



Solar Survey - Election 2013

THIS IS A TOOL FOR YOU TO USE TO ASK QUESTIONS AND CAPTURE RESPONSES WHEN MEETING WITH MPs AND CANDIDATES ABOUT THE SOLAR SCORECARD

Leading up to the 2013 election 100% Renewable has launched a new online Solar Scorecard, to demonstrate to the public where MPs and candidates stand on a range of measures important to Australia's renewable energy future.

This survey allows MP's and candidates to respond on each criteria marked on the Scorecard, to let members of the Australian public know about their support or lack of for renewable energy.

MP/candidate first name: _____

MP/candidate electorate: _____

MP/candidate party: _____

Has the MP/candidate installed solar panels at their home or office?

Yes / No (circle)

1. Will you sign the Solar Pledge?

Australia is a country blessed with abundant renewable resources like the sun, and producing power from these sources is a great way to generate clean safe power that will never run out.

Already 1.5 million Australian households have invested in solar as a way to take control of their energy bills, and over 15,000 new jobs have been created in the solar industry. As part of the 100% Renewable 'Lead on Renewables' campaign we are asking our politicians across Australia to take the pledge to support the further expansion of solar in Australia.

****Hand them the Pledge and ask them to sign it***

Pledge text: Millions of Australians are aware of the benefits of making the change to renewable energy, like solar, and I acknowledge that ongoing support from our political leaders is important to the continued growth and uptake of solar across Australia.

I pledge to support policies and measures that will help my constituents - as well as all Australian households and businesses - take full advantage of the benefits of the sun. And to do what I can to help ensure the continued growth of the solar industry here in Australia.

Will you sign the Solar Pledge? (circle)

A politician gets a sun if they've signed the pledge and a cloud if they haven't.

Yes No



2. Do you support the Renewable Energy Target?

In 2009 Australian legislated a Renewable Energy Target for 20% of our energy in 2020 to come from renewable sources. This was set as a fixed goal (41,000 GWh) so companies knew how much wind and solar they would need to build to meet this target. We are currently on track to hit (and potentially exceed) this target. But some big power companies have been calling for it to be wound back.

Do you support the existing fixed renewable energy target?

How are suns allocated? A sun is given if a politician or their party publicly supports the existing fixed RET, an emerging sun if they have made an ambiguous statement or their party has an ambiguous policy about the fixed RET, and a cloud if they have called for the RET to be decreased or cut altogether.

(Circle answer)

Yes, I support the existing fixed renewable energy target

No, I do not support the existing fixed renewable energy target

Do you wish to make a statement regarding your support for the existing Renewable Energy Target?

Comments/Observations?

3. Do you support expanding the Renewable Energy Target?

While our current RET sets out a path to have 20% renewable energy by 2020, a recent report shows that unless we extend the target beyond that point there will be little new investment in renewable energy beyond 2020. Expanding the target to 2030 will ensure we avoid investment flat-lining and can reap the benefits of more clean energy. A target of 50% in 2030 would get us on track to 100% renewable by 2050!

Do you support expanding the Renewable Energy Target?

How are suns allocated? Politicians earn a sun if they or their party have made a public statement in support of an expanded 50% target for 2030. An emerging sun is given if they have made a public statement in support of increasing and expanding the target but have not provided a set figure. They get a cloud if they don't support a 2030 target.

(Circle answer)

Yes, I support expanding the renewable energy target

No, I do not support expanding the renewable energy target

Do you wish to make a statement regarding your support for expanding the Renewable Energy Target?

Comments/Observations?



4. Do you support the Renewable Energy Fund?

In 2011 the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) was established, as a new \$3 billion renewable energy funding body. This funding will help develop new renewable technologies, make it easier for projects to attract private funding and get new solar projects off the ground.

Do you support the Australian Renewable Energy Agency?

How are suns allocated? Politicians get a sun if they or their party publicly support ARENA, an emerging sun if their support is ambiguous, and a cloud if they don't support federal funding for renewable energy.

(Circle answer)

Yes, I support the Australian Renewable Energy Agency

No, I support the Australian Renewable Energy Agency

Do you wish to make a statement regarding your support for ARENA?

Comments / Observations

5. Do you support the carbon price?

Having a national price on carbon helps level the playing field between old polluting forms of energy and newer, cleaner technologies. By making the biggest polluters pay for the waste they generate and put into the atmosphere, renewable energy sources like wind and solar become more cost competitive, and a signal is sent to all energy consumers to invest in cleaner, cheaper sources of power. Since the introduction of the carbon price in Australia pollution has fallen by 7% and a greater proportion of our energy mix has come from renewable sources. Cutting the existing carbon price now would create new investment uncertainty and take us backwards on our renewable energy path.

Do you support the existing carbon price?

How are suns allocated? A sun is awarded if a politician or their party supports keeping or strengthening the current price on carbon, an emerging sun if they have ambiguous support for the existing carbon price, and a cloud if they want to dismantle the existing price on carbon.

(Circle answer)

Yes, I support the carbon price

No, I do not support the carbon price

Do you wish to make a statement regarding your support for the carbon price?

Comments/Observations?



6. Do you support a Community Energy Fund?

Many communities across Australia dream of owning and operating their own local renewable energy project, but right now the cards are stacked against communities looking to take control of their own energy needs. One major problem is the difficulty of funding a project in the early stages of the project. This challenge could be overcome by setting up a new \$50 million Community Renewable Fund. This funding could potentially be part of the existing Australian Renewable Energy Agency.

Do you or your party have a policy to establish a \$50million Community Renewable Energy Fund?

How are suns allocated? A sun is awarded if a politician or their party has a policy to establish a Community Renewable Fund, an emerging sun if they have made a statement in support of a Community Renewable Fund. A cloud indicates that they don't support a Community Renewable Fund or have made no statements.

(Circle answer)

Yes, I support establishing a \$50 million Community Energy Fund

No, I do not support establishing a \$50 million Community Energy Fund

Do you wish to make a statement regarding your support for establishing a Community Renewable Fund?
Comments/Observations?

7. Do you support Building Big Solar?

Solar thermal power is a game-changing technology capable of capturing and storing the sun's energy and releasing power day and night. Australia is one of the best places in the world to build solar thermal, and in places like Port Augusta, South Australia, there is already huge community support to directly replace old polluting coal power stations with solar thermal technology. We now have a new funding body - the \$10 billion Clean Energy Finance Corporation - that provides our best chance to build Australia's first solar thermal power station, with funding proposals already being submitted to this body. But as yet no projects have been announced.

Do you support the Clean Energy Finance Corporation?

How are suns allocated? A sun is allocated if a politician or their party has made a statement in support of building Australia's first big solar thermal power station and they support the fund that could finance this project, the Clean Energy Finance Corporation (CEFC). An emerging sun is given if they have either made a statement or support the CEFC and a cloud is given if they have done neither.

(Circle answer)

Yes, I support the Clean Energy Finance Corporation

No, I do not support the Clean Energy Finance Corporation

Do you wish to make a statement regarding your support for building big solar?
Comments/Observations?



8. Wildcard!

Some politicians may be doing great things to support solar in Australia (or terrible things to block it!) that are not included in our scorecard. We'll give a sun for fabulous solar support or a cloud for actions that undermine renewable energy in Australia.

**Are you doing something great to promote renewable energy that you think we should know about?
Comments/Observations?**