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**MEDIA RELEASE**

28 February 2017

**DOES LABOR'S ENERGY POLICY INCLUDE A PRICE ON CARBON?**

Labor's energy policy is in tatters with frontbenchers now contradicting each other on whether they would put a price on carbon.

First Labor's climate change and energy spokesman Mark Butler said there would be no price on carbon:

**NEIL MITCHELL:** I understand that. I still haven't heard an unequivocal guarantee from you that there'll be no price rises.

**MARK BUTLER:** I have said that, I've said that the emissions trading scheme operates **without a carbon price**... That's about as definitive as anyone could be... I've described very clearly what our policy is, an ETS **without a carbon price**.

*Mark Butler, Interview, 3AW with Neil Mitchell, 28 April 2016*

But despite being Labor's policy for at least 10 months the memo clearly didn't reach Deputy Leader Tanya Plibersek:

**TONY JONES:** ... your 50% renewable target, is that a guaranteed target or has it now turned into an aspiration based on wishful thinking?

**TANYA PLIBERSEK:** No, no, it's not about wishful thinking. **This is about putting a price on carbon...**

*Tanya Plibersek, ABC Q&A, 20 February 2017*

Confusion surrounding Labor's energy policy is just plain farcical.

First Labor was unable to explain whether its 50 per cent Renewable Energy Target (RET) was an aspiration, a goal, an ambition, an objective, a framework or a hard target.

Then Labor wouldn't explain whether its RET would be legislated or not.

And now we find out that Labor doesn't know whether its policy includes a price on carbon or not.

Australians can ill afford another Labor experiment like the one in South Australia that sacrifices energy security, energy affordability, jobs and investment.