

NSW Greens ‘toxic, Marxist’

The NSW Greens have been labelled as ‘toxic, Marxist’ by one of its controversial veterans, Jeremy Buckingham, as he quit the “rotten and corrupt” party in sensational fashion last week.

It was “dominated by an extreme-Left faction and has lost its focus on the environment, (and) has abandoned the important principles of justice and democracy,” he accused.

He plans to recontest his seat in the Legislative Council as a “real green independent”, threatening to promote other challengers against Greens for key seats in next year’s State elections.

"I'm ripping up my membership after 16 years of the toxic NSW Greens party," said Mr Buckingham (pictured right).



Mr Buckingham had been at the centre of a civil war within the NSW Greens organisation, which [earlier this month voted that he "vacate" his third spot on the party's NSW upper house ticket](#) after he was accused of sexually harassing a Greens employee.

‘QUASI-COMMUNIST’ AGENDA

The Greens MLC claimed to have legal advice that his party could not force him off the ticket, but he believed his re-election prospects were better as an Independent than from the party's likely-unwinnable third spot.

This echoes a battle on the far-Right of politics, within the local Liberal party for pre-selection in the seat of Federal MP Craig Kelly.

He labelled as “quasi-communist” his factional enemies in the party's hard-Left wing, claiming that they were consumed by "divisive identity politics ... and an anti-capitalism agenda". "It is madness ... to say that the first thing you're going to do to act on climate change is tear down the entire socio-economic system," Mr Buckingham said.

"I will roll out policies that will challenge the NSW Greens’ Marxist agenda and represent a more genuine green platform aimed at real results, rather than posturing."

His resignation leaves the party grappling with the dilemma of how to replace him on the ticket. In a move which divided the party room, Greens MP for Newtown, Jenny Leong, used parliamentary privilege last month to accuse Mr Buckingham of "sexual violence" in 2011. Damage from scandals is mounting within the fringe-Left party, with two candidates already under fire — one for rap lyrics about date rape and the other who quit for bragging about shoplifting and taking drugs.

<https://www.news.com.au/national/victoria/politics/greens-candidate-resigns-apologises-after-2015-facebook-posts-revealed/news-story/d8e982749bcb6735beb295258ce08974>

<https://www.smh.com.au/politics/nsw/ripping-up-my-membership-jeremy-buckingham-quits-toxic-greens-to-run-as-an-independent-20181220-p50nec.html>