

Policy Positions of the Newly-Elected Mark McGowan Western Australia Labor Government

POLICY AREA

INDICATION FOR RESOURCE EMPLOYERS

PUBLIC POSITIONS

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|  Fly-in, Fly-out regulation |  | While Labor's 2015 state policy platform takes a harder stance against FIFO, newly-elected Premier Mark McGowan has confirmed to AMMA that his government would not regulate FIFO or DIDO in the state, breaking away from the intentions of other state Labor Governments. |
|  Taxation and Royalties |  | Mr McGowan has described the Nationals' proposed increase in the iron ore tax as 'job destroying' and has indicated no changes to taxation and royalty arrangements will be made by his government. |
|  Vocational education & training |  | Labor appears to have an extensive funding plan for VET training and skills in the state, stating it will 'use the TAFE system as a vehicle for transforming Western Australia's industrial capacity and employment opportunities'. |
|  Innovation and skills |  | Labor's position is to boost innovation culture and research within the state by assisting private investments in R&D and creating incentives for industry to build innovative industries and human capital. |
|  Renewable Energy Target |  | Labor's most recent state conference endorsed and adopted a 50% RET by 2030 as per the party's federal policy. Mr McGowan since distanced himself from this national target during the state election campaign, leaving the new government's position unclear. |
|  Employment contractor arrangements |  | Mr McGowan did not respond to AMMA's direct questions on whether his government intends to scrutinise or potentially regulate against genuine contractor arrangements, such as partnerships in sectors like the maritime industry. |
|  Labour hire and contracting employment |  | WA Labor's policy platform notes various concerns about casual employment and says it will extend its intentions to regulate casual minimum and maximum working hours to labour hire and contracting firms. |
|  Unconventional gas and fracking |  | WA Labor has said it supports a 'scientific approach' to unconventional gas exploration', but will put a moratorium on all fracking until a public inquiry, examining an extraordinarily wide range of factors, is complete. |
|  Uranium mining |  | WA Labor's official policy platform is vehemently opposed to the mining and exporting of uranium. In correspondence to AMMA, however, Mr McGowan confirmed his government would allow uranium projects already approved to mine and export their product. |
|  Local content regulation |  | WA Labor has previously said if it wins government it would legislate to ensure higher levels of engineering, fabrication and other skilled work is performed locally for Western Australia's major resource projects. Depending on if and/or how this is enacted, this may create procurement challenges or additional costs for major resource projects. |