

SEANZ – Political Party Solar and Battery Policy Analysis

1.) At a Glance - Policy Positions

These are different elements of energy policies that allow us to glance at different political parties' positions. Some parties have released full policies, whereas others have made general statements, state of the nation speeches etc.

	Rooftop Solar & Battery	Decentralised Energy	Renewables & Electrification	Energy Investment & Funding	Market Reform & Regulation	Overall Energy System
Coalition Govt	No direct incentives Focus on removing regulatory barriers to household solar and batteries	Supports community energy where commercially viable MBIE work includes enabling DER integration.	Fast-track consenting for wind, solar, geothermal support industrial electrification heavy-transport EV incentives retained Support for electrification through EECA programmes New smart EV charger requirements, more EV chargers	Expansion of the Capacity Investment Scheme Support for private capital Gas retained as transition fuel	Electricity market review undertaken to improve competition; regulatory streamlining; performance focus for distributors. Strengthened EA's powers RMA changes	'Government Energy Package' Long-term energy strategy under development; focus on affordability, reliability, and renewable expansion.
ACT	Opposes incentives Supports removing regulatory barriers technology-neutral approach	Supports distributed generation through simplified rules; private-sector-led community energy.	Supports renewables via fast-track consenting strongly supports gas exploration; opposes 100% renewable target.	Prefers private investment Supports CCUS opposes government investment in generation.	Major regulatory simplification reduce government intervention competition-driven pricing.	Focus on affordability and reliability Fossil fuels remain part of the mix

Greens	Supports incentives for rooftop solar and batteries expand Warmer Kiwi Homes to include solar.	Strong support for Māori and community-owned energy; funding for local generation and storage, and support peer to peer energy trading	Accelerate renewable build phase out fossil fuels electrify buses and freight. Establish a National Environmental Standard for Community Wind	Large public investment in renewables	Fundamentally reform the electricity market structure and ensure that the market works in the public interest Strengthen gentailer regulation Support peer-to-peer energy trading Call to cap power bill increases	Democratise and decarbonise New Zealand's energy system Transition to 100% renewable electricity; community-centred energy system national integrated energy transition strategy
Labour	Policy yet to be released - Has noted focus on increasing solar and battery installation - likely support for industry growth, job creation and links to aggregation to support NZ Inc led incentives for solar and batteries at rooftop level	Future fund policy has noted it may look at backing community energy startups	Invest more in renewables Accelerate new generation and upgrade the grid	Future Fund Has stated it will invest in energy independence and affordability with local cheaper renewable energy	'Leaving door open to fundamental changes'	"New Zealand should be a renewable energy superpower, driving new industries, creating jobs in our regions, and cutting our emissions."
National	No Direct Subsidy Plan - although have considered it in the past	Have acknowledged the role of distributed solar in the energy system	2023 policy - Electrify NZ - Turbo-charge renewables by requiring 1-year consents (lasting 35 years) and removing red tape for grid infrastructure upgrades.	2023 - focus on cutting red tape to drive investment	Focus on cutting red tape for consenting	Current focus on securing fuel supplies
NZ First	No specific policy but have indicated in April that support for rooftop solar and batteries is on the cards via feed in tariffs and possibly net metering	'If you generate power at home like solar, you should be able to sell it back to the grid at the same price you pay for it'.	Has indicated 'more renewables'	Will guarantee long-term, fixed-price contracts for new-build generation projects, giving investors certainty	Breaking up the gentailers: "We will replace the current system so that companies cannot hold back supply just to drive prices higher."	'Energy security is national security'
Te Pati Māori	Deliver mass rooftop solar and battery subsidies. Pay people fairly for the power they generate.	Support local and regional community microgrids in rural areas and on marae.	Government-backed rollout to electrify homes and communities		Locally generated energy to reduce costs, 'retain billions' and secure energy and economic sovereignty	urgently invest in Aotearoa's energy infrastructure and is urging all parties to commit to a cross-

			Target the biggest energy users and align energy, transport, and housing, including EV uptake			party plan to ease the rising cost burden on households, rural communities, marae, and small businesses.
The Opportunity Party	Rooftop solar (+ EVs & appliance electrification) to save average households \$2,700 pa Expand EECA's Warmer Kiwi Homes programme to support solar generation and appliance electrification for low-income households	A fund for communities working with electricity distributors on local initiatives supported within the wider electricity grid Co-investment in small-scale (up to 15 MW) community owned generation and storage initiatives	Adopt Rewiring Aotearoa's low-interest electrification loans as part of a national Ratepayer Assistance Scheme administered by local government Electrifying urban bus fleet by 2030 - centrally funded, including both charging infrastructure and fleet assets.	NZ Capacity Investment Scheme modelled on Australia (competitive tenders / new entrants and would apply to the second decade of operation of new generation). Incentivising large-scale industrial energy users to switch - awarding long-term government guarantees that the price will not exceed a certain amount through competitive tenders. Ringfencing \$500M pa of Govt dividends from gentailers to fund energy system transformation initiatives	Consolidating of energy regulator functions into 'single modern regulator' Consolidating management of the 29 electricity distributors into 6 - 8 larger firms	Cross-party 25yr Energy Strategy to: -Triple renewable electricity generation capacity to 30 Gigawatts by 2050 -Carbon emissions reduction/less reliance on fossil fuels

Stance of Specific Initiatives & Topical Issues

Key 'topical issues' to see where the parties sit on specific actions

	Rooftop Solar BESS incentives	Support LNG Terminal & Infrastructure	Reinstating Marsden Point Refinery	Support breaking up the Gentailers	Continuing Oil & Gas Exploration
Act	X	✓	X	X	✓
Greens	✓	X	X	✓	X
Labour	✓	X	X	?	X
National	✓	✓	X	X	✓
NZ First	?	✓	✓	✓	✓
Te Pati Māori	✓	X*	X*	?	X
The Opportunity Party	✓	X	X	X	X

*No clear stance known, but based on related policy positions

REFS;

Coalition Government (late 2025/2026)

[MBIE strategy](#) (October 2026)

[New EV charger requirements](#) [May 2026]

[Fast-track - Wind Farm](#) [April 2026]

[2,700 more EV chargers](#) [April 2026]

[Electrifying growth - energy RMA national direction changes](#) [Jan 2026]

Act

<https://www.act.org.nz/news/energy-abundance-for-new-zealand>

<https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/political/592485/which-political-parties-would-subsidise-your-rooftop-solar-panels>

Labour

<https://www.labour.org.nz/news/speech-state-of-the-nation-address/>

<https://www.teaonews.co.nz/2026/02/23/a-future-made-in-new-zealand-labour-promises-to-put-affordability-at-the-centre-of-every-decision/>

National

<https://www.national.org.nz/policies/electrify-nz> (2023)

NZ First

<https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/national/590317/winston-peters-announces-proposal-to-overhaul-energy-sector-in-state-of-the-nation-speech>

https://www.nzfirst.nz/power_to_the_people_sotn_2026

Greens

- [Energy Policy](#)
- [Breaking up gentailers Bill](#)
- https://www.greens.org.nz/greens_state_of_the_planet_calls_for_national_electrification_plan
- [Climate change policy](#)

Other

<https://www.interest.co.nz/public-policy/137743/winston-peters-says-nz-first-wants-break-power-gentailers-%E2%80%98so-they-can-no>