

TOPICS FOR RUSSELL NORTHE

1. HRL Proposal. Entrenches coal extraction in the Valley for another 30 + years. It could open the way for similar plants throughout the world as they call it a “Demonstration” plant. This is contrary to the actions that need to be taken given all of the scientific knowledge on global warming that we know. We need to take CO₂ out of the atmosphere today and not let it build to 450 ppm, which most scientists say will produce at least 2 °C rise in global temperatures with increasing extreme weather events, sea level rise, ocean chemistry changes leading to mass changes in the ocean food web and generally catastrophic disruption to humans living standards as well as to bio-systems all over the world.
2. TruEnergy’s gas-fired power station would get our approval as a temporary measure before renewable energy can replace fossil fuels completely.
3. Fully support renewable energy generation. Ted B. said before the election that he would retain the 20% renewable target for 2020 and for 5 % solar by building 5 solar power stations in northern Victoria. We expect him to honour these arrangements.
4. Eureka’s Future
5. Pursue Energy Efficiency: VEETS – Victorian Energy Efficiency Targets. Issue Victorian Energy Efficiency certificates to companies and businesses as well as homes for water and space heating, ceiling insulation, shower roses, decommissioning old refrigerators and freezers.
6. The targets for this scheme were very easily achieved over the last 3 years. An ambitious target of maybe 10 times the original should be considered.
7. One stop shop for Information on how to save energy, water and reduced waste is the Resourcesmart website from *Sustainability Victoria*, in reference to what we discussed some months ago – where to get information. However it is only general in nature and can’t be applied to particular geographical areas. A part of the website is the www.saveenergy.vic.gov.au, which lists energy saving incentives.
8. Transport – more freight onto rail – Need the transport hub idea for Mowell to push through. This will take pressure off the roads which seem to be breaking down – even on the Princes Hwy.
9. Need at least one train to start at Pakenham or Melbourne and arrive in Traralgon by 8 am. There are more and more people who may live in say Lakeside and who work in Traralgon and commute each day. Also many who live in the Valley and who may work or study in Sale. An early train that continues past Traralgon and gets to Sale before 8:30 am could also be considered.
10. We don’t support Alpine Grazing. If the trial that is set up is based on good science, then we might be persuaded, but evidence so far does not support it.