



THE BottomLine

Issue 9 August 2011

Special
Carbon Price
Edition



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Facts about the Clean Energy Future Package:



Big polluters are taxed – not households

This is a tax on the 500 biggest polluters – not ordinary Australians.



Yes, the rest of the world is acting

The rest of the world is acting and if we do not start cleaning up now we will fall behind.



All money will go to jobs, households and clean energy projects

Tax cuts and assistance payments are targeted at those who need it most. Labor will make sure pensioners, families, low and middle income earners are helped. **Nine out of 10 households will get some form of tax cuts and increased family payments.**



Families will be worse off under Tony Abbott's plan

Families will be worse off under Tony Abbott's so-called 'Direct Action' plan – households will have to pay an extra \$1300 in taxes and Tony Abbott will give it straight to the big polluters .

Mr Abbott wants to rip away money from families, pensioners, people with disabilities and job seekers. It's time Tony Abbott put aside his mindless negativity and let the country get on with a clean energy future.



It will cut pollution and drive investment in clean energy

Labor's plan will cut carbon pollution and drive investment in clean energy technologies and infrastructure like solar, gas, and wind. It will help build the clean energy future Australians – and especially young Australians – deserve.

For more information please go to: www.cleanenergyfuture.gov.au
or call 1800 057 590

Climate change affects us all



Climate Science - *What it all means*



The nuts and bolts of climate science

Since the industrial revolution in the 1800s, humans have been putting more and more carbon pollution into the atmosphere by

burning fossil fuels like oil and coal. We now know that this is having a negative impact on the world's climate.

Climate scientists tell us that carbon pollution in the atmosphere traps the sun's heat and is warming our planet.

Think of a bathtub with a very small plug hole without a plug, being filled up by two taps. You can think of the plug hole as natural removal. One tap then represents natural additions. The second tap represents human additions. In this example, as in nature, the natural removal plug hole can only remove what comes from the natural additions tap. Therefore, even small amounts from the human additions tap will eventually fill the bath, causing it to overflow.

This is what is happening with more and more carbon pollution in the atmosphere and why we are acting to keep global temperatures under control.

For more information check out these websites:

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change www.ipcc.ch
CSIRO www.csiro.au/science/Changing-Climate.html
Wikipedia http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Climate_change

Scientists agree - we need to act



The CSIRO, the Bureau of Meteorology, Australian Academy of Science and academies of science around the world have all advised that the

world is warming and high levels of carbon pollution risk environmental and economic damage.

Australia faces significant environmental and economic costs in a hotter, less predictable climate. Climate scientists advise that extreme weather events, such as storm surges, droughts, heat waves and bushfires are likely to become more frequent and severe.

Countries around the world are already taking action on climate change. Eighty-nine countries — representing 80 per cent of global emissions and 90 per cent of the world's economy — have already pledged to take action on climate change. Globally, more money is now invested in new renewable power than in conventional high-pollution energy generation. China is now the world's largest manufacturer of both solar panels and wind turbines.

Are the likes of NASA, the UK Royal Society, CSIRO and the Australian Academy of Science all wrong?

Anti-climate change websites, blogs, emails and indeed conspiracy books are unreliable sources of scientific information because they are not based on data or peer reviewed scientific studies. *They are opinion only.* The real climate science says we need to act now.

For more information please go to: www.cleanenergyfuture.gov.au
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We need to act on climate change



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The Carbon Price - Support package for Braddon

Pensioners

All 22,700 pensioners in Braddon will receive an extra \$338 per year if they are single and up to \$510 per year for couples combined, in their pension payments.

- On average, the expected increase in costs due to a carbon price for single pensioners will be \$204 per year. With the increase in their pension payments, they will be \$134 better off per year.
- Assistance to pensioners will be automatic and will start before the carbon price starts, through an advance payment of \$250 for singles and \$190 for each member of a couple. This will be paid in May – June 2012.

Single parents

More than 1900 single parents who receive income support in Braddon will get an extra \$289 per year in increased benefits. This is on top of the extra assistance they will receive through increased family payments.

- The expected increase in costs due to a carbon price for single parent households with a private income of \$10,000 per year will be around \$330 a year. With the increase to their parenting payment they will receive assistance on average of \$446 a year. As a result, they will be \$116 better off per year.

Self-funded retirees

More than 800 self-funded retirees in Braddon will receive an extra \$338 per year in assistance for singles and up to \$510 per year for couples combined.

Families

More than 9,500 families in Braddon will receive household assistance through increases to their family benefit payments.

- The annual income of a typical family with two children in Braddon is around \$50,000 a year. The expected increase in costs due to a carbon price for this family is around \$468 a year. This family will receive around \$529 in assistance through tax cuts and family benefit payment increases and will be around \$61 better off per year.
- For a family with one child and a joint income of \$75,000 a year, the expected impact will be around \$504 a year. This family will receive around \$1087 in assistance through tax cuts and increased family assistance payments and will be more than \$500 better off per year.

Students

More than 1900 students in Braddon will get up to \$177 extra per year. The amount they receive will depend on their rate and type of payment (.e.g. Austudy, Abstudy or Youth Allowance).

- On average, a student on youth allowance with no other income will receive \$177 in assistance to help deal with increased costs due to the carbon price, of \$117 per year. They will be \$60 better off a year.

Farmers

Agriculture is exempt and has no direct obligations under the Government's carbon price. Farmers and land managers will also receive significant support to pursue climate change action on the land and enhance biodiversity through a suite of measures including the Carbon Farming Initiative, the Carbon Farming Futures program and a new Biodiversity Fund.

A carbon price will not apply to off-road fuel use by the agriculture, forestry and fishing industries.

Tax cuts

In our electorate of Braddon there are about 39,000 taxpayers. Around 35,000 will receive a tax cut, and 29,000 will receive a tax cut of at least \$300. These tax cuts will come into effect on 1 July 2012.

At the same time, Labor is making big improvements to the tax system. From 1 July 2012, the income tax free threshold will increase from \$6000 to \$18,200, meaning around one million Australians will no longer have to fill in tax returns.

to create a clean energy future



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Sid's byte

The **Carbon Price** is a temporary step on the way to an emissions trading scheme (ETS). Since 2007 Labor has been campaigning to put a price on carbon.

Following the 2010 election, Labor was faced with a choice. We could do nothing about climate change or we could act in partnership with the new parliament. We chose to act.

This package has significant assistance for trade-exposed industries, families, business, pensioners and independent retirees.

I agree with the vast majority of scientists that climate change is indeed real and needs to be tackled now. There

are no credible scientific associations, universities or scientific bodies that disagree that climate change is real or caused by human influences.

The science is in, climate change is real and we need to take action now. Labor's scheme allows a smooth transition into the new **Clean Energy Future** that our world needs.

Check out
www.cleanenergyfuture.gov.au
or call 1800 057 590

Opportunities for our region

Renewable electricity from our hydro and wind investments, our region's rich soil and forests, combined with our innovative light manufacturing sector, mean that Braddon is ideally placed to take advantage of opportunities that will arise from our Clean Energy Future.

Price increases

Price increases from the Clean Energy Future package will be modest compared to other price increases in the past.

The carbon price will increase prices by 0.7 per cent over 2012-13, as measured by the consumer price index (CPI).

This is much smaller than the:

- 2.5 per cent increase when GST was introduced
- 2.9 per cent average annual inflation between 2001-02 and 2009-10.

On average, households will see cost increases of \$9.90 per week, while the average assistance will be \$10.10 per week per household.

Changes for businesses

Small businesses can take advantage of an increased asset write-off threshold of \$6500. This will boost cash flow and help small businesses to grow and invest in assets, which may be more energy efficient.

A new \$40 million Energy Efficiency Information Grants program will help give tailored information about the impacts of a carbon price on small businesses and community organisations and practical steps to manage these impacts.

Every position and none

The first rule of propaganda is to take a simple message and constantly repeat it. Opposition leader Tony Abbott has taken this to a new level in his mobile scare campaign.

"No No NO NO!"

"No" is the mantra of the opposition leader. He doesn't let facts get in the way of a good scare campaign. Running around the country contradicting himself and tailoring his message to the audience makes for interesting reading.

"I mean, that's my position and that's always been my position but I've never been in favour of a carbon tax or an emissions trading scheme..." (Tony Abbott, Interview on Star FM, 19 July 2011)

"I also think that if you want to put a price on carbon, why not just do it with a simple tax?" (Tony Abbott, Sky News, 29 July 2009)

Whatever your political view, Tony Abbott's climate change policies and statements need greater scrutiny. Tony Abbott needs to come clean on whether he accepts the climate science.



Authorised and printed by

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