



STATE BUDGET PREVIEW:

HOW VICTORIA CAN CREATE CLEAN JOBS

It may be November, but we are in the midst of state budget season, with COVID-19 forcing many state and territory governments to delay their annual budgets.

This month, the Victorian Government will announce its budget for the next year. With Australia rebuilding its economy and in desperate need of stimulus, this may be the most important budget the state government will have ever delivered.

This month represents a once-in-a-generation opportunity to spend big on stimulus to create jobs, support businesses and tackle the biggest crisis of all: climate change. We know that supporting a clean economic recovery will generate jobs in both the immediate and longer term, across both metropolitan and regional areas and in a wide range of different industries.

IN JULY, THE CLIMATE COUNCIL LAUNCHED THE CLEAN JOBS PLAN, WHICH IDENTIFIED 12 POLICY OPTIONS THAT COULD CREATE 76,000 CLEAN JOBS OVER THREE YEARS.



This explainer dives into the top three clean policy options for Victoria that create the most jobs, support the economic recovery and tackle climate change.

These policy options include renewable energy and storage, public and active transport and residential energy efficiency. These policy options are all win-win, creating jobs fast whilst reducing emissions.

As Australia begins its recovery and state borders begin to open, this is an opportunity that the state government simply cannot miss.

You can read the full list of 12 clean job policy options in the Climate Council's [Clean Jobs Plan](#).



VICTORIA

Total direct job creation from the 12 policy opportunities over three years: **20,000 jobs**

1 LARGE-SCALE RENEWABLE ENERGY, STORAGE AND TRANSMISSION

- 4,000 jobs
- \$600m public investment (*unlocking an additional \$1.8b in private co-financing*)

Investing in renewable energy can rapidly create thousands of jobs, reduce emissions and drive down power prices. Increasing investment in renewables will set up Victoria to achieve its target to hit 50% renewables by 2030 and support the economic recovery throughout regional areas.

The Victorian Government has already announced a 600MW renewable energy auction to create jobs and reduce power prices. Victoria can build upon this by committing to holding more reverse auctions, establishing renewable energy zones in Shepparton and Warrnambool and supporting investment in new transmission projects in their upcoming budget.

2 PUBLIC AND ACTIVE TRANSPORT

- 2,200 jobs
- \$400m public investment (*unlocking an additional \$200m in private co-financing*)

Victoria has a large pipeline of infrastructure projects that can be brought forward to create jobs, especially in Melbourne. Transport projects support a diverse range of jobs from construction to administration to engineering. Public and active transport investment can reduce reliance on cars, helping to reduce emissions and congestion. Running more frequent bus, train and tram services, rolling out protected bike lanes and wider footpaths can reduce crowding and congestion while building new electric rollingstock can support Victoria's manufacturing industry.

3 RESIDENTIAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY UPGRADES

- 1,800 jobs
- \$250m public investment

Improving energy efficiency is one of the lowest cost ways to reduce power bills and energy use, while creating large numbers of jobs. Households and businesses often pay higher power bills due to old appliances or poor insulation. There are a wide range of ways to improve energy efficiency, including replacing ageing gas ducted heating with reverse cycle air-conditioners, sealing and glazing windows and installing more energy efficient appliances. These policies will help to reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions. Expanding Victoria's Solar Homes program to include energy efficiency rebates would enable a fast rollout, supporting jobs and small businesses throughout the state.

