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South Australia has been one of the world leaders on climate action and renewable energy. Our federal government's weak targets for the Paris climate talks make this leadership more critical than ever. SA also needs to reinvent its economy as jobs in mining, manufacturing and fossil fuel electricity generation have been disappearing rapidly.

Now is the perfect time for us design a climate change response that brings new jobs, a healthier environment, and a stronger and fairer society.

Key elements of this response should include the SA government:

- Developing a Roadmap for SA to reach 100% renewable electricity as soon as possible
- Investing in an Energy Transition Cluster to take full advantage of the employment opportunities in the low carbon economy
- Running a reverse auction for a solar thermal power station at Port Augusta
- Establishing a grant scheme to support for community-owned renewable energy projects
- Ensuring the renewal of 4500 Housing SA homes achieves high sustainability standards, facilitates onsite electricity generation and favours materials manufactured in SA
- Committing to phase out fossil fuel exploration as soon as possible and in the meantime ensuring our most iconic and valuable natural environments and agricultural areas are protected.
- Investing in coastal defence measures such as seagrass beds and mangrove forests that absorb large quantities of carbon dioxide while protecting our coastline from erosion and storm surges.
- Greening South Australia by
 - revegetating and reconnecting habitat across public and private land
 - prioritising purchase of carbon offsets from these projects
 - significantly increasing the number of indigenous rangers to manage protected areas
 - reducing heat island effects in low socioeconomic areas of Adelaide by significantly increasing the number of street trees, undergrounding power lines, and converting to LED street lighting.
 - Extending and electrifying Adelaide's train and light rail networks
 - Developing a network of electric vehicle charging stations across the metropolitan region and an electric highway linking Victor Harbor with the Barossa Valley
 - Creating signature events that show how Adelaide can become a carbon neutral city, such as a 'Car Free Adelaide' day
 - Policy support and capital investment to grow the collaborative economy that minimises resource use by facilitating sharing of goods and services while increasing employment by localising artisans and entrepreneurs.

I agree with all this

With thanks

Jill Woodlands