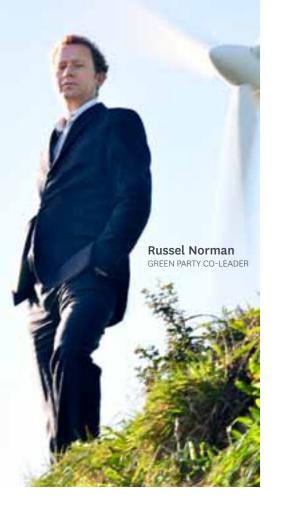
**Green***times* 

News from the Green team in Parliament WINTER 2012



"If we can secure just a fraction of the global clean energy market, we can build a multi-billion dollar export industry here at home that will support good green jobs and build a smart green economy."

> Russel Norman GREEN PARTY CO-LEADER

# Smart green economy

The Green Party has a clear economic plan that creates decent jobs, adds resilience to our economy, and protects our natural environment. Here are three good reasons to transition to a green economy now....

A green economy creates

Green growth is worth an estimated

\$6 trillion per year world-wide. Just

one part of that, the global market

is forecast to reach an annual value

power companies to become large-

scale exporters of renewable energy

A green economy protects

In the case of energy, more than half

of our electricity already comes from

renewable sources but we can do more.

our environment

technology so we can seize this market.

for renewable energy technology,

of \$590-\$800 billion by 2015. We

have a plan to supercharge our

local jobs

greens.org.nz/greenjobs

### A green economy is good for business

We will support business to take advantage of rapid growth in the clean technology sector through tax incentives, a new start-up fund and a big boost to R&D funding.

In addition, Government can lead the way through green procurement policies that favour buying New Zealand made, environmentally sustainable goods and services.

"Increasing our renewable energy production, so it becomes 100% clean and green, is good for the environment and the economy."

Russel Norman GREEN PARTY CO-LEADER



## Home insulation a billion dollar **SUCCESS**

"All the boxes are ticked with impressive economic, health, social and environmental benefits delivered."

> Metiria Turei GREEN PARTY CO-LEADER

greens.org.nz/heatsmart

The Green Party is in Parliament because we want to lead good green change. So we are proud to say that our home insulation scheme, rolled out as part of the Green Party memorandum of understanding with the National Government, is a success story.

These healthy homes have prevented 18 deaths and saved \$1.68 billion. according to recent reports from the Ministry of Economic Development. The programme has saved lives amongst those 65 years and older who had previously been hospitalised with respiratory illness.

This success story is smart green economics at work.



## Standing with families to protect public education

### **Families**

All families deserve a fair go, but the evidence shows that while families on high incomes have been doing okay under National, many of our families are worse off. In fact, our research shows that a typical family could be up to \$11,000 worse off every year.

The Government has just introduced new costs on families including higher charges for medicines and early childhood education which will make that situation even worse. Those who can least afford it will be hit the hardest.



But we are fighting back. Strong public pressure stopped the Government from increasing class sizes in our schools. New Zealanders know that bigger classes are worse for our children's learning, and together we are standing up for high quality public education.

The Green Party believes we should be increasing our investment in all levels of education so every Kiwi kid gets a world class education.

The Green Party has a vision for a compassionate economy in which all our families and children are looked after.

## Famil

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**Top 10**<sup>6</sup> Two earners, one part

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For more about our policies and to find out where we got our facts and figures, visit greens.org.nz/greentimes

"The outcry over class sizes shows you can make a difference and the Government will back down over unpopular policy."

Metiria Turei GREEN PARTY CO-LEADER

We think every Kiwi kid deserves a decent start in life. When we make sure our children get the essentials so that they can fulfil their potential we will all benefit from a richer, stronger Aotearoa.

greens.org.nz/budget

v scenario	Income today	Real change since '08
<b>lo parent</b> f days a week, dying nursing.	\$32,500	-\$5740
part-time, one at loan, 3 kids.	\$71,500	-\$11,060
% <b>family</b> t-time, 3 kids.	\$250,000	+\$12,250
ne top 1%	\$306,000	+\$19,280

**Green***times* 

News from the Green team in Parliament



## **Protecting our rivers and lakes**

New Zealanders love our rivers and lakes and want to protect them. The Green Party is working in Parliament and the community to protect these beautiful and unique places and we have had some success.

Meridian Energy has withdrawn its plans to dam the Mokihinui River following pressure from a range of groups, including the Green Party. Meridian's proposal would have destroyed an irreplaceable river gorge habitat for kiwi, blue duck, kaka, falcons, giant land snails, native bats, and the long-finned eels.

### greens.org.nz/water

"By stopping the dam we are protecting our treasured native species. It is fantastic that this beautiful wild river has been saved."

Russel Norman GREEN PARTY CO-LEADER

Last election, the Green Party promised to set a national environmental standard for freshwater, and now the Government's own taskforce, the Land and Water Forum, has also recommended that the Government set such a standard.

More than half of our monitored rivers are unsafe for swimming and one-third of our lakes are unhealthy. The Green Party is committed to cleaning them up so that one day our children and grandchildren can swim in them.

*"If we want clean rivers and lakes* we need strong national standards for freshwater."

Russel Norman GREEN PARTY CO-LEADER



Metiria Turei and Russel Norman GREEN PARTY CO-LEADER



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vimeo.com/greensnz

greens.org.nz/rssfeeds

greens.org.nz/audio blog.greens.org.nz

### Welcome to Greentimes 2012.

It's great to be here in Parliament after our best ever election result, and with a fantastic new team of 14 MPs.

This means we have an even stronger voice to speak up for the things that really matter - strong communities, a beautiful environment and a smart, green economy that works for everyone.

We are leading good green change by working alongside the Government to make our homes warm, dry and healthy. The home insulation programme is part of our memorandum of understanding

with the National Government and not only is it creating jobs, it is saving lives and money too.

We are changing the agenda by speaking up against bad Government decisions.

We helped stop the Government's planned increase in class sizes.

Our work has led to an Auditor-General investigation into the Government's dubious SkyCity casino deal.

We have helped trigger a clean-up of ACC's leadership by demanding integrity in the public service and by keeping pressure on the Government to do better.

**Green** times **WINTER 2012** 

## Standing up for everyday New Zealanders greens.org.nz







We are using our strong voice to speak up for public ownership of assets, to oppose moves to undermine our social safety net and to protect our environment from harmful fracking.

We look forward to continuing to push for the good green change that's needed in Aotearoa.

**Russel Norman and Metiria Turei** GREEN PARTY CO-LEADERS