

### Carbon quotas – how they would work

The fairest way to share emissions rights is equally. So we support the idea of an economy-wide system of carbon quotas, with everyone guaranteed the same basic entitlement, regardless of wealth. Those who use less than this could sell some of their quota to those who use more, rewarding their carbon thrift.

About half the available carbon units could be distributed, free of charge, to all adults in the country. The rest of the carbon units could be sold by the government to companies and other organisations. Whenever you bought fossil fuels or electricity your carbon account card would be debited.

You would be able to sell excess carbon units – or buy extra units if you need to.

## OWNING AND CONTROLLING OUR ENERGY SYSTEM

Our vision for the energy system is a diverse mix of public and private participants, including community, cooperative and municipal generation, supply and distribution. We will end the dominance of the Big Six energy companies. We will stabilise the ‘policy landscape’ for renewable energy to provide certainty for investment decisions, including long-term targets and stable feed-in tariffs.

We will:

- Maximise opportunities for *community or municipally owned*, or cooperative not-for-profit organisations to generate and supply electricity and heat at the retail level.
- Set a target for at least 42 gigawatts (GW) of community power by 2020.
- Require grid operators to give *priority access* to community energy projects at an affordable cost.
- *Split up the large vertically integrated companies* so that they can’t both produce energy and supply it to consumers.
- Secure public control over the strategic direction and policies of the *National Grid*.
- Support long-term *stable fixed-price feed-in tariffs* for renewable energy generators.
- Ensure that consumer *energy tariffs are progressive*, so small consumers pay less per unit than larger ones, that special needs are recognised, that people are not cut off when they can’t afford to pay, and that people are not forced to have pre-payment meters.
- Ensure that there is a *single scheme of regulation* for the entire industry, whose objectives include achieving climate change targets as well as protecting consumer interests.

### Why we say no to fracking

Fracking is a process where water, sand and chemicals are injected at high pressure into shale rocks under the ground to release shale gas or oil.

Three years ago we called for a moratorium on fracking-related activity while the environmental and economic impacts of drilling for shale gas were evaluated. On that basis, we are now emphatic and unambiguous in proposing an outright ban on fracking and related extreme energy technologies (coal-bed methane and underground coal gasification, as well as hydraulic fracturing).

*Fracking is incompatible with the UK’s climate change obligations.* There is already around five times more fossil fuel globally than we can safely burn if we are to avoid dangerous climate change. Encouraging a whole new fossil fuel industry is deeply irresponsible and undermines international efforts to secure a global climate agreement.

*Fracking will put communities and our environment at risk.* There are serious and legitimate concerns about the potential for fracking to cause water contamination, air pollution and harm to wildlife and public health. Fracking sites would entail mass lorry movements, blighting our countryside and villages.