

# Pirate Party

## 2013 WA By-Election Party Survey Responses



### 3. **Environmental Sustainability**

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**7. Would you support increasing Australia's emissions reductions target to at least 19% by 2020, as recommended by the Climate Change Authority earlier this year?**

Yes

**Comments:**

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**8. Would you support a price and limit on greenhouse gas emissions for the biggest polluters?**

Yes

**Comments:** Pirate Party Australia supports carbon pricing as an essential means to meet climate change targets and a clearly superior alternative to taxing savings and work.

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**9. Would you support Australia committing to immediate ratification of the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol?**

Yes

**Comments:**

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**10. Would you support policies that prepare Australia for the impacts of between 2 and 4 degrees of global warming scenarios, by establishing and disclosing a national plan of action?**

Yes

**Comments:**

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**11. Would you support policies that rule out cuts to the current 2020 Renewable Energy Target (of 41,000 GWh)?**

Yes

**Comments:** We believe the pace of renewable energy investment should be greater than that mandated by the RET. We will not support any weakening in climate change policies.

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**12. Would you support strengthening the Renewable Energy Target to at least 50% by 2030?**

Yes

**Comments:** Our policies would ensure a renewable energy capacity well above 50% by 2030.

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**13. Would you support Australia's commitment to a target of 100% renewable energy by 2050?**

Yes

**Comments:** We believe a more rapid change is both desirable and feasible. Our comprehensive energy policy can be viewed at: <http://pirateparty.org.au/wiki/Policies/Energy>

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**14. Would you support continued funding for large-scale renewable energy and energy efficiency technology through the Clean Energy Finance Corporation (CEFC)?**

Yes

**Comments:** We would seek to build on this funding considerably.

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**15. Would you support policies that prevent unconventional gas mining in drinking water catchments?**

Yes

**Comments:** We believe fracking should be permanently banned from these areas.

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**16. Would you support policies that prevent unconventional gas mining in residential areas?**

Yes

**Comments:**

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**17. Would you support policies that give farmers and other landowners the right to say no to mining on their own property?**

Yes

**Comments:**

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**18. Would you support a moratorium on coal seam gas and shale gas mining until a scientific consensus on the environmental and health impacts is reached?**

Yes

**Comments:** Our policy (viewable here: [http://pirateparty.org.au/wiki/Policies/Environment\\_and\\_Animal\\_Welfare](http://pirateparty.org.au/wiki/Policies/Environment_and_Animal_Welfare)) includes an immediate moratorium on fracking pending the availability of strong scientific evidence to prove the safety of this practice.

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**19. Would you oppose funding cuts for public broadcasters, including the ABC and SBS?**

Yes

**Comments:**

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**20. Would you oppose the partial or full privatisation of the ABC and/or SBS?**

Yes

**Comments:**

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**21. Would you rule out policies that would increase regulation of Australia's free press?**

Yes

**Comments:**

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**22. Oppose the removal and killing of sharks from designated "safe zones" in WA?**

Yes

**Comments:** We believe scientific research and judicious application of the precautionary principle should govern our interactions with the environment.

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**23. Would you support greater transparency around global trade deals, like the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement?**

Yes

**Comments:** Pirate Parties around the world fight every day for greater transparency in global treaty-making. Transparency is a core value and an important priority. Our policy can be viewed at: [http://pirateparty.org.au/wiki/Policies/Foreign\\_Policy\\_and\\_Treaty\\_Making](http://pirateparty.org.au/wiki/Policies/Foreign_Policy_and_Treaty_Making)

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**24. Would you oppose the inclusion of Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) clauses in global trade deals like the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement?**

Yes

**Comments:** We do not believe foreign-owned firms should have rights beyond those of domestic firms. Governments should not be sued in overseas courts for protecting the choices and interests of citizens.

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**25. Would you oppose any industrial-scale dredging or dumping of dredge spoil within the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area?**

Yes

**Comments:** Our candidate in the Griffith by-election fought hard on this issue in interviews and community forums. We strongly oppose plans to dump sludge in the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area.

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**26. Would you support implementing the recommendations of the World Heritage Committee to avoid the Great Barrier Reef being listed as 'in danger' by UNESCO?**

Yes

**Comments:**

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**27. Would you prevent any new port development along the Great Barrier Reef coastline?**

Yes

**Comments:**

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**28. Would you support keeping the Federal Government's power to approve or reject any major developments that affect the Great Barrier Reef?**

Yes

**Comments:** Our policy is to place land and ocean management decisions within the purview of an independent scientific body. This will ensure decisions are made with proper consideration of heritage and scientific evidence. The policy can be viewed at:

[http://pirateparty.org.au/wiki/Policies/Environment\\_and\\_Animal\\_Welfare](http://pirateparty.org.au/wiki/Policies/Environment_and_Animal_Welfare)

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**29. Would you support an end to mandatory offshore detention for asylum seekers who arrive in Australia by boat?**

Yes

**Comments:** Our policy advocates a regional solution in which Australia provides resources and leadership. It can be viewed here: [http://pirateparty.org.au/wiki/Policies/Asylum\\_Seekers\\_and\\_Refugees](http://pirateparty.org.au/wiki/Policies/Asylum_Seekers_and_Refugees)

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**30. Do you support the closure of the Manus Island offshore detention centre?**

Yes

**Comments:** We have already issued calls for a full and independent investigation into the tragic and shambolic events on Manus Island. Our press release can be viewed at:

<http://pirateparty.org.au/2014/02/19/pirate-party-calls-for-human-rights-to-be-respected-on-manus-island/>

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**31. Do you think children should be removed from indefinite detention?**

Yes

**Comments:**

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**32. Would you support maintaining penalty rates for Australian workers?**

Yes

**Comments:**

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**33. Would you oppose any attempt to get rid of the Unfair Dismissal laws**

Yes

**Comments:**

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