Return to Diffusion Science Radio Review of Science Policies for the Australian Federal Election 2016 by Ian Woolf www.diffusionradio.com **National Party** Labor Party **Greens Party Science Party Arts Party Policy areas Liberal Party Pirate Party** \$4.6M "P-Science and No policy on - write off - Computer - including Arts - Enact a pilot \$678.9m over with Science Technology TECH" Pathways | website University debt programming program to four years to Education in Technology of 20,000 STEM from early high Technology distribute open increasing STEM Early College students, when school. Engineering and source, low cost. (science, High School pilot - Mandatory Maths, to help 3D printers to they graduate, technology, per year for 5 primary and people become interested high engineering and secondary STEM well rounded schools. vears mathematics) individuals and - Provide an - train 25,000 classes uptake in our stimulate online portal for current primary schools and and high school use by schools creativity. universities. teachers to better - halve and the general teach STEM - STEM University fees. public, with - A 75% subsidy - Teaching professional permanent scholarships for on enrolment streaming and development for free download of 25,000 STEM fees for retirees primary school graduates wishing to publicly owned teachers undertake science and - \$9M National - Incentives for Coding in additional higher science education high school schools education study programs. graduates to - \$4.5 million in Australia. study STEM •Require every Girls into Code - The pursuit of courses at knowledge alone primary school to university should not incur - Incentives for employ at least a cost and must university STEM be made possible one teacher with by continued graduates to enter development of the teaching specialised **MOOCS** profession (Massive Open STEM skills - Support for a Online Courses) national rollout

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				of the Club Kidpreneur Foundation program to primary schools - Startup curriculum development for schools and universities - Startup hubs and scholarships in universities for final-year students and recent graduates		by universities and learning facilities across Australia. We would want an additional fund created and funded with \$50m pa to encourage the creation and promotion of these course to all Australians.	
Renewable energy target	23% by 2020	No policy on website	50% by 2030	90% by 2030	Zero emissions by 2030 (may include non- renewable nuclear power)	No policy on website	50% by 2025
Nuclear Waste Dump	Aboriginal land in South Australia accepting international high level radioactive waste	No policy on website	No policy on website	- Against an international dump inquiry into safe storage of Australian low level waste	No policy on website	No policy on website	No policy on website
Broadband	More copper –	No policy on	Fibre to the	Fibre to the	Fibre to the	Fibre to the	Fibre to the

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	some fibre	website	premises	premises	premises	premises	premises
CSIRO	Cut \$115M, cut 1208 jobs, half of all climate scientists.	No policy on website	Add \$250 million	Greater, more consistent, and more predictable funding for publicly-funded research agencies, including the CSIRO	Double current Government science funding	No policy on website	-Provide \$50 million in additional annual funding to the CSIRO to support fundamental research.
Global Warming	\$2.55 billion to establish the Emissions Reduction Fund to pay polluting businesses to pollute less.	No policy on website	-Implement an electricity Emissions Trading Scheme - Phase one of the ETS will operate for two years, from 1 July 2018 until 30 June 2020 to align with the second (and final) commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol;	prioritise funding for research into sustainable energy technologies with the aim of developing competitive energy technologies with zero carbon emissions - End fossil fuel donations - coal export levy	- end all government subsidies to the fossil fuel	- reducing the concentration of greenhouse gases and CO2 equivalents to below 350 parts per million - whether that is by implementing price on carbon within Australia, or supporting other governments in their attempts to reduce carbon emissions government in renewable	- Restore a carbon tax with pricing set to the 2014-15 level and price increases fixed at CPI + 5% p/a Provide free permits to coalgenerated power stations only where grid stability is at stake Provide a final extension in the Renewable Energy Target (RET) to 70GwH by 2025.

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	- Phase two of the ETS will operate from 1 July 2020. Pollution levels will be capped and reduced over the course of the decade in line with Australia's international commitments under the Paris agreement; - The broader ETS does not apply to the electricity sector - Develop a plan to ensure the orderly transition of Australia's	energy.	- Remove waste levy exemptions applying to coal power Levy thermal coal exporters \$2 per tonne of exported coal Revenue will be used to to purchase carbon offsets through the UN clean development mechanism Require transparent disclosure of energy ratings for all buildings Adopt EU 2020 vehicle fuel efficiency standards including the passenger vehicle target of 95g CO2/Km by 2023.
			government and

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	energy generation from polluting coal- fired power stations to renewable and clean energy, with a core focus on supporting workers and communities; - Expand the investment mandate of the Clean Energy Finance Corporation; - Provide \$206.6m to ARENA to support a specific Concentrated Solar Thermal funding round;	industry representatives to develop a plan for roll-out of electric vehicle (EV) charging stations and development of an Australian standard for EV rechargers. - Offer assistance to private operators who wish to operate recharging stations through the Clean Energy Finance Corporation Create a corporation with joined State and Federal Government ownership to lease recharging sites on public land.
	- Ensure the	

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			Commonwealth Government leads by example as a direct purchaser of renewable energy.				
			- Introduce new emissions standards for motor vehicles to reduce emissions in the transport sector;				
Nuclear Power	Banned	No policy on website	Banned	Banned - Stop uranium mining and export	- Build a small demonstration nuclear power station to demonstrate safest current technologies. Roll this technology out across Australia	Banned	Banned

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					if demonstration is judged successful Fund research into nuclear fusion		
Nuclear medicine	Supported	No policy on website	Supported	Reactor based medicines banned, funding for accelerator based alternative medicines to be investigated	Supported	Supported	Supported
Research funding	Currently 0.56% of Gross Domestic Product - lowest level since 1979 according to ABC Fact Check. No increase.	No policy on website	\$250M to restore CSIRO funding	Greens claim 4% of Gross Domestic Product by 2030 paid by both public and private sources (based on an estimate of 2.2% for current spending) - not sure how they can promise private spending. OR 1.02% GDP by 2030 if you take the ABC	Double current public science funding immediately. An increase of 100% in 2016.	government investment in renewable energy.	National Science Plan - \$500 million in additional annual funding to Australian research bodies in line with priorities identified in the Science Plan. - Undertake additional research in pharmaceutical

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	Fact Check figure of 0.56% as current Government spending - an increase of 82% over 14 years.	development , renewable energy technology and mental health research.
	- Greater, more consistent, and more predictable funding for publicly-funded research agencies, including the CSIRO and Cooperative Research Centres, with programs less reliant on industry funding, improved job security for their	
	employed scientists The removal of ministerial capacity to veto independently peer-reviewed	

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				funding decisions.			
Nantotech and G.M.O.	Regulated	No policy on website	Regulated	Banned - Assumed dangerous until proved safe	Regulated	Regulated	Regulated
Space	No policy on website	 Establish a space agency Incentivise Australian space infrastructure Undertake a Space Innovation and Growth Strategy Study 	- a \$1bn space research fund, to be used for both research and commercial projects. The priority would be developing low cost solutions for delivering unmanned payloads into low and high earth orbit and beyond, both for Australian companies, and international clients. Lunar research would be a key area.	Committee for Space Science Decadal Plan Establish a National Institute for Space			