

# CENTRAL COAST GREENS

Social Equality & Economic Justice | Ecological Sustainability | Grassroots Democracy | Peace, Nonviolence & Disarmament

CENTRAL COAST GREENS

MEDIA RELEASE 11 March 2019

[secretary@centralcoast.nsw.greens.org.au](mailto:secretary@centralcoast.nsw.greens.org.au)

CONTACT: Stephen Pearson, Greens NSW candidate for The Entrance | 0423 231 305

## **Rescue the Environment: Greens will take action and oppose the major parties' sell-out**

**“Labor can’t be trusted on the environment” says Greens candidate for The Entrance, Stephen Pearson.**

The Greens candidate for The Entrance, Stephen Pearson, has criticised Labor for supporting policies that will put the environment at risk on the coast. Stephen expressed dismay that David Mehan, his Labor opponent in The Entrance, has stated that he is against marine parks on the Central Coast. He added ‘Labor have been silent on the Shooters, Fishers and Farmers’ campaign to kill off marine sanctuaries.’

He also highlighted the lack of opposition to PEP 11 from Labor. PEP 11 is the licence to explore for fossil fuels off the Central Coast and involves seismic testing in the sea. Stephen Pearson stated ‘Where seismic testing has been allowed elsewhere local fish populations have been significantly hit with upwards of an 80% reduction in catch for commercial and recreational fishers.’

‘The Greens, with other community groups, have been at the forefront of the fight to stop PEP 11. If it went ahead there are major risks to marine life, and the gas recovered will add to climate-damaging emissions.’

Stephen added. ‘Many people on the Central Coast are over the cheap slogans of ‘standing up for’ and ‘fighting for’. They know that Liberal and Labor haven’t delivered on protecting our environment including pollution and water quality. To fail to stand up for marine parks and not campaign against PEP 11 is a clear statement that Labor can’t be trusted on environmental issues.’

‘Labor are well known for not playing it straight on climate change. It is all well and good to oppose Wallarah 2 with its threat to our drinking water supply, but hypocritical to not also oppose Adani in Queensland with its massive impact on CO2 levels.’

‘People know that the Liberals haven’t got a policy on climate change but we expected better of Labor on the Central Coast.’

‘If clean beaches, air and water are important, then only by voting for the Greens can voters ensure action is taken to protect our Central Coast environment.’

# CENTRAL COAST GREENS

Social Equality & Economic Justice | Ecological Sustainability | Grassroots Democracy | Peace, Nonviolence & Disarmament

The Greens NSW [comprehensive plan](#) to **rescue our environment** from the threats of climate change and over-exploitation [can be read here](#).

## BACKGROUND

*The NSW Greens have a plan to strengthen environmental protections and invest in recovery plans for threatened habitats. We will:*

---

▲ **Protect marine environments.** Create a marine park in Sydney and a strong network of marine protected areas along the NSW coast. Get rid of shark nets and stop seismic testing for offshore gas. [More »](#)

---

▲ **Preserve pristine wilderness areas.** Create a Great Koala National Park in northern NSW and stop plans to flood the Blue Mountains World Heritage-listed wilderness. [More »](#)

---

▲ **Restore rivers to health.** Call a Royal Commission into management of the Murray Darling River system, while enacting plans to restore river catchments throughout NSW and ensuring strict management of water flows. [More »](#)

---

▲ **Solve the waste crisis.** Overhaul our waste management system and develop initiatives to encourage a circular economy that reuses and recycles materials instead of sending them to landfill. [More »](#)

---

▲ **Protect native forests.** Stop logging of native forests by scrapping Regional Forest Agreements, and reinstate laws to protect native habitats from private land clearing. [More »](#)

---

▲ **Restore national parks.** Return funding and increase staff for national parks throughout NSW, which have been subject to severe cutbacks. [More »](#)

---