

Renewable Recovery – Letter from Australian businesses to Hon. Scott Morrison

Dear Prime Minister,

We the undersigned 72 Australian businesses are joining WWF-Australia in calling on the Federal Government to support a \$2 billion renewable-led stimulus package to rebuild from COVID-19 in the 2020-2021 Budget.

We recognise we have a long road ahead as Australia rebuilds after COVID-19.

We are confident the <u>five stimulus measures</u> set out by WWF-Australia, in partnership with EY, will help Australia emerge from this crisis as a renewable energy super power in a post-COVID world.

For Australian businesses like us, a renewable-led recovery makes good economic sense. It would unlock 100,000 jobs and future-proof our economy. It would bring manufacturing back to our shores, grow existing industries, unlock new industries and boost global exports. You can find out more about the Renewable Recovery campaign <u>here</u>.

We are calling on you, and the Federal Government, to support the stimulus package in the 2020-2021 Budget because the package:

- Prioritises people and jobs by stimulating job creation and redeployment across existing and new industries. Jobs created by the stimulus package would generate economic benefits of nearly \$10 billion¹. Every dollar of stimulus spent on clean energy projects generates nearly three times as many jobs per dollar than investment in fossil fuel projects.
- Will help Australia recover from COVID-19. The measures are cost effective, politically feasible and manage the impacts of this health crisis in the short-term. They will help develop a local knowledge economy and focus on rebuilding in a post COVID-19 world where economic priorities have strategically shifted.
- Positions Australia to emerge from this crisis as a renewable energy super power. The package promotes capital investment and commercialisation of onshore supply chains and technology, helping to enhance Australia's energy sovereignty, drive down electricity prices and position us to capture new renewable export opportunities.
- **Supports regional Australia.** An additional 60,000 regional employment opportunities could be created by 2030 if Australia transitions electricity generation towards a renewable energy powered grid.

This is a critical moment in the history of our country.

We hope the Government will seriously consider this Renewable Recover Package and all associated benefits it will deliver. The measures were developed and costed in partnership with EY. The package delivers \$2 billion to five of our nation's rapidly growing industries – batteries, local solar, electric busses, energy efficient manufacturing and renewable hydrogen.

For further information on each measure, please see the Delivering Economic Stimulus Through Renewables Policy Paper.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

Dermot O'Gorman and the undersigned

¹ 'Delivering Economic Stimulus Through Renewables' Policy Paper, EY, 2020.







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James Thornton, CEO





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