



# LEAN

# Labor Environment Action Network

## 2026 ALP National Platform: May consultation draft Submission from the Labor Environment Action Network

### Chapter 1:

14. Labor will deliver a progressive and sustainable tax system. This will provide incentives for Australians to work and undertake productive enterprise, while guaranteeing adequate revenue to fund quality public services, bring about a more equal distribution of income and wealth, and achieve the nation's social, economic and environmental objectives. *[Labor will ensure that all policies, including taxation, provide appropriate incentives and remove disincentives for decarbonisation.]*

**Rationale:** The Albanese Labor government has achieved a lot in climate and environment policy, but in some areas, legacy policies (such as the diesel fuel rebate for very large mining companies) are conflicting with climate policies (such as the Safeguard Mechanism). LEAN would like a clear commitment to ensure that policies are consistent with the Government's overall goal of decarbonisation of the Australian economy.

### Chapter 3:

43. Labor will protect *[and restore ]*Australia's precious natural environment while ensuring we can deliver the renewable energy, housing and economic projects Australians need.

**Rationale:** Minister Watt's second reading speech, introducing the landmark environmental law reform in 2025, made clear that restoration is a key goal of the Government's environmental agenda. This commitment should be reflected in the national platform.

New para after para 44:

44. Labor has delivered the most significant changes to Australia's environmental laws in a generation, including establishing our first ever National Environmental Protection Agency. Labor will safeguard this landmark achievement by:

- a. ensuring the National Environmental Protection Agency is well resourced and can enforce Australia's new environmental laws, with higher penalties for the most significant breaches;
- b. establishing and maintaining National Environmental Standards to ensure clear, strong guidelines to protect the environment; and
- c. working with industry to simplify assessments and approvals so they have the certainty they need to invest in our communities, while protecting Australia's unique natural environment.

*[Labor understands the importance of high quality independent data and analysis for conservation planning and biodiversity restoration. Labor supports the independence of Environment Information Australia and the valuable role it plays in collecting and analysing data to inform policy development. Labor will consider the potential value of increasing its scope and independence in the future, similar to the Climate Change Authority.]*

**Rationale:** LEAN fought hard for the creation of an independent national environmental regulator and independent data agency and we celebrate the Government's reforms establishing them. Conservation planning and restoration will also require high quality and independent analysis. LEAN would like the Government to keep considering the role and level of independence of Environment Information Australia and the potential value of increasing its scope and independence into the future, similar to the role of the Climate Change Authority.

46. Labor will champion the conservation of Australia's iconic flora, fauna and fungi and recognises that feral populations of non-native fauna have a devastating effect on our local native wildlife and plants. Labor is committed to protecting native plant and animal species through modern biodiversity laws and resourcing programs that prevent the introduction of new non-native species, in addition to a humane program of management for existing feral non-native populations. *[Labor will ensure adequate funding and a pipeline of sufficient skilled workers to deliver essential nature projects through an environment and land restoration workforce plan.]*

**Rationale:** Environmental restoration is labour intensive and the Government has a role in ensuring both adequate funding and an adequate pipeline of skilled workers to deliver it. This is a commitment not only to proper resourcing of environmental restoration, but also potentially the creation of a significant number of skilled jobs.