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Climate groups and unions criticise opposition's proposed \$100bn cuts

A group of energy groups and unions have criticised the Coalition's <u>proposal to make \$100bn in</u> <u>cuts</u>, accusing them of gutting social services "all to fund their expensive nuclear fantasy".

The groups – including the ACTU, AQU, Smart Energy Council, Climate Council, Greenpeace, Australian Conservation Foundation and the ETU – said in a statement:

The radical proposal would slash everything from housing and public transport to renewable energy and manufacturing jobs in an attempt to find the \$100bn they'd need to bankroll their unpopular nuclear scheme – a scheme that would drive up energy bills in the short, medium, and long-term.

By attacking both bedrock social programs and the renewable energy already providing 40% of Australia's electricity, the Coalition would undercut Australia's economic prosperity, undermine investor certainty and make life harder for Australians already doing it tough.

The groups compared opposition leader **Peter Dutton**'s attacks on the Future Made in Australia plan as a "rehash" of **Donald Trump**'s arguments against the US Inflation Reduction Act:

Contrary to their 'sky-is-falling' rhetoric, however, US inflation has decreased substantially since the US passed its signature clean industry policy. Meanwhile, the policy has crowded in private investment equivalent to six times the support it provides, driven the creation of 210 new clean projects, created 400,000 new jobs and added \$155bn to the US GDP annually.

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