



Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand 2019 Australian Election Message Summary

Australians are stewards of vast areas of the planet's land, sea and sky. As a community, we have a responsibility to protect and maintain these environments as a basis for a vibrant economy, healthy society and a planet that sustains life in all its forms.

Recent studies have shown that:

- 63% of Australians agree that they are an environmentalist at heart.
- 68% agree that a healthy environment and a prosperous economy go hand in hand.
- Three-quarters of small and medium businesses are concerned about the environment and sustainability.

Environmental law, policy and management are core issues of concern to Australians that cannot be ignored by political parties and politicians.

Australia's future depends on strong, effective and consistent environmental leadership.

The Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand seeks a strong commitment from all political parties and politicians to give priority to leading the renewal of environmental laws, policies and management practices that bring about positive national and global environmental outcomes.

Australia faces many environmental challenges as it adjusts to a world challenged by continuing population growth and changing climatic conditions. The most urgent are:

- **Climate change** – Australia must create stable, credible laws, policies and institutions that deliver effective action to substantially reduce domestic emissions.
- **Threatened species and communities** – Australia's unique species are under pressure and national efforts are required to reverse the loss of biodiversity.
- **Water management** – Implementation of a long term national strategy is required to ensure that Australia's water resources are sustainably managed.
- **Environmental law and policy** – Australia's environmental regulatory regime needs an overhaul, because the existing system does not adequately protect the environment.

We believe that competent and ethical environmental practitioners are part of the solution, and we call for commitments to mandate the use of suitably qualified and experienced practitioners in environmental approvals, monitoring, reporting and management.

Read the full statement [here](#)

About the EIANZ



Founded in 1987, the EIANZ is the peak professional association for environmental practitioners in Australia and New Zealand. The Institute advocates environmental knowledge and awareness, advancing ethical and competent environmental practice. Our 2,500 members and certified practitioners come from all areas of environmental practice, including government, academia, consulting and industry. We require that our members and certified practitioners adhere to a code of ethics and professional conduct.