

Methodology Statement

THE SUNRISE PROJECT / Renew Australia for All – ENERGY TRANSITION SENTIMENT TRACKING POLL – April 2026

This research complies with the Australian Polling Council Quality Mark standards (see www.australianpollingcouncil.org/standards)

Item	Response
Research company	89 Degrees East
Client commissioned research	Renew Australia for All
End client	Renew Australia for All
Fieldwork dates	Wave 5 2026: 13 February – 20 March 2026
Mode of data collection	6-MONTHLY TRACKER Online recruited from a research panel (100%)
Target population	Australians aged 18+ (general population sample), Residents living in targeted REZ zones (rez sample), and Australians living in targeted electorates (Electorate sample)
Sample size	n=8,223 total sample, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • n= 3755 main national rep plus statewide boosts and demographic boosts inclusive; • n=1,965 Renewable Energy Zones boost; • n=2,503 electorate boost
Is voting intention published?	YES

Item	Response
Effective sample size after weighting applied	Effective sample n=8218. Weighting is applied to the nat rep sample only.

Margin of error associated with effective sample size 1.1% at 95% confidence level

Variables used in weighting	Age, gender and state sourced from the 2021 ABS Census (General population sample)
Weighting method used	RIM weighting
Full question text, responses categories and randomisation	See below.
Proportion of landline/mobile completed interviews	N/A
Source of online sample	From a commercial permission-based panel
Positioning of voting intention questions in the questionnaire?	N/A – not asked
How were undecided voters handled?	N/A
2PP calculation method	N/A

Full Text of Published Questions

S11. Who did you vote for in the last federal election (May 2025)? Select one.

1. Liberal Party
2. National Party
3. Australian Labor Party
4. The Greens
5. Pauline Hanson's One Nation Party
6. Independent
7. Other, please specify
8. I can't remember
9. I didn't vote
10. Prefer not to say

S15. How important is the issue of climate change to you personally? SR

1. Very important
2. Somewhat important
3. Not very important
4. Not at all important
5. Don't know

S16. How much do you think climate change will harm future generations of people? SR

1. A great deal
2. A moderate amount
3. Only a little
4. Not at all
5. Don't Know

S17. How much would you agree with the statement:

5-PT SCALE: STRONGLY DISAGREE-DISAGREE-NEITHER AGREE NOR DISAGREE -AGREE-STRONGLY AGREE

- o Other issues are more important than climate change.
- o Whatever Australia does to address climate change won't make a difference anyway.

1. To what extent do you agree or disagree with these statements? SR

5-PT SCALE: STRONGLY DISAGREE-DISAGREE-NEITHER AGREE NOR DISAGREE -AGREE-STRONGLY AGREE

- o "I have a good understanding of what is needed for Australia to shift to renewable energy".

2. To what extent do you support or oppose Australia shifting to renewable energy

5-PT SCALE: STRONGLY OPPOSE SOMEWHAT OPPOSE NEITHER SUPPORT NOR OPPOSE SOMEWHAT SUPPORT STRONGLY SUPPORT

3. Why do you feel that way (INSERT RESPONSE FROM Q2) about the shift to more renewable energy? Please explain the reason for your response.

OPEN ENDED RESPONSE

3A. Which of these best describes how your attitude towards Australia shifting to renewable energy has changed over the last year?

5-PT SCALE: MUCH LESS SUPPORTIVE SLIGHTLY LESS SUPPORTIVE NO CHANGE SLIGHTLY MORE SUPPORTIVE MUCH MORE SUPPORTIVE

4. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement? SR

5-PT SCALE: STRONGLY DISAGREE-DISAGREE-NEITHER AGREE NOR DISAGREE -AGREE-STRONGLY AGREE

- o "As long as there is a plan to support workers and communities, Australia should close its coal fired power stations and replace them with renewable energy as soon as possible".

5. Which energy system changes do you think would lower people's power bills the fastest? Select one.

RANDOMISE ORDER.

1. Building new coal power stations
2. Building more large-scale renewable energy, like wind and solar, with battery storage
3. Big battery storage, to reduce demand on the grid at peak times eg evening
4. More subsidies for household rooftop solar and batteries.

7. Do you think Australia is moving too quickly or too slowly in the shift to renewable energy and building renewable energy infrastructure? Select one.

1. Much too quickly
2. Somewhat too quickly
3. At the right pace
4. Somewhat too slowly
5. Much too slowly
6. We should not be shifting to renewable energy at all.

7A. In your opinion, is your state or territory government doing enough, too much or not enough to address climate change?.

1. Doing enough
2. Doing too much
3. Not doing enough

8. Overall, how do you feel about developing the following types of new large-scale energy infrastructure?

5-PT SCALE: VERY NEGATIVE QUITE NEGATIVE NEUTRAL QUITE POSITIVE VERY POSITIVE

RANDOMISE ORDER

- Solar farms
- Onshore wind farms
- Offshore wind farms
- Nuclear power stations
- Coal power stations
- Transmission lines
- Large batteries
- Pumped hydro
- Gas power plants.

10 Do you agree or disagree with the following?

5-PT SCALE: STRONGLY DISAGREE-DISAGREE-NEITHER AGREE NOR DISAGREE -AGREE-STRONGLY AGREE
RANDOMISE ORDER

- Australia overall will benefit if we shift to more renewable energy
- My local area will benefit if we shift to more renewable energy
- Myself and people like me will benefit if we shift to more renewable energy
- Investing in renewable energy will be good for regional Australia
- More renewable energy will make energy bills cheaper
- I am confident Australia will shift to more renewable energy sources in the next 10 years.
- I support the Australian government investing more in renewable energy
- I support the state or federal government using public funds to keep coal-fired power stations operating for longer than is currently planned.
- In the next 10 years, renewables will be able to replace coal-fired power stations completely.
- Renewable energy is a better choice for Australia's energy future than nuclear energy
- The government should do more to prevent greedy energy companies from increasing energy prices and lining their pockets while our bills get more and more expensive
- Australia needs both small-scale renewables, like rooftop solar and household batteries, as well as large-scale renewables, like solar & wind farms, to power our homes and industries.

11. Which of these do you think is closest to the way regional and rural Australians feel about renewable energy being developed in their local community? Select one.

1. The majority are very supportive
2. The majority are mostly supportive
3. The majority of neither supportive or unsupportive
4. The majority are mostly unsupportive
5. The majority are very unsupportive
6. Other (open text) .

11. For each pair of statements below, choose the one that is closest to your view?

RANDOMISE ORDER OF PAIRS , SHOW EACH PAIR SEPARATELY.

- Building more renewables is the fastest way to bring down our energy bills **vs** Renewables are expensive and expanding them will only drive up the cost of our power bills.
- As long as the impacts on nature are minimised we should proceed with building renewable energy infrastructure **vs** Building more large-scale renewable energy will destroy our national parks, forest, oceans and harm our wildlife.
- Building more renewables and storage will make our energy system more secure and reliable **vs** Renewables make our energy system less reliable and increase the risk of blackouts.
- With over 40% of our electricity already powered by renewables, we need to get on with the job of shifting Australia to renewable energy and storage **vs** We should wait to shift our energy system and keep our country powered by coal and gas until better technologies are available.
- Renewables and farming can work together, providing an additional income for farmers that isn't impacted by drought or floods **vs** Large-scale renewables are destroying prime agricultural land and threatening food supply.

- o The fastest way to bring down our energy bills is by governments supporting households to install rooftop solar and batteries **vs** Government support for renewables won't bring down energy bills and will only push up debt, inflation and interest rates.
- o The best way to lower gas prices is to put limits on how much gas can be exported overseas so more is kept for Australian households and businesses **vs** The best way to lower gas prices is to expand gas mining and open up new gas fields to increase the supply of gas.
- o Nuclear energy is too slow, too expensive, too risky to build and doesn't make sense for Australia **vs** The best energy system for Australia's future includes a mix of technologies, including nuclear energy.
- o Australia's economy will be stronger if we focus on scaling up our renewable powered exports, like critical minerals and green metals manufactured with clean energy **vs** Australia's economy will be stronger if we continue to focus on exporting coal and gas, rather than on new renewable powered exports.
- o The Australian government can approve new coal and gas projects, as long as they are also taking steps to cut emissions e.g. by scaling up renewable energy **vs** The Australian government must stop approving new coal and gas projects if they are serious about cutting emissions.

20. What do you believe is the main factor causing energy prices to rise? Select one.

1. Profit-seeking by energy companies
2. The shift towards renewable energy generation
3. Coal power stations becoming worn out and breaking down
4. Global energy price spikes, after Russia's invasion of Ukraine
5. Too many restrictions on oil and gas exploration
6. Unsure

21. And who do you believe holds the most responsibility for reducing energy prices? Select one.

1. Energy companies
2. Federal government
3. State government
4. Other (please specify)

35. The Federal Government recently introduced a program to subsidise the cost of household battery storage. Under the program you can save up to 30% on the cost of installing a battery in your home.

How supportive are you of this policy?

5-PT SCALE: STRONGLY OPPOSE SOMEWHAT OPPOSE NEITHER SUPPORT NOR OPPOSE SOMEWHAT SUPPORT STRONGLY SUPPORT

36. What impact will this subsidy have on your decision whether or not to install a battery in your home? (Choose one).

1. I have installed a battery or made plans to, because of the subsidy
2. Makes it much more likely I will install a battery
3. Makes it slightly more likely I will install a battery
4. No change
5. Makes it slightly less likely I will install a battery
6. Makes it much less likely I will install a battery
7. I already installed a battery before the subsidy was introduced
8. I am unable to install a battery in my house (e.g. renting, apartment-dweller etc)

37. Recently, the Victorian government announced a plan to introduce minimum energy efficiency standards for rental properties, including a requirement to replace old hot water systems with electric alternatives at the end of their life. Rental properties must also have efficient heating, cooling, draughtproofing and ceiling insulation.

Would you support this policy for your state or territory?.

How supportive are you of this policy?

5-PT SCALE: STRONGLY OPPOSE SOMEWHAT OPPOSE NEITHER SUPPORT NOR OPPOSE SOMEWHAT SUPPORT STRONGLY SUPPORT

38. Do you have, or are you planning to have within the next six months, any of the following energy efficiency upgrades in your home (choose one response for each)

SCALE: ALREADY HAVE PLANNING TO HAVE DON'T HAVE / NOT PLANNING TO

RANDOMISE ORDER

- o Rooftop solar
- o Home battery storage
- o Induction cooktop
- o Electric vehicle
- o Efficient heating and cooling e.g. split system air conditioner
- o Heat pump hot water system
- o Upgraded home insulation

39. To what extent do you agree with the following statement(s) in relation to the impact of renewable energy on exports and manufacturing industries in Australia?

5-PT SCALE: STRONGLY DISAGREE-DISAGREE-NEITHER AGREE NOR DISAGREE -AGREE-STRONGLY AGREE

RANDOMISE ORDER

- o Establishing a renewable energy export industry is critical for Australia's future
- o We should accelerate the development of a renewable energy exports industry in Australia
- o Australia should grow new exports like green iron and critical minerals to replace fossil fuels and meet global demand for clean products.
- o Manufacturing and industry powered by renewable energy will create benefits for me, my family, and my community.
- o The government should invest to help Australian manufacturing facilities access cheaper renewable energy.
- o Establishing a renewable-powered manufacturing industry in Australia would create good new jobs in regional communities..

40. Thinking about your recent experience with news media e.g. TV news, radio and newspapers and social media e.g. Facebook, Instagram, X [Twitter], Reddit, TikTok would you say that you are seeing ...(Single response)

7-PT SCALE: MOSTLY NEGATIVE NEWS ABOUT RENEWABLE ENERGY SLIGHTLY MORE NEGATIVE NEWS ABOUT RENEWABLE ENERGY THAN POSITIVE ABOUT THE SAME AMOUNT OF POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE NEWS ABOUT RENEWABLES SLIGHTLY MORE POSITIVE NEWS ABOUT RENEWABLES THAN NEGATIVE MOSTLY POSITIVE NEWS ABOUT RENEWABLES

41. . The Australian federal government is proposing to host the global climate change conference COP31 in Adelaide next year, in partnership with the Pacific. Is this something you were aware of?

1. Yes
2. No

42. For each pair of statements below, choose the one that is closest to your view in relation to Australia hosting COP31?

RANDOMISE ORDER OF PAIRS , SHOW EACH PAIR SEPARATELY.

- o Australian communities will benefit from Australia hosting the COP climate conference **vs** Australian communities will not benefit from Australia hosting the COP climate conference
- o Australian business and industry will benefit from Australia hosting to COP Climate Conference **vs** Australian business and industry will not benefit from Australia hosting to COP Climate Conference
- o It is a good and worthwhile investment for Australia to host to COP Climate Conference **vs** It is a waste of time and money for Australia to host the COP Climate Conference
- o Australia's current level of climate action, including our plan to continue mining and exporting coal and gas, is ambitious enough to justify it hosting a climate conference **vs** Australia cannot credibly host an international climate conference until it steps up its climate action, and stops mining and exporting coal and gas.
- o Compared to most other countries, Australia is doing more to combat climate change **vs** Compared to most other countries, Australia is doing less to combat climate change.

43. Do you support a ban on new coal mines in Australia?

5-PT SCALE: STRONGLY OPPOSE SOMEWHAT OPPOSE NEITHER SUPPORT NOR OPPOSE SOMEWHAT SUPPORT STRONGLY SUPPORT

44. Do you support the Australian Government making a proactive plan to phase out Australia's coal and gas exports?

5-PT SCALE: STRONGLY OPPOSE SOMEWHAT OPPOSE NEITHER SUPPORT NOR OPPOSE SOMEWHAT SUPPORT STRONGLY SUPPORT

45. Scientists say cutting methane pollution is one of the fastest ways to slow global warming in the next decade. Do you support urgent action to cut methane emissions?

5-PT SCALE: STRONGLY OPPOSE SOMEWHAT OPPOSE NEITHER SUPPORT NOR OPPOSE SOMEWHAT SUPPORT STRONGLY SUPPORT

46. Do you support a proposal to place a 25% tax on Australian gas exports?

5-PT SCALE: STRONGLY OPPOSE SOMEWHAT OPPOSE NEITHER SUPPORT NOR OPPOSE SOMEWHAT SUPPORT STRONGLY SUPPORT

(REZ REGIONAL BOOST SAMPLE ONLY)**13. Which of these is closest to your opinion of how the majority of residents in your community feel about Australia shifting to renewable energy?**

5-PT SCALE: STRONGLY OPPOSED SOMEWHAT OPPOSED NEITHER SUPPORT NOR OPPOSED SOMEWHAT SUPPORT STRONGLY SUPPORT

47. What are you most concerned about when it comes to developing renewable energy infrastructure like solar and wind farms in your local community?

RANDOMISE ORDER. SELECT THE TOP 3 CONCERNS (TOP 3)

1. The potential impact on wildlife, environment and marine life
2. Level of consultation and engagement with local communities
3. The impact on farmers and available farming land
4. The lifespan/sustainability of materials used to build renewable technology
5. Potential safety issues for workers
6. Job losses in coal or gas industries
7. The look / visual impact of the infrastructure
8. Impact on house prices
9. Community division about whether, or where, renewable energy should be built
10. Increased traffic and degradation of local roads during construction
11. Potential safety issues for the community
12. Decommissioning of infrastructure at the end of its life
13. Other, please tell us
14. None of the above.

48. If a new renewable energy project was proposed for your community, which of these potential benefits would make you the most likely to support the project?

RANDOMISE ORDER. SELECT THE TOP 3 BENEFITS (TOP 3)

1. New jobs for local residents
2. Replaces the jobs and economic contribution of closing industries e.g. coal, manufacturing, mining
3. Discounted energy bills for households and local businesses
4. New community facilities (e.g - halls, pools, parks)
5. Upgrades to existing community infrastructure
6. Maintenance and upgrades of local roads
7. The substantial drought proof income for the farmers partnering with the clean energy owners
8. The fact that the clean energy money will keep flowing through our community during drought when farm income dries up
9. Local economic growth
10. The opportunity for the community or community members to co-own the infrastructure
11. Direct investment in the community (e.g. local grants or sponsorships)
12. Investment in new housing for projects workers that adds to long-term housing supply
13. Initiatives to protect and restore local wildlife habitat

(VIC SAMPLE ONLY – ALL VICTORIA)**49. Which party are you leaning towards voting for in the next state election due in November 2026?**

1. Liberal Party
2. National Party
3. Australian Labor Party

4. The Greens
5. Other, independent
6. Other minor party, please specify
7. I'm not eligible to vote SKIP TO Q
8. I have no idea / no interest SKIP TO Q
9. Prefer not to say

50. Is this the same party you voted for in the last state election in 2022?

1. Yes
2. No
3. I can't remember
4. I wasn't eligible to vote at the last election

51. Which of these potential outcomes of the 2026 state election would you prefer?

1. Majority Labor government
2. Majority Liberal government
3. Minority Labor government where Labor would need the support of the Greens or other small parties and independents
4. Minority Liberal government, where the Liberals would need the support of the Greens or other small parties and independents
5. Don't know/something else

52. Which of these issues do you think will most determine who you vote for in the next Victorian state election in 2026?

RANDOMISE ORDER. SELECT YOUR TPO ISSUES

1. Climate change and the environment
2. The economy (incl. taxation)
3. Jobs/ Job Creation
4. Education
5. Healthcare/ Health
6. Immigration
7. Civil rights (e.g. Indigenous, Gender & LGBTQI rights)
8. Crime and Policing
9. Housing
10. Infrastructure and transport
11. Social issues (e.g. Domestic Violence)
12. Cost of living
13. Other (please specify)
14. Don't know

53. The Victorian Government is planning to build offshore wind turbines off the coast of Victoria to help supply energy to the state and replace the energy generated by coal power stations when they close. How supportive are you of this plan?

5-PT SCALE: STRONGLY OPPOSED SOMEWHAT OPPOSED NEITHER SUPPORT NOR OPPOSED SOMEWHAT SUPPORT STRONGLY SUPPORT

(OFFSHORE WIND AREAS REZ BOOST – GIPPSLAND REZ ONLY)

36. There is a proposal to build an offshore wind farm off the coast in or near your region. How supportive are you of this proposal?

5-PT SCALE: STRONGLY OPPOSED SOMEWHAT OPPOSED NEITHER SUPPORT NOR OPPOSED SOMEWHAT SUPPORTIVE STRONGLY SUPPORTIVE

37 In your opinion, how supportive or non-supportive of the proposal to build an offshore wind farm off the coast in your region are the majority of residents in your community?

5-PT SCALE: MAJORITY ARE STRONGLY OPPOSED MAJORITY ARE SOMEWHAT OPPOSED MAJORITY DON'T HAVE A POSITION MAJORITY ARE SOMEWHAT SUPPORTIVE MAJORITY ARE STRONGLY SUPPORTIVE I DON'T KNOW