

## **What should be included in South Australia's new Climate Change Strategy? Notes from Stakeholder Workshop: Modbury, Tuesday 29th 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**

- Create Elizabeth as a community that is based around sustainability and as a leader in low carbon and sustainable living.
- Government to set up an annual sustainability award targeting:
  - Councils.
  - Private companies.
  - Department.
  - Individuals.
- Attract low carbon or climate ready industry to SA:
  - Greenhouse gas efficient production.
  - Low carbon products.
  - Supporting low carbon lifestyles.

- Greenhouse gas efficient uses i.e. energy.
- Ensure that Premier of SA is the leader to unite business, government, community research and training organisations all working together to achieve our emission targets and he provides regular report cards.
- Re-power Port Augusta ~ solar/thermal providing innovation and leadership for Australia.
- SA to take a lead role in discouraging the use of nuclear power as a climate change strategy. Focus on renewable energy not nuclear.
- Reduce carbon emissions by divesting from high emission industries and replacing them with low emission innovative industries.

### **Policy/Legislation**

- Proactive and strong changes to Planning System and Building Codes for energy efficiency and sustainability.
- Government legislation.
- Development/Housing Standards. Create the new norm to shift industry to more sustainable housing design.

### **REDUCE**

- Reduce night working so people use less lights at night.
- Increase the level (number) of solar panels on houses across SA.
- Build homes and businesses that must generate a portion of their power via renewable energy ~ solar etc.
- Low Carbon Generation ~ Increase target from \$10 billion to \$15 billion for 2025.
- Using SA strengths to reduce the carbon footprint in the state: power grid; low carbon emissions.

### **Transport**

- Develop bike pathways north of Adelaide e.g. bike path along the norther train line.
- Solar powered and rechargeable electric buses for the city of Adelaide. Reduces carbon in the city, quiet flexible transport to encourage people to leave their cars at home.
- Public transport ~ expand electric trains, buses and trams throughout the city and country.
- Public transport:
  - Continue to improve it.
  - Block some city owners to cars.
  - Integrate tickets with festivals etc.
  - Separate the Festival from the Clipsal.

### **ADAPT**

- Invest in greening our city and suburbs – more trees, shrubs and grasses.
- Cool Communities: Communities getting involved in designing their neighbourhoods – corridors for cycling, street trees including adaptation.
- Introduce programmes for your average household – Inspiring people to change their ways. It must be interesting and exciting.

- Public Health Initiatives are key to adapting to climate change – direct health effects e.g. heat waves; indirect health effects e.g. social dislocation and migration of rural communities.

## **INNOVATE**

- Set up industries that are innovative: like printing solar sheets invented by CSIRO; inspiration for young people who are looking for work.
- Community licence to move to low carbon economy.
- Have a one stop shop to help innovators, turn marketable ideas into sustainable business. Activities that help SA become a world leader in low carbon generation.
- Leadership of SA through innovation and investment in new industries: battery storage; electric vehicles and energy efficiency.
- Festival of Climate Change Ideas:
  - Open and festive for all the community, industry etc.
  - Positive messaging.
  - Show case innovations and inventions big and small.
  - Low carbon food stalls.
  - Bus tours of open day sustainable houses etc. competitions.

## **Education**

- Provide government incentives for reducing power consumption in houses and business.
- Make sure that all SA schools introduce programmes on Climate Change ~ using innovative/challenging and exciting material for the greatest effect. Kids are our future.
- Promote a culture change: Identify each stakeholder/group; develop a strategy for each group.
- Educating for transformation toward a society that is not based on consumption as an identity-forming activity.

## 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

- Identify key stakeholders and the agents of change within those organisations.
- Set goals to stay at the forefront of renewable energy generation in Australia.
- Foster youth leadership.
- It means education all students – from an early age to be well informed about Climate Change.
- Encouraging start-ups and small-medium enterprises that contribute to the low carbon economy.
- Competitive advantage from being an early mover.
- Whole of Government buy-in.
- Push for the first solar thermal power plant in SA.
- Encourage further research into the natural environment.
- Information dissemination.

#### Table 2 notes

- Actively lead on key strengths re: battery storage.
- Don't lead for leadership's sake.
- Set goals and implement them, then SA will become a leader.
- Focus on what SA is good at – maximise assets and expertise in SA.
- Children will know what we have done now.
- Aspirational targets. All sector engagements. Variety of angles.
- Government exemplar in all aspects of Climate Change.
- Keep in front of the game – National.
- Government to set up annual award for sustainable companies. This should be celebrated.
- Leveraging other state/territory governments and councils to take action.
- Actively transition workforce to new economy.
- Identify the key areas to focus for the biggest results.
- Local communities to lead on 'cool communities' ~ trees when landscaping and biodiversity.
- Pushing for national consistency in things like energy efficiency ~ share in each state's strengths i.e. renewable energy.

## **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**

- Greening – water – planning suburbs to adapt. Construction standards – public housing, more energy efficient.
- Changing land use for agriculture e.g. moving off the Goyder line. Plan for change ~ avoid degrading land use and plan for next use ~ new economy.
- Climate change impact on land use planning – agriculture.
- Insurance premiums to influence.
- Big health impacts: heatwaves; dislocation and disadvantage in geographic areas ~ Riverland, Mallee, Eyre Peninsula.
- Health promotions: community health impacts; invest in communities to adapt i.e. low social economic areas in solar PV.
- Information to equip people to plan ahead i.e. climate/temperature, work force planning and health planning.
- Projection for 30 year Climate Change impact. Construction should reflect Local Council.
- Should be a climate change construction standard for energy efficiency. Use a market mechanism in the building code (energy efficiency certificates or similar) to encourage energy efficiency.

### **Table 2 notes**

- Community reference group/taskforce.
- Investigate what adaption means for a variety of perspectives.
- Information ~ dissemination to drive cultural change.
- Identify and reward companies that show leadership in Climate Change Adaptation.
- Planning legislation to facilitate adaptation actions.
- Cultural change ~ open the dialogue with people again.
- Improve the system of policy development.
- Incorporate more environmental pieces into the mainstream media.
- Diversify the way in which decision makers connect with the community.

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

### **Table 1 notes**

- New base load from solar thermal.
- Base load shift to greenhouse gas efficient.
- Mix government responsibility for community services like street lighting.
- Support public transport in the city with outside parking beyond parklands.
- Car free Adelaide City:

- Public transport.
- Tram network.
- Integrate events with public transport tickets.
- Mad March incompatible events that overload public transport – spread it out.
- Councils LED lighting for streets need funding.
- Waste to energy.
- Battery uses:
  - For suburb power supply.
  - Household supply.
  - Reduce peak demand.
  - Remote site renewable energy not diesel generated.
- Renewable energy for remote power demand.
- Stop energy intensive development.
- Provide information on how our lifestyles contribute to greenhouse emissions.
- Priority for public transport and pedestrians.
- Mechanisms to re-coup invested funds into improving energy efficiency.

## Table 2 notes

- Display rooms and car dealerships need to move out of the cities.
- Integrate sustainable design at the onset.
- Change lightbulbs in the city buildings.
- Transition from private to public transport.
- City of Adelaide – change some smaller streets to city gardens. Get of rid of hard surfaces – lower temperature.
- Building codes enforce energy efficiency.
- Improving waste management and diversion from landfill which releases methane. Waste to resource.
- Retro fitting design in city to more energy efficient methods and sources.
- We must look at real costs for current building/infrastructure i.e. offset externality.
- Reward people doing the right thing i.e. pay more for building that isn't energy efficient.
- Adelaide carbon neutral: change light bulbs; fans rather than air conditioning; change design requirements in building code – if not, should you pay more? Provide incentives.
- Co-locate complementary companies/industries.
- Green up buildings in CBD.
- Reduce the amount of night shift. Less work from midnight means less energy use.
- Take big trucks out of Portrush Rd and re-route or have different system.
- Greenways and walkways for people and bikes.
- Transport network to be reviewed (buses, trains etc.).
- Reduce emissions. Increase greenery in the city.

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

### Table 1 notes

- Community licence to low carbon lifestyle living.
- Demand management in households – monitor at home and incentives.
- Planning laws/development plans that enable the innovation required i.e. large-scale charging centres.
- Festival time:
  - Conservation Council Joinery venue.
  - 'Hub' exchanges in community.
  - Competitions and incentives.
  - Markets.
- Innovation is about:
  - Short term starting incentives.
  - Vision.
  - Managing risk.
  - Review and refocus- keep it moving.
- Sustainable house day.
- Innovation needs time frames and direction.
- Thinkers in Residence.
- Community committing and purchasing; subsistence life and \$ amount → higher greenhouse gas lifestyle.
- Making electric cars competitive with fuel cars: distance; recharging time; road infrastructure.
- Linking activities with low greenhouse gas technologies i.e. city commute with charging from solar. Interim strategy to incentivise a higher level of action.
- Reward those in community who are more greenhouse gas efficient and conscious of Climate Change.
- Festival of ideas related to climate innovation.
- Innovative technologies development in SA. Focus on Research and Development in areas of the state's strengths.

### Table 2 notes

- Expand glasshouse growing of vegetables, tomatoes as innovative horticulture.
- Support research into benefits for people's health from climate change action – key innovation in health investment.
- Electric vehicles industry – adopt in SA to provide employment.
- Can we decentralise city living by innovative industries in regions.
- Encourage boutique SME businesses for SA.
- Export water management expertise.
- SA to be in top 10 of Global Environment Investment Index.
- Have an organisation like 'Scottish Enterprise'.
- Premier to lead cultural change of innovation.

- Support an environment to transition research to innovation to commercialisation. Be prepared to fail sometimes.
- One stop Investment Advice Body to advise on:
  - Funding avenues.
  - Setting up companies.
  - Filing patents etc.

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

### **Table 1 notes**

- Battery storage for suburbs to utilise small generation all the time. Reduce peak demand – 20 year direction.
- Solar powered Electric Bus. Needs to be developed more to provide carbon neutral Public Transport around Adelaide.
- Continue with solar panel arrays for the domestic home and on top of business roofs.

### **Table 2 notes**

- Port Augusta to be a hub for renewable energy – sun and wind.
- More ‘fans’ in homes rather than air conditions (affordable and reduces carbon emissions).
- Increase investment target to \$15 billion.
- Innovative buildings to market to the rest of the world for energy efficient, affordable kit homes.
- Adelaide to be a centre for excellence for low carbon Housing Design and energy efficiency (including retro fitting).
- More Greenways and trees and research into the health benefits.
- Battery storage technology/industry.

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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.*