

#CLIMATEACTNOW

Newsletter, October 2021



Help Zali Steggall MP push for a vote on the Climate Change Bill next week

The self-obsessed antics of the two Coalition parties on climate policy this week have been utterly farcical and a damaging embarrassment for the Australian people.

With a refusal to improve on our 2030 NDCs, Scott Morrison has demonstrated that he STILL doesn't see global warming as both an urgent security and economic risk and fails to recognise that clear, legislated targets will drive investment and uptake in clean technologies. And for all the big talk by self-professed, 'climate-aware' Liberal MPs in support of acting on climate, they have been completely ineffective in bringing about any change in Coalition government policy.

Alongside them, the minority Nationals are holding the government to ransom, in an attempt to secure preferential, partisan terms that threaten to undermine the effectiveness of any 'commitment' to net zero by 2050.

#CLIMATEACTNOW

Australia CANNOT afford to miss the opportunity of COP26 to commit to action

It is **inexcusable** that after eight years in government, and despite COP26 already having been postponed for a year due to Covid, the Morrison Government is scrambling to reach agreement on any kind of climate policy to take to the summit. COP26 is little more than a week away.

It's time for everyone who cares about climate action to UNITE & ACT!

To bring the Bill to debate and a vote, we need a majority of MPs in the House (76) to support Zali Steggall MP when she rises next week to "suspend standing orders" to debate the Bill. It's time climate policy was debated openly in Parliament. The Prime Minister claims it will be decided in Cabinet, but it's National members, who do not accept the science, calling the shots. The only way we can change this is if you demand your MP support an open debate and vote.

Why would a Coalition MP vote against the government? Well, they currently have no say on their own policy. If they are genuine in their desire to reduce emissions, they need to act and vote for the Bill. And the communities they represent need to know whether their MP is prepared to vote for climate action or will just continue green-washing. So we need to step up the pressure on federal MPs.

What do we need you to do?

1. **Email and/or phone your MP NOW**, even if you've done it before. Tell them you want the Climate Change Bill to be debated in Parliament before COP26. Tell them that if they fail to back the suspension of standing orders to debate the Bill, you will NOT vote for them at the next election.

Find your [MP's email address here](#), and/or their [phone number](#) by searching the parliamentary website.

2. **Forward this email to everyone in your address book** and urge them to also email/call their MP and demand they debate the Bill.

3. Show you care, literally. Display "Pass the Bill, not the Buck" signs

i) **Replace your profile photo with our [social media tile](#)** for the next week

#CLIMATEACTNOW

ii) **Print out and display our [campaign poster](#)** at home, in your car if safe, or at work if allowed and post a photo of it to social media with the hashtag #passthebillnotthebuck

The Climate Change Bill is sensible legislation Australia needs to address climate change in a fiscally responsible, fair and coordinated way before it's too late. Modelled on the successful UK Climate Act, it legislates a long term target and how to achieve it through regular emissions reduction budgets, and detailed interim plans setting out adaptation and mitigation of the impacts of climate change. It also sets out an important interim goal to reduce emissions by 60% by 2030 on 2005 levels.

[\(read the Bill.\)](#)

It does NOT recommend the introduction of additional taxes. It does NOT propose the overnight abandonment of fossil fuels but an orderly transition to clean technologies. What it DOES do is finally put Australia on track to deliver the emissions reductions that leading climate scientists say are necessary to avoid the worst of global warming and climate change impacts and set up Australia to take advantage of the economic boom coming from the transition to a low carbon economy. This is what we all want.

Australia deserves better than this Government's mishandling of the climate crisis.

We need climate legislation.

We need the #ClimateActNow.

It's time to #PassTheBillNotTheBuck.

The Climate Act Now Team

