

The Hon. Greg Combet AM, MP

Minister for Climate Change and Energy Efficiency

Minister for Industry and Innovation

Member for Charlton



Greg Combet grew up in western Sydney and worked as a trades assistant, in coal mining, and in a range of community organisations before becoming a union official.

He has university degrees in mining engineering and economics, as well as a graduate diploma in labour relations and the law.

After working for the Waterside Workers Federation for some years, Greg joined the Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU) in 1993 and was leader of the ACTU from 1999 to 2007. During his time at the ACTU, Greg oversaw numerous national wage cases to secure pay rises for low-paid Australian workers. He also led the union movement in the high profile 1998 waterfront dispute, the union campaign that secured employee entitlements for 16,000 workers after the collapse of Ansett, and the campaign that secured a multi-billion dollar settlement for Australian asbestos victims from James Hardie.

Greg is a former director of Members Equity Bank and the \$30 billion superannuation fund, Australian Super.

Greg was appointed a member of the Order of Australia in 2006, and in 2007, he was elected to the New South Wales seat of Charlton.

In June 2009, Greg was appointed Minister Assisting the Minister for Climate Change, when he also became Minister for Defence Personnel, Materiel and Science. In March 2010, he was appointed Minister Assisting the Minister for Climate Change and Energy Efficiency, and after the 2010 election, Minister for Climate Change and Energy Efficiency.

In December 2011, in addition to his Climate Change and Energy Efficiency portfolio, Greg took on additional responsibilities as Minister for Industry and Innovation.