

## Abridged policy survey: 2023 climate and nature policy priorities for NSW

10 March 2023

In the final weeks of the election campaign, the Nature Conservation Council is running digital ads and our volunteers will hand out hundreds of thousands of scorecards. This work will help guide voters to candidates who are standing up for NSW's environment.

I'm writing because we don't yet have enough information about your environment policies.

We'd appreciate your response to this survey as soon as possible, and please be in touch if there is any way we can assist you to respond. To make the survey less burdensome, we've limited it to the issues of most prominence for our members this election.

Many thanks,

Jacqui Mumford  
Chief Executive,  
Nature Conservation Council of NSW

### Climate and Energy

Policy detail	Response
1) Set science-based greenhouse emissions targets a. Ensure greenhouse emissions targets, and progress toward those targets, are assessed through an independent review process that has regard to Paris Agreement aligned temperature goals and emissions reduction scenarios.	Yes. We'll not support more fossil fuel licences.
2) Continue and accelerate the transition to 100% clean energy by 2030.	Yes. As quick as we can.

3) Address the cost-of-living crisis by implementing household energy efficiency package, including minimum efficiency standards for rental properties, solar on community and public housing, and additional rebates to help more households to get off gas and improve the efficiency of their home and appliances.	Yes. Interest free loans of \$15,000. And EV infrastructure for bi-directional charging.
4) Develop a gas decarbonisation roadmap	Of course.
5) Implement an offshore wind strategy for NSW	Yep. Northern Beaches Council in 2019 had a motion to lobby against PEP11.

## Koalas

Policy detail	Response
1) Protect koala habitat by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transferring core koala habitat to national parks, including the Great Koala National Park proposal (175,000 ha), the Sandy Creek Koala Park proposal (6988 ha), and the Georges River Koala Park proposal (4000 ha)</li> <li>Protecting the Sydney Koala Greenbelt</li> <li>Imposing stricter controls on land clearing including for urban development, throughout the Sydney Basin Bioregion</li> <li>Complete mapping of koala habitat by the end of 2023</li> <li>Mandate the making of Koala Plans of Management to be gazetted by 2024</li> </ol>	Yes.
2) Maintain, expand and restore linking corridors by mandating minimum 250m wide with average of 425m wide corridors through strategic and local plans and planning policies generally.	Yes in principle.

### 3. Habitat protection and biodiversity

Policy detail	Response
1) End native forest logging <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Develop a plan to transition NSW timber supply to 100% sustainable plantations</li> <li>b. Assess, value and maximise the role our public native forests play in reducing emissions and storing carbon dioxide.</li> </ul>	a) Yes definitiely. b) Yes definitely.
2) Reduce rates of land clearing to below pre-2016 levels	Yes in principle. Michael would support policies that reduce land clearing.
3) Reform the Biodiversity Offsetting Scheme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Prevent the use of offsets for development in the habitat of endangered and critically endangered species</li> <li>b. Ensure any future offsets scheme is based on best-practice principles</li> <li>c. Strictly limit offsetting to losses accrued as a result of genuinely essential and unavoidable development impact</li> </ul>	a) Yes. b) Of course c) Definitely.
4) Rule out raising the Warragamba dam wall, which would drown 4700 hectares of World Heritage-listed national parks.	TBC
5) Achieve the IUCN 30-by-30 target agreed by the Commonwealth Government, by adding 14 million hectares of protected areas by 2030	Yes.

### 6. Rivers and wetlands

Policy detail	Response
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1) Commit to achieving the water recovery targets in the Murray-Darling Basin Plan by the legislated deadline of July 2024.	Yes.
2) Fix the cap on the “drought of record” so that all drought data to the present day is considered in determining water allocations from public dams, including modelled future climate impacts on water availability.	Yes.
3) Improve First Nations access to water.	Yes.