The Labor Party has been dragged radically to the left.

This is because Labor faces an existential threat from the Greens.

- The Greens are challenging Labor in traditional strongholds, forcing Labor to the left.
- Green activists have also infiltrated the Labor Party to force change from the inside.

This document provides details of:

- An incredibly powerful Labor faction – the Labor Environmental Action Network – run by Green activists, and which is driving Labor policy.
- Labor running candidates who have previously run for the Greens and who want to destroy Australia’s coal mining industry – when Labor claims to be the party of the working class.
- Labor adopting Greens policies – on negative gearing, Westconnex, climate change and refugees.
- Traditional Labor supporters noting and criticising this radical shift to the left.
- The likelihood of a deal between the Greens and Labor in the event of a hung Parliament, forcing Labor even further to the left.
THE GREENING OF LABOR
FROM WITHIN: HOW THE LABOR ENVIRONMENT ACTION NETWORK IS TAKING OVER THE ALP

The Labor Environment Action Network (LEAN) is an internal pressure group within Labor. Its logo is green, its members wear green t-shirts and its agenda is for the ALP to abandon its current policy positions and adopt Greens policies on a range of issues.

1. Labor infiltrated from the inside by Green activists

One of LEAN’s co-founders is Senator Jenny McAllister, a former national president of the ALP:

She sought preselection in order to “force change from the inside” of the ALP. At the time of joining the ALP she was employed as NSW campaigns manager for the Wilderness Society, Bob Brown’s pet lobby group.  

The co-convenor of LEAN is Felicity Wade, a former member of the Greens who joined Labor in 2013 in order to seek preselection in the seat of Newtown. 

Wade admitted that she only joined the ALP because they actually have a chance of governing. 

In her view, Labor’s future lies in becoming an increasingly environmentalist party:
“Gough Whitlam and Bob Hawke were the public face of the transformation of modern Labor. Sensible steps to ensure the protection of the environment was central to this project.”

Wade’s approach is just as overzealous as the Greens, reflecting her common links to Bob Brown through the Wilderness Society:

“Pollution-reduction targets are the main game in climate-change policy. The rest is detail ... the only measure of ambition is legislated targets. It is the only way to know if we are bringing down the concentration of carbon in the atmosphere to a level where life can continue to flourish.”

Her recommended strategy for Labor is to out-Green the Greens:

“While minimising the issue and dealing with it in government seems attractive, Labor will suffer serious brand damage with a weasel on climate change. The electorate wants to know what we stand for. Our integrity is one of the key assets we must demonstrate to win their trust. While last in government it was our detour into a tactical rather than a conviction-based approach on this issue that sowed the seeds of the problem it became.”

2. LEAN’s policy success so far

LEAN boasted that it had secured the support of 340 ALP branches to lobby for the party to adopt a renewable energy target of 50% by 2030 at the 2015 ALP conference. It succeeded in this goal.

Its success came despite objections from Tony Maher, head of the mining division of the CFMEU, who wrote to all Labor MPs and to trade unions warning that LEAN’s proposal would “increase the cost of electricity for manufacturing and ordinary households while being a poor tool to reduce Australia’s overall global warming emissions”.

LEAN is not modest in boasting about its policy influence:

3. LEAN’s future policy agenda - turn Labor into the Greens

On a range of issues, LEAN is lobbying to overturn existing ALP policy in favour of the party adopting the Greens’ policies. For example:

1. Opposed to new coal mining:

- ALP policy is to support new coal mines.

- LEAN and Greens policy is to oppose new coal mines:
2. Opposed to coal exports:

- ALP policy is to support Adani. The Queensland Labor government approved the mine.
- LEAN and Greens policy is to oppose Adani.

3. Opposed to the Adani coal mine:

- ALP policy is to support Adani. The Queensland Labor government approved the mine.
- LEAN and Greens policy is to oppose Adani.

4. Opposed to new power stations

- Greens policy is to oppose any new coal power stations and close down the existing ones.

5. Opposed to the Diesel Fuel Rebate

- Labor’s policy is to retain the rebate for the mining industry.
- LEAN and the Greens both oppose it as a “fossil fuel subsidy”.

The hashtag #endfossilfuelsubsidies refers to an environmentalist campaign that seeks to single out the mining industry for the withdrawal of tax concessions and other arrangements that apply equally to all industries.

The Greens have a specific policy entitled “Ending Fossil Fuel Subsidies to the Mining Industry” which proposes:

- Abolishing the diesel fuel rebate for the mining industry (but not for the agriculture industry, to which it also applies)
- Abolishing depreciation on exploration, which rewards mining companies for oil drilling, coal exploration and more; and
6. On the Labor leadership contest, LEAN wanted the candidates to turn Green:

7. LEAN celebrates the carbon tax.
LABOR CANDIDATES: FORMER GREENS AND WANNABE GREENS

Labor candidates who have run for the Greens

Tammy Solonec
Labor Candidate for Swan

Stood for the Greens at the 2013 election, and has never previously voted Labor.

Tammy Solonec

Tammy is a Nyikina woman from Derby in the Kimberley of Western Australia and mother of two children. She currently lives in the southern suburbs of Perth.

Tammy is currently a Director of the National Congress of Australia’s First Peoples, the Vice Chairperson of NAIDOC Perth and a member of the National NAIDOC Committee and the WA Aboriginal Lawyers Committee. Tammy was awarded Young Female Lawyer and Lawyer of the Year (with less than 5 years experience) for WA in 2012. She studied law at the University of WA, and completed her legal qualifications through the Aboriginal Legal Service of WA, where she worked for four years including as Managing Solicitor of the Law and Advocacy Unit.

Tammy Solonec joined because The Greens reflect her values:

“I have been a member since 2011. When I started to become involved in politics, The Greens were the only ones that fitted with my philosophies. I think The Greens are a great party. All the people I’ve met are dedicated, hardworking, hard thinking – because they think so deeply about everything.”
Labor candidates who want to be Greens.

**Sophie Ismail**
Labor Candidate for Melbourne

- One of the first media reports of Ismail’s candidacy described her as “Labor candidate for Melbourne admits I look like a Green”.

- Ms Ismail said of herself:

  “Adam Bandt looks like a Labor candidate and I look like a Greens candidate... All of my friends vote Green, but obviously that strategy’s not working... We’re still treating asylum seekers appallingly, we still don’t have marriage equality...”

- She has the same policy position as the Greens on border protection

**Josh Wilson**
Labor Candidate for Fremantle

- Endorses Greens policies on asylum seekers - opposes turnbacks, offshore processing and forced Fremantle Council to sign up to boycotts, divestment and sanctions against offshore detention contractors.

- Appeared prominently at a “Let them Stay” rally with the radical “Refugee Rights Action Network”.

**Anne Aly**
Labor Candidate for Cowan

- Stood for the Greens at the 2007 election.

**Terri Butler**
Labor Member for Griffith

- Opposes the Adani Coal mine that was supported by the State Labor Government. Congratulates the Greens for their environment policy (comments on Q&A, 30 May 2016):

  TERRI BUTLER: I don’t support the Adani mine either I’ve got to say. I mean fair play to our state...

  RICHARD DI NATALE: Your party does.

  TERRI BUTLER: No, fair play to our state government. They didn’t have much discretion. They were using laws that had been amended by the Newman Government. But I don’t support it and might I say this. It’s great that you have a good policy Richard. It’s absolutely fantastic.
On 24 May, candidates Janelle Saffin and Justine Elliott signed up to a campaign to ban donations from Fossil Fuel Companies.

This is clearly inconsistent with their party’s policy, given that Labor has received $3,264,475.00 in donations from such companies since 2007.

The organisation putting together the “Pollution Free Politics” campaign is 350.org.

Here they are protesting outside Labor offices:

Lydia Senior
Labor Candidate for Mallee

Opposed to coal mining. Wants to keep it in the ground.

Aoife Champion
Labor Candidate for Hume

Also subscribes to the anti-fossil fuel agenda of “350.org”.

Sharryn Howes
Labor Candidate for Leichhardt

Also opposed to the Adani Coal mine:
Anna Burke
Kelvin Thompson
Meliisa Parke
Retiring Labor MPs

- Also signed the anti-fossil fuel pledge.  

Katy Gallagher
Labor Senator for the ACT

- As Chief Minister of the ACT, entered into a Coalition Government with the Greens, which included giving the Greens five Cabinet portfolios.

  “The targets that we set in the election campaign were the targets that Greens had also set, so in that sense, being a green, progressive government is a badge that we would wear with some pride.”  

- Ms Gallagher said having sole Green MLA Shane Rattenbury as a minister in cabinet had also been “smoother than I thought it would be …I thought that it would create more problems than it has,” she said...

  “Mr Rattenbury said he did not believe his ministerial role had lessened his ability to represent the ACT Greens.”

Peter Hayes
Labor Candidate for North Sydney

- Has a Greens-like pathology against coal mining.

- Recently tweeted that “Aust defence of coal mining and export is in the same league as heroin poppy cultivation and exports elsewhere”.

Andrew Woodward
Labor Candidate for Warringah

- This Labor candidate opposes his own party’s policy on the Adani coal mine and endorses the Greens’ policy to oppose it:

- He still endorses a carbon tax, even though Bill Shorten has conceded Labor got it wrong:
He is an active member of the Australian Conservation Foundation, a radical left-wing organisation and breeding ground for Greens' candidates:

**Graham Perrett**

*Labor Member for Moreton*

Uses the green-coloured ALP logo of LEAN. Apart from the word “Labor” in small font in the bottom corner, this could be an advert for a Greens candidate:

**Mike Kelly**

*Labor Candidate for Eden-Monaro*

Endorses calls to phase out all coal-fired power by the end of 2017, or “before it kills us”:

**Lucy Stanton**

*Labor Candidate for Wide Bay*

Opposed to any new coal mines (including Adani and all the others in Queensland that will create jobs).
**Stephen Hegedus**  
Labor Candidate for Ryan  

- **Believes coal should be “kept in the ground”**

  - Stephen Hegedus  
    @HegedusRyan  
    Apr 12  
    KeepCfKTheGround - Statement on Adanis Carmichael Mine (Galilee Basin Coal Development) and “Pollution Fine”.  
    ibn4f3yjw4k2

- **Slams the Labor state government over its support for Adani:**

  - “A federal Labor candidate has blasted the Queensland government’s approval of Australia’s largest coal mine, calling on the rest of the state ALP to follow suit... Candidate for Ryan Stephen Hegedus said he had written to Ms Palaszczuk to say “there will be not much point having a job once global warming kicks in for real ...You seem to misunderstand the threat [of climate change] at the expense of short-term economic outcomes.”

**Eric Kerr**  
Labor Candidate for Indi  

- **Opposed to Adani**

  - Eric Kerr  
    @eric_kerr  
    23 Jul 2016  
    The inaccessible new Carmichael coal mine would look hands on our Great Barrier Reef. Let’s get it blocked. bt.ly/1na9lG6 #SaveTheReef

**Lisa Chesters**  
Labor Member for Bendigo  

- **Supports banks not providing finance to coal ventures:**

  - Lisa Chesters MP  
    @MCesters  
    5 Jun 2014  
    Leadership – the bank does not lend to companies for whom the core activity is thermal coal or coal seam gas

**Marg D’Arcy**  
Labor Candidate for Kooyong  

- **Wants the Government to “commit to moving away from coal”**

  - Marg D’Arcy  
    @DarcylKooyong  
    21 Dec 2015  
    Oppose moving coal from Longford to Wonthaggi to support coal

**Libby Coker**  
Labor Candidate for Corangamite  

- **Disparages Coalition support for coal and approval of Adani:**

  - Libby Coker  
    @LibbyCoker  
    19 Oct 2015  
    Coal is still “too touch” under Malcolm. Would support the ban.  
    endcoal

**Joanne Ryan**  
Labor Member for Lalor  

- **Disparages Coalition Minister for Resources for supporting the coal industry:**

  - Joanne Ryan MP  
    @JoanneRyanLalor  
    10 Oct 2015  
    Not to confirm D has changed. Not getting up to praise coal.  
    #resourcesproducts
Carl Katter
Labor Candidate for Higgins

- Supports protest movements opposed to coal:

David Feeney
Labor Member for Batman

- Appears to take delight in a large coal mining company filing for bankruptcy:

Michael Barling
Labor Candidate for Wannon

- Calls the Coalition “luddites” for supporting the coal industry:
THE GREENING OF LABOR: HOW LABOR IS ADOPTING GREENS POLICIES

The Greens know Labor will follow them on important policies – and are already boasting about it.

“We lead and they follow, say Greens

The Australian, 23 May 2016

“Greens leader Richard Di Natale has taken credit for signature Labor policies on negative gearing and combating multinational tax evasion.”

“Christine Milne sparked a Senate inquiry into multinational tax avoidance.”

“The Greens have been pushing for several years to end negative gearing on new property purchases and former leader Senator Di Natale is pushing for deep cuts to Australia’s emissions as part of a global effort on climate change and is likely to make a ban on new coalmines a condition of any alliance with Labor. The Greens want to cut emission by 60-80 per cent by 2030, based on 2000 levels, compared with the government’s 26-28 per cent target and Labor’s 45 per cent.”
1. **50% Renewable Energy Target by 2030**

- The Greens’ policy is now for 90% renewables by 2030. The Greens are dragging Labor leftwards to increase its target, regardless of its impact on household budgets and jobs.

- Labor adopted the 50% target as policy under pressure from the Labor Environment Action Network.

- LEAN boasted that it had secured the support of 340 ALP branches to lobby for the party to adopt the target of 50% by 2030 at the 2015 ALP conference. It succeeded in this goal.

- Its success came despite objections from Tony Maher, head of the mining division of the CFMEU, who wrote to all Labor MPs and to trade unions warning that LEAN’s proposal would “increase the cost of electricity for manufacturing and ordinary households while being a poor tool to reduce Australia’s overall global warming emissions.”

2. **Labor now opposes Westconnex despite previously supporting it**

- Labor is desperate to retain the inner-western suburbs seat of Grayndler, which is threatened by the Greens.

- The Greens are strongly opposed to WestConnex.

- In order to try to win over wealthy Green-leaning voters in Grayndler, Labor is prepared to impose Green Gridlock on millions of less wealthy commuters from the outer western suburbs.

- On 20 May, Anthony Albanese promised “If I am the transport minister there will be not one dollar from the federal Labor government for this WestConnex project.”

- Yet in 2013 when Albanese was Infrastructure Minister he offered $25 million for planning of the project and up to $1.8 billion of Commonwealth funds.

- Albanese’s position is despite several Labor members and candidates in outer Western suburbs seats who support it:

  - **Ed Husic (Chifley):**
    “Freeing up the movement of people in Sydney’s west must remain a massive priority for all levels of government.”

  - **Michelle Rowland (Greenway):**
    “This project will reduce travel times and operating costs for road users particularly during peak periods.”

  - **Angelo Tsirekas (candidate for Reid):**
    “We have maintained our support for the WestConnex project, as it will remove regional traffic from our local streets.”

- **Bill Shorten** also once supported WestConnex. In May 2014: “Labor has long campaigned for WestConnex to join up the road to the city.”

- Yet now Shorten is trying to walk both sides of the street. On 30 May 2016:
  “We do support WestConnex. We are determined to act on the congestion which confronts motorists and workers coming from the western suburbs to Sydney every day. But we have also said, both Anthony and I, that the WestConnex project isn’t satisfactory in that it doesn’t go to the ports and the city. We’ve also said communities which are affected by it should be diligently consulted. The truth of the matter is that the funding for this project has already been paid. The truth of the matter is that the government has paid the money and they are trying to work out where the project goes.”
3. Phasing out coal-powered electricity

The Greens have long supported the shut down of coal-fired electricity.

Labor has now adopted the Greens’ policy:

“Labor’s plan will guide the orderly transition of generation from old coal fired power stations.”

4. Negative Gearing

Greens policy advocates that “Taxation reforms that improve housing affordability by no longer rewarding speculation and reducing asset inequality”.

Labor has now adopted a policy to abolish negative gearing, despite having supported it since the 1980s.

5. Increasing the refugee intake

Greens policy is to increase the annual refugee intake to 50,000, at a cost of $7 billion.

Labor is playing catch up with the Greens. It now proposes to double the intake to 27,000.

6. Banks Royal Commission

Richard Di Natale says the banks royal commission was a Greens idea that Labor has now adopted:

“Today we’re announcing a policy on banking reforms and at the heart of the policy is the proposal for a Royal Commission to look at not just the financial scandals that have occurred within the banking and finances sector, but also the problem of the vertical integration model within the banking sector. So we’re pleased that the Labor Party has now supported our position on the Royal Commission. We put that proposal forward quite some time ago. The Labor Party voted against it at the time, but they’ve now changed their position and they’re backing the Greens’

7. Amending “water trigger” legislation to discourage new gas projects

On 27 May, ALP environment spokesman Mark Butler committed to extending water trigger legislation to include all forms of unconventional gas.

This was reported as “welcome news to Queensland senator Larissa Waters who says the commitment mirrors the Greens’ policy.”

Butler denied his announcement to extend the water trigger legislation was politically motivated, despite the ALP knocking back the same policy by the Greens in 2013. In 2013 the Greens had moved an amendment to the same effect, but Labor voted against it.

“I very much welcome the Labor party has done a complete 180 on this issue but it should never have been protection only for people on the east coast where most of the coal seam gas is. It (water trigger legislation) should’ve always included shale and tight gas so that people in the west and the north and south have an equivalent level of protection,” said Senator Waters.
8. Following the Greens to water down Labor’s border protection policy

“Labor for Refugees” is a highly influential lobby group within the ALP. It claims that 90% of its proposed amendments to soften Labor’s border protection policies were ultimately adopted at the 2015 national conference. 37

They support a deal with the Greens to change Labor’s asylum seeker policy. On 14 May Labor for Refugees endorsed the Greens’ asylum seeker policy and endorsed a future deal with the Greens to further soften Labor’s policy:
LABOR CRITICISM OF THE GREENING OF LABOR

Keith DeLacy  
(former Queensland Treasurer)

The present Labor Government is closely aligned with those two bastions of anti-growth and anti-profit economics, the Greens and the unions. During negotiations on the mining tax, Bob Brown said that the demise of the coal industry “has to be the outcome”. ACTU President Ged Kearney dismissed mining and its worth as “merely digging things out of the ground”. The Carbon Tax is another doozy too – a grand, expensive gesture aimed at making people feel good, but in reality a tax on economic advantage and of no material use in reducing global CO2 emissions.

Morris Iemma  
(former NSW Premier)

“We embraced economic growth, and the benefits of economic growth, in the Hawke-Keating era, but we’re fighting this battle on the Greens’ turf, not our turf. Bob Brown wants to replace the Labor Party as a major party...

“We ought to be fighting the Greens on the Left with Labor environment policies and Labor economic policies, not on Greens’ terms. We’ve adopted a policy (carbon tax) which is part of the Greens’ agenda. And the Greens’ agenda is anti-growth and anti-investment. Lower growth and lower investment lead to lower incomes and fewer jobs...

“We should always be standing shoulder to shoulder with steelworkers and miners and factory workers before we stand shoulder with the likes of Bob Brown and Christine Milne. One of the reasons previously rusted-on Labor voters are parking themselves somewhere else is that we’ve confused our identity.”

Mark Latham  
(former ALP leader)

“If he (Shorten) believes shifting to the Left is a vote loser, why has he become the most dogmatically Left-wing leader since Arthur Calwell? On each policy front – economic, social and cultural – he has moved the party closer to the Greens, antagonising the sensible, aspirational centre of Australian politics.”
THE GREENING OF LABOR: GREENS-LABOR DEAL
The Greens continue to talk up the prospects of Labor-Green government. Because Labor needs 21 seats to win, the possibility of a Labor-Green deal is a live one.

Bill Shorten has admitted “it’s a steep climb to win north of 20 seats in this election”. 42

And Chris Bowen knows that “the party most likely to be paired with Labor in potential coalition governments is the Greens”. 43

Australia has been down this road before.

Before the 2010 election, Labor promised they wouldn’t do a deal with the Greens, saying it was “absolutely ridiculous” and a “Liberal Party fear campaign”. 44

We all lived through the consequences of the deal they did after the election – with the full support of Bill Shorten:

“I think Australians expect all 150 of us in the House of Reps to get our act together and for someone to form a government”. 45

Australians have been tricked once, and paid the price.

Australians need to know what a new Labor-Green government would mean and which policies would change.

Di Natale has revealed some of what he would seek to extract – an even bigger carbon tax than Labor, and opening Australia’s borders. 46

Bill Shorten should come clean with the Australian people on how much more Green he will turn Labor if there is a hung parliament.

Have no doubt, Labor will do a deal with the Greens. They have done it before and Bill Shorten will do it again.

“I think Australians expect all 150 of us in the House of Reps to get our act together and for someone to form a government”. 45

- Bill Shorten
THE GREENING OF LABOR:
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