

Victoria's Renewable Energy Roadmap

August 2015

On 21 August 2015, the Victorian Andrews Labor Government released its *Renewable Energy Roadmap*. The *Roadmap* outlines the Victorian Government's plan to attract and accelerate renewable energy investment and jobs in Australia, including the commitment to produce at least 20 per cent of the State's electricity by renewable sources by 2020.

The Victorian Government will also establish two targets for renewable energy generation for the years 2020 and 2025 and is encouraging the public to provide suggestions in determining the figure of these targets.

The Victorian Government will undertake community consultation to develop the final plan – the *Renewable Energy Action Plan*.

The Victorian Government has worked with key energy sector stakeholders, including industry, consumer groups and environment groups to identify four priority areas around renewable energy, including:

- Establishing a renewable energy target of no less than 20 per cent by 2020;
- Using the Government's electricity purchasing power to support the creation of renewable energy jobs;
- Improving access to the grid for solar customers; and
- Supporting clean energy jobs through the \$20 million *New Energy Jobs Fund* (which was previously announced in the [2015-16 Budget](#).)

The priority areas are consistent with Victorian Labor's pre-election environment policy document, *Our Environment, Our Future* that states:

"Labor will establish the \$20 million New Energy Jobs Fund to encourage investment in the renewables sector and focus on the development of technology for the generation and storage of clean energy, such as new blade technology and advanced solar energy."

The Victorian Government has also launched an initiative to bring forward around \$200 million from the *Future Industries Fund* to source renewable energy certificates to build new projects in Victoria, including about 100 megawatts of renewable energy projects. It is expected that around 1000 direct and indirect jobs will be created during the construction of these new projects, with most of the new jobs to be based in regional Victoria.



As part of the *Roadmap*, the Victorian Government will also develop an *Energy Efficiency and Productivity Strategy*, and a *New Energy Technologies Strategy* to support the delivery of its initiatives.

The Victorian Government is inviting the public to provide a written submission in response to the *Roadmap* and for public suggestions as to what the renewable energy targets should be for 2020 and 2025, by 30 September 2015.

Submissions can be emailed to: renewable.energy@ecodev.vic.gov.au

The *Roadmap* has been released in addition to the Victorian Government's previous announcements, including:

- Re-directing the responsibility from local Councils to the Minister for Planning to processing new wind farm applications in April;
- The release of the *Saving energy, growing jobs: Victoria's energy efficiency and productivity statement* in June;
- The introduction of the *Local Government Legislation Amendment (Environmental Upgrade Agreements) Bill 2015* that proposes to implement council-rates based financing to help businesses fund building works to improve energy efficiency and cut water use; and
- The announcement of an independent review into the *Climate Change Act 2010* by an independent committee. The committee will provide its recommendations by 31 December 2015.

On Tuesday 25 August, the Victorian Government released its Victorian Energy Efficiency Targets between 2016 and 2020.

Year	Amount of Victorian Energy Efficiency Certificates (VEECs)	Target in tonnes CO ₂ -e GHG abatement
2016	5.4 million	5.4 million
2017	5.9 million	5.9 million
2018	6.1 million	6.1 million
2019	6.3 million	6.3 million
2020	6.5 million	6.5 million

Currently, Victoria produces 12 per cent of its energy from renewable energy.

Brown coal from the La Trobe Valley and oil and gas from the Bass Strait have traditionally been used as Victoria's main power sources.

Further information

To view Victoria's Renewable Energy Road map, click [here](#).

To view Victorian Labor's *Our Environment, Our Future* pre-election policy document, click [here](#).

To view information relating to the review of the *Climate Change Act 2010*, click [here](#).