

Notes from Stakeholder Workshop: Victor Harbor, Monday 12th October 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

- Support and work with investors/community.
- Government ~ commitment to tangible targets and outcomes.
- Synchronise ALL state of local government (with regional) plans to create a low carbon economy and liveable communities and enhance natural capital.
- Inspire a movement for change.
- Infrastructure Development/Planning by Councils that prepares for Climate Change now, even if the dividends will be some time away.

- Developing a clear, long term energy policy pathway with low carbon the central policy pillar.
- Mechanisms of renegotiation of what level of organisation (Local→ Regional → State) makes what types of decisions around Climate Change Adaptation.

REDUCE

- Less reliance on car travel through incentives to use public transport and disincentives (tolls, etc. permits) to use a car around Adelaide and in the CBD.
- Feed in tariff to apply to ALL clean energy technology on domestic or commercial scale. Promote storage research.
- Get serious about energy efficient building through development standards; building codes particularly planning requirements.
- 100% renewable.
- Increased building standards (new and major refurbishment). Compliance audit. Incentives for energy efficient/water efficient retrofits.
- Efficiency in transport systems for movement of people.
- Legislated targets for carbon reduction and renewable energy generation. Planning for a hot dry climate – energy efficient, trees, non-car dependent. Identify and remove impediments to micro grids and local energy distribution.

ADAPT

- Integrating climate change models and projections into the future regional planning processes.
- Water – reclaim and reuse. Seriously plan for sea level rise, prevent development on vulnerable land that can't be developed.
- Greening strategy – tree planting program – urban and regional. Look at broader tree benefits and uses.

INNOVATE

- Government incentives for businesses, entrepreneurs, home owners to introduce renewable energy.
- Addressing front loaded economics on the uptake of new technologies such as electric vehicles.
- Apply whole of life cycle costings to cost-benefit analysis of development options and investment options.
- Regulation reduction to induce higher innovation and take up of alternate energy.
- Decrease domestic and commercial reliance on grid – PV and energy storage. Incentives. Low cost loans.
- Water use, reuse and storage. Increase efficiency. Treat water for suitable for production. Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS).
- Solar Banks – wind or sun.
- Use of current systems better power plants etc.
- Transport systems – less cars.

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

- Leading by example i.e. high uptake of solar PV on homes.
- Continue to show the leadership SA has to date.
- Marshalling support from the community for necessary policy changes.
- As Federal Government has failed, it is good to feel proud of our state.
- Government leading by example through their own procurement processes etc.
- Greater recognition of regional efforts to address climate change.
- Facilitate development of bipartisan position on climate change.

Table 2 notes

- Set new standards for government and private sector.
- Meaningful partnership between government and industry.
- Future proofing developments (anticipation and action).
- Create Department of Climate Change?
- Research investment.
- Innovative.
- Interagency cooperation.
- Reduce jobs.
- Climate Change Adaptation re rising tides.
- Not importing/exporting from/to China.
- Create jobs.

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

- Going beyond business as usual to source opportunities.
- Identifying the key issues or vulnerabilities so we know what we're building resilience against.
- Integration across local government and regional development authorities (a strength of the regional adaptation plans).
- Understanding roles: Government; Industry and the Community.
- Elevating the discussion about priorities and funding higher up in Government depending on priority e.g. high priority needs buy-in from Federal Government.

- Education and awareness raising to bring abstract concepts into the practical mainstream.
- Creating opportunities to engage with regional stakeholders.
- Clear understanding of roles and responsibilities across the tiers of Government.
- Cross government department integration.
- Looking at life cycle of 'resilience' measures. How long will an action provide resilience for?

Table 2 notes

- Sea level rise and storm surge?
- Coastal development: Are we going to stop people from developing a coast where vulnerable from Affordable Housing – consider not just capital upfront costs. But also operational ongoing costs.
- Looking at long term costs and benefits verses short term.
- Common goals then lead to priority!
- When agreed Priority known, funding can be developed.
- Knowing what activities? When we know activities – then common goals.
- Incentive i.e. funding.
- Built form – trees and walkable neighbourhoods.
- Demonstration energy efficient and medium density housing.
- Design standards – long run costs verses short term costs.
- Development planning.

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

Table 1 notes

- Availability of electric charge points for cars – government assistance?
- Improve integrated transport system.
- Remove barriers (increase incentives) to commercial PV installation.
- Regional and local electricity (networks) nodes.
- Encourage population consolidation.

Table 2 notes

- Increased renewable energy in industrial processes (renewable energy/electricity – Whyalla example.
- Opportunity for reducing emissions associated with transport of water by harvesting and recycling stormwater.
- Public open space guidelines; audit of practices and audit standards/performance of built buildings.

- Efficient and modern public transport – city and regional.
- Power generation – micro grids and energy storage issues around access to grid and use in remote areas.
- Premium feed-in tariffs for renewable electricity (any source) feed back into the grid.
- Using smaller cars. Tolls and taxes for using roads (competition charge). Bus shelters. Storing bikes near train stations.
- Efficient transport system. Marketing of public transport.
- Nuclear power an option.

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

Table 1 notes

- Learn from others.
- Innovative – all state, local and regional plans need to be synchronised for low carbon growth and development.
- Innovate – support/work with investors and businesses.
- Research and Development in investment.

Table 2 notes

- Replicate Sun Drop success and practices. Change regulations to allow use of B & C class water.
- Moving toward leading practice with facilitate innovation across a lot of sectors.
- Supporting research into areas such as water storage and/or water research mapping.
- Regulatory reform to use recycled water for agriculture/horticulture.
- Community aggregation of battery storage developments/installations.
- Research into maximising irrigation efficiency.
- Encouraging solar ready roofs to enable panels to be installed.
- Legislative reform to facilitate innovative responses to climate change.
- Regulatory standards that encourage innovation e.g. vehicle emissions standard.
- Reviewing regulations: feed-in tariff for wind; Health SA's standards for water use.
- Government arrangement that reflect most appropriate decision making allocations and negotiations.
- Develop more integrate domestic and commercial building design to accommodate electrical generators and water storage.

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

Table 1 notes

- Review of SA Power Network charges (for the uptake of Elective Vehicles by householders).
- Low interest loans for early movers (e.g. links with **Clean Energy Finance Corporation**, Government negotiating with banks).
- Carbon pricing.
- Need battery for electric cars to come down in price (for replacement). How do we make this happen?
- Incentives through public/private partnership re renewable energy storage (rather than shed back into grid).

Table 2 notes

- Targets for sourcing/purchase of renewable energy.
- Wave energy.
- Renewable energy targets; complimentary to the Federal target.
- Support and Research & Development into geothermal technology.
- Regulatory reform to enable uptake of new, low carbon technologies.
- Solar thermal pilot plant up at Port Augusta.
- Support for electric vehicle uptake.

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.