base of elected member of council is a barrier – confusion in community and scepticism.
- Industry (cross-sections) understanding what their future challenges are and talking together to encourage innovation.
- Commitment needs to go to next level and resource appropriately ~ \$ and people.

- Communities need to tell their own stories to assist others to understand the challenges.
- Consistent messages at all levels.
- Don't approve developments through the development assessment framework that are not resilient to Climate Change.
- Be on the same page – pool funding and resources.
- Scepticism – knowledge base of elected officials.
- Consistency – strategic plan and messages.
- Support and improve knowledge base.
- Adaptation – denial phenomenon (preparedness).
- Case studies telling the story locally. Adaptation Champions.
- Integrate risk management of future into decisions.

### Table 2 notes

- Education.
- Forum to promote diversity of options.
- Fund ongoing consultation to support change.
- Promote clean technologies.
- Investment strategies and options.
- Economic driver of change.
- Collaboration between stake holders.
- Develop networks to discuss options.
- Implementation ~ Outcomes ~ Adaptation ~ Planning ~ Resource.
- Need to promote will to change.
- Regionalise ~ you say methodology.
- What drives adaptation?
- Decision timeline important.
- Fully cost carbon input will drive innovation.
- Factor adaptation into decision making processes.
- Consistent message on what is Climate Change and the different scenarios.
- Understand Primary, Secondary and Transformation.
- Funding stream to support risk investment.
- Funding of appropriate time > 3 years to 'trial' activities.
- Inspire leadership in industry group to lead adaptation to Climate Change.
- Explore all options eg. Ocean absorption can be part of the process not currently factored in.
- Educate on economic benefit.
- We have always adapted. So we will adapt. It's a matter of recognising this and improving how we do it.
- Promote use of existing landscaper, oceans and soil to draw carbon from atmosphere.
- Capacity building.
- Funding options for cross sector and community projects especially where benefits may not be fully known.
- Funding/tax concessions to support technology development.

### Table 3 notes

- Power distribution model and customer expectations are not low carbon – constitutional draft action and market adjustment needed.
- How to manage consequences of adaptation and impact on lower-socio economic community e.g. people going off the grid and leaving others behind.
- Transition~ requires state assistance to business for change (Innovation/Adaptation)
- Need a transparent plan for the closing of carbon intensive generation so communities can adapt.
- Financial packages to assist with the risks of transition to different generation progress.
- Risk based decision making. Encouraging cost benefit analysis.

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

#### Table 1 notes

- Which emissions?
- EV charging stations on arterial routes in SA – similar to infrastructure to Cape Jervis and Kangaroo Island.
- For SA to copy (follow) ACT example for 100% renewable by 2050.
- Reduce carbon emissions quickly.
- Make more use of large scale solar – transmit by D.C. to where needed.
- Ban petrol cars from city – use electric vehicles only.
- Consumers should be supported to purchase EVs as more expensive. Will uptake.
- Targets need to be supported by investment or mechanisms.
- Invest in infrastructure to carry power from regional producers.
- Develop extent and capacity of public transport.
- Need investment support/tax concessions to promote change.
- Need an interim emissions reduction target for 2030.
- State to urge reduction of coal subsidies.
- Promote carbon sequestration and invest in research to do this.
- Copy ACT government on renewable energy power purchase.
- Reduced impact on biodiversity through a reduction in climate extremes.
- Renewable energy power plant just for City of Adelaide.
- An increase in the importance of sustainable agricultural initiatives.
- Incentives for change – financial support.
- Get out of mining fossil fuels.
- Adelaide needs to be sympathetic of regions, help support regional solutions ~ use soil and oceans to sequester carbon.
- Keep fossil fuels in the ground.

- Have mid-point targets so we can gauge achievements in shorter time frames.
- Real cost of emissions.
- Fishing boats to adapt all costs money.
- Massive investment.
- Research into opportunities to reduce emissions for industry e.g. farming and seafood.
- Huge change for some industries for reduction in emissions.
- Encourage households to measure their energy use and benchmark it.
- Identify investment opportunities e.g. on selling wind energy.
- Make use of remote regions ability to produce power.
- Investment should favour renewable energy.
- Reduce packaging.

## Table 2 notes

- Transport energy efficiency – low carbon.
- Energy efficient housing.
- Low carbon energy.
- Promote energy efficiency at all levels – households, major industry and government.
- Nuclear ~ Renewables ~ Energy.
- Use incentives rewards approach.
- Educate people on how to reduce emissions.
- Incentives and dis-incentives.
- Price on carbon.
- Don't just rely on price to influence people. Also promote a lifestyle of low emissions. Like the 'Keep SA Beautiful' campaign.
- Financial incentives for residential to go 'off grid'.
- We need to recognise people who are reducing emissions – competitions and awards.
- Make change – for lower emission outcomes a priority for individuals and their key 'lifestyle' decisions.
- Reduce; need technology, cost effective and price signals.
- More sequestration – carbon in soil; carb in sea and trees.
- Legislate energy efficient homes; promotional programs to encourage and educate; incentive to reduce outputs.
- Reward system for high energy efficiency.
- Bio fuel development.
- Be an SA source of offsets for carbon neutral in Adelaide.
- Energy efficiency.
- Make use of existing landscape to 'fix' carbon.



### Table 3 notes

- New joint commodity report and new container shipping for exports.
- Audit resources we have that have potential to be exploited to diversify our economy for future change.
- Use existing landscape (soils, oceans) to capture carbon e.g. Miradel.
- Support new technologies e.g. hydrogen cars.
- Incentives for renewables for business and residential.
- Vehicle dependant – need cost effective opportunities to change.
- Broad gauge rail network link to Whyalla, to link region to the national network.
- A new transmission line to link the national grid.
- Invest more in public transport infrastructure.
- Need to invest in storage technology especially that will allow us to exploit resources in our region (e.g. storage and generation).
- Continual uptake of solar panels.

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

### Table 1 notes

- Apply smart technologies, 'interest of things' and NBN community opportunities.
- Web page where people can contribute ideas to adapt and to reduce. Give a big \$ prize.
- Create a centre of excellence with outreach to each region.
- Publicise successful renewable sustainable innovations.
- Focus on 'bankable' innovation themes, for financial support – maximise value-adding results from risk-taking projects.
- Promote/establish 'centre of excellence' in renewables.
- Allow only efficient electrical goods to be sold in SA (or with a SA Government Approval Rating).
- Use natural resources that we have ~ abundant land and coast line.
- Clarify situation so need becomes obvious.
- Educate.
- Promote stories of successful innovations.
- Promote innovation "Landcare farmer of the year". Awards for regional and metro.
- Support investment in risk.
- By clearly identifying the need (i.e. the situation) for which innovation is needed.
- Offer a prize for best innovation (re: emissions or energy).
- Open houses – demonstrate sites of innovative technologies in use.
- Innovate "for a solution to what?" Define the goal/need.
- Cost of living is an issue. Educate/subsidise better options ~ consumer and manufacturers.
- Community input to selection of innovative ideas and projects.
- Increase efficiency ratings of new houses.

- Government web page to put forth ideas.
- Support change e.g. electric car chargers.
- Funding sources for innovation.

### Table 2 notes

- Incentives to innovate ~ competition, engage in schools and youth ~ universities.
- Social media.
- Collaborating in business and industry to find innovative solutions.
- Partner with business and industry to find innovations e.g. aquaculture and primary producers.
- Government sell the benefits of innovation and cost-benefit economy wise.
- Build adaptation and innovation into the Regional Economic Development Strategic Plan.
- Need a 'Centre for Excellence' in innovation and energy innovation (energy version of SAMHRI).
- Investment.
- Need incentives to innovate.
- Research and development.
- Language is important – colloquial.
- Use schools to generate ideas – competitions and young entrepreneurs.
- Push for a carbon price nationally and globally ~ use market to drive innovation.
- Innovation in farming sector to ensure its long term viability (fishing, farming etc.)
- Connect with businesses to resource Innovation Partnership.
- Affordable storage.
- Involving local people in decision making (social connections).
- We need innovation to change transport emissions (e.g. tractors) fuel sultheing.
- Affordable storage.

### Table 3 notes

- Challenge and support business. Ask Why/Why Note and How?
- Celebrate and tell the success stories.
- Landscape management.
- Tax incentives for climate change action.
- Industry research clusters. Incubators.
- Suggest Research and Development into approaches to addressing ecological consequences of climate change.
- Learn from other international jurisdictions to inform policy.
- Be internationally aware and adaptive.
- Research solutions to local impacts. (E.g. environment is economic.)
- Invest in innovative industry programs e.g. pollination program with agriculture.
- Encourage Industry Innovation ~ across sectors ~ recognise what's already happening "Culture".
- Manage our existing resources – better targeting resources usage.

- Ongoing conversation with Federal Government to ensure support for Research and Development etc.
- Integration at all levels of planning ~ conversation with Federal Government. Align investments.
- Identify opportunities of 'exporting' green energy.
- Invest in research/development/storage/battery technology.
- Clear messages regarding Climate Change.
- Greater investment in resourcing changing, Research and Development.
- Resource "adapt plans".
- Implement "adapt plans".
- Collaboration within industry sectors (e.g. EPICCA, Industry Clusters).
- Alignment of policy across government.
- Keep building on our momentum ~ lead by example.
- Utilise local resources/materials for projects, rather than import.

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

### **Table 1 notes**

- Expert advice so that organisations can adopt.
- Facilitating action re regulation.
- Positive return on solar investment ~ need to progress battery storage capacity.
- Focus on solutions that are cost-benefit positive = emission reduction only will not be a strong driver in local government.
- City Council has a policy "Environmental Sustainability" which includes carbon emissions and sequestration.
- Re-using road base and other items.
- Window industry is trying to reduce cost of double glazing.
- Businesses have plans to reduce emissions.
- Capitalise on market forces.
- Consider battery storage solutions for community buildings.
- Lower energy use building fitouts – when re-investment is needed; or otherwise when ROI is attractive (e.g. LED, solar panels).
- Contribute to build transport of community infrastructure to support low carbon choices by individuals.

### **Table 2 notes**

- Investment in better storage for energy.
- Draft up a regional vision to share with the community.
- Subsidise energy storage in the regions.
- Encourage more use of bikes and bike trails.
- Fleet car owners to be encouraged to use electric vehicles.
- Design transmission infrastructure for generation export as well as demand.

### Table 3 notes

- Pilot low carbon research/uni in the region.
- Need to resource local initiatives.
- Invest in infrastructure to facilitate low carbon power generation.
- Seagrasses/oyster beds – carbon syncs.
- Carbon farming – carbon sequestration.
- Move to battery operated/or other low carbon generation vehicles.
- Stop/dis-incentive for fossil fuels exploration and extraction.
- Investigate nuclear power generation – nuclear fuel cycle.
- Sympathetic innovation to the environment and industry.
- If real carbon costs ~economic efficiency will be a major incentive for low carbon generation.
- Carbon farming on land and in sea. Fund long term projects.
- Educate public ~ publicity on where carbon sequestration low carbon generation is NOW ~ highlight economic returns.
- Future farm landscapes program ~ great local initiative and existing case studies.
- Fund Oyster Reefs.
- Invest in infrastructure to facilitate renewables – distribution network important.
- Mobile phones due to electricity outages, are off often for days + internet ~ up to 19 hours per month without power. A real issue. People have generators on their properties – diesel. Need different solution.
- Economic channels to enable investment in carbon sinks and innovative solutions to reduce generation.
- Opportunity for SA to power Australia with renewables.
- Local coordination of carbon sequestration.

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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.*