



PARLIAMENTARY BUDGET OFFICE

NSW Parliament • Parliament House, Macquarie Street Sydney 2000

Election Costing Request Form

Details of request	
Party:	Australian Labor Party (NSW Branch)
Name of Policy:	Biodiversity offsets policy
Date of request:	17 March 2015

Description of policy	
Summary of policy (please attach copies of relevant policy documents):	Design an improved biodiversity offsets policy.
What is the purpose or intention of the policy?	Review and replace the Liberal Government's watered down biodiversity offsetting rules that allow unjustifiable loss of habitat and wildlife.
Has the policy been publicly released yet?	

Your estimated costing of the policy ¹						
	2014/15 \$'000	2015/16 \$'000	2016/17 \$'000	2017/18 \$'000	4 Yr Total \$'000	Other years ² \$'000
Impact on General Government Sector (GGS) net operating result ³	-	-	-	-	-	-
Impact on GGS capital expenditure ⁴	-	-	-	-	-	-
If different from above, impact on total State Sector net financial liabilities ⁵	-	-	-	-	-	-

¹ Amounts should be expressed in nominal dollars. GGS - General Government Sector.

² Please provide information on other years if spending occurs outside the forward estimate years and will be required to cost the policy.

³ Negative for a saving that reduces expenditure

⁴ Negative for a reduction in capital expenditure.

⁵ Only required if proposal is outside GGS. Negative for a reduction in net financial liabilities.

Key assumptions made in the policy	
Does the policy relate to a previous announcement? If yes, which announcement?	No.
What assumptions have been made in deriving the financial impacts in your estimated costing? <i>(See checklist)</i>	<p>Labor is committing to review and replace the Liberal Government's watered down biodiversity offsetting rules that allow unjustifiable loss of habitat and wildlife.</p> <p>Resources within the Office of Environment and Heritage will be allocated to reviewing and updating the rules.</p> <p>The principles to inform the new policy should be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'like for like' offsetting, within a reasonable geographic proximity; • no 'net loss' biodiversity outcomes and ideally 'net positive' outcomes; and • recognition that some high conservation value lands must be off limits to offsetting. <p>Any final policy design will require subsequent consideration and decision by government. Any changes will be designed to be delivered in a budget neutral manner.</p>
Is there a range for the costing or any sensitivity analysis that you have undertaken?	No.
Are there associated savings, offsets or expenses? If yes, please provide details.	See <u>Assumptions</u> .

Administration of policy	
Intended date of implementation:	1 July 2015.
Intended duration of policy:	Ongoing.
Who will administer the policy (e.g. Government entity, non-government organisation, etc.)?	Office of Environment and Heritage.
Are there any specific administrative arrangements for the policy that need to be taken into account?	No.
Are there transitional arrangements associated with policy implementation?	..

If the policy is mainly an expenditure⁶ commitment	
Demand driven or a capped amount:	Capped.
Eligibility criteria or thresholds:	N/a.

⁶ Expenditure is operating expenses, e.g. salaries, interest cost and grants. Expenditures are fully included in the impact on operating balance.