



Australian Government

Australia's Submission to the COP 30 Presidency Roadmap on the Transition Away from Fossil Fuels

April 2026

Australia welcomes the opportunity to provide input to the COP30 Presidency Roadmap for Transitioning Away from Fossil Fuels in a Just, Orderly and Equitable Manner. This submission is provided in Australia's national capacity.

The global response to climate change is driving an irreversible transformation of energy systems and the global economy. Regardless of geopolitical challenges and volatility, the economic fundamentals will continue to accelerate the transition to net zero.

Noting the existing global commitments agreed in the COP28 Global Stocktake, the Roadmap could enhance collective understanding of the opportunities and barriers to the transition away from fossil fuels, bring to light the diversity of national circumstances, reflect on the significant experiences countries have in supporting a just and orderly transition, and provide a source of information for all Parties and global actors.

The Roadmap could outline practical milestones towards reaching the COP28 goals, and the various pathways and options to achieve these milestones, taking into account the bottom-up solutions Parties have used to grow their clean energy economies. Encouraging collaboration along clean energy supply chains would promote low emissions trade and investment, accelerating the energy transition.

We suggest that there would be benefit in reflecting international trends and existing momentum to diversify energy systems and deliver a just and orderly transition away from fossil fuels, supported by quantitative data and economic analysis on the current state of the transition. Finally, the Roadmap could reflect accelerating momentum for the global transition and provide insights to the co- benefits of energy security and access, economic development, health and wellbeing. This momentum is evident in the scale of investment across the global clean energy transition, which hit a record \$2.22 trillion last year, growing 8% from 2024 and almost doubling the investment in oil, coal and natural gas.

Australia is transitioning from a fossil-fuel dependent and emissions-intensive economy to one powered by renewable energy and the growth of clean energy industries. Firmed renewables are the cheapest source of electricity generation in Australia, outcompeting fossil fuels. The share of total electricity generation from renewable sources in Australia has more than doubled in just 6 years.

An equitable transition will see Australia benefit from the shift to net zero – not just from a safer climate, but from new economic opportunities for our workers and our regions. We have abundant renewable energy, rich metal and mineral deposits, a skilled workforce and a stable investment environment to drive our domestic transition, stimulate jobs and grow new industries and exports.

This submission describes the energy transition underway in Australia and highlights key policies and programs aimed at further accelerating the transition.

Australia's transition is guided by our ambitious and achievable targets and facilitated by comprehensive policies to accelerate the growth of renewable energy, increase electrification and energy efficiency, foster innovation, and support communities, regions and workers to share the benefits of Australia's transition to a net zero economy.

We acknowledge that countries pursue their own pathways to net zero. As the world moves to decarbonise, Australia is committed to energy security and being a reliable energy supplier to support countries as they transition away from emissions intensive energy systems.

1. Ambitious and achievable targets and plans

Ambitious targets backed in by clear and comprehensive plans and policies are important enablers of the green transition. They provide certainty and clear signals to investors, financiers and other stakeholders to accelerate efforts to transition energy systems and build new clean industries.

1.1 Legislated targets

Australia's climate policies are underpinned by a strong enabling framework. Our *Climate Change Act 2022*¹ legislated Australia's 2030 and net zero by 2050 targets and requires the Minister for Climate Change to deliver an annual Climate Change Statement to Parliament. It also requires the independent Climate Change Authority to provide advice to the Minister in relation to the annual statement, and when setting the emissions reduction targets in our Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC).

1.2 Australia's 2035 Nationally Determined Contribution

Australia's 2035 Nationally Determined Contribution² (NDC) set a target of reducing net greenhouse gas emissions by 62-70% below 2005 emission levels, covering all sectors of the economy and all greenhouse gasses.

Achieving this target will cut Australia's emissions by roughly half their current level. This target is ambitious and achievable. Our 2035 target is backed by a comprehensive suite of policies to drive implementation and the energy transition that will ensure we meet the target.

¹ [Climate Change Bill 2022 – Parliament of Australia](#)

² [Australia's 2035 NDC](#)

1.3 Australia's Net Zero Plan and Sectoral Plans

Australia's Net Zero Plan³ and Sectoral Plans⁴, released in 2025, provide a clear pathway to help communities, industry and government successfully navigate the transition. The Net Zero Plan outlines the government's priorities to reach our 2035 target and net zero by 2050 through:

- rapid deployment of renewable energy;
- accelerating electrification and energy performance;
- switching to low-carbon fuel and other solutions;
- accelerating innovation and new technologies to expand emissions reduction options; and
- carbon removals to address residual emissions.

2. Enabling the net zero transition

Creating clean and affordable electricity supply to replace fossil-based energy is a critical enabler of the transition. Australia's energy system is undergoing a rapid transition as we aim to reach our target of 82% renewable energy by 2030.

In the last six years, we have doubled the share of renewable energy in our grids and put policies in place to double again in the next five years.

2.1 Accelerating the growth of renewables and enhancing electrification

The global net-zero transition creates opportunities for Australia to use our sun and wind resources to establish new clean industries, and to modernise our energy system to make it more efficient and reliable.

Electrification is a key enabler of Australia's whole-of-economy energy transition. It increases the efficiency and flexibility of energy systems, as electric technologies tend to be more efficient and enables broad-based emissions reductions in sectors such as transport, buildings and industry.

Electrification can also increase demand pressure and needs to be implemented alongside gains in renewable energy generation and energy efficiency. In Australia, federal and subnational governments have implemented a range of programs to support residential and commercial electrification, including incentives and financial assistance for households and businesses to switch to modern electric technologies, and efficiency standards for buildings and light vehicles.

The Government is also taking steps to ensure we meet any increased demand created by electrification. The Rewiring the Nation program supports the modernisation of the electricity grid, delivering new and updated grid infrastructure. The Capacity Investment Scheme, a national framework to support greater investment in renewables, aims to deliver 40 GW of renewable energy generation capacity by 2030. The National Renewable Energy Priority List supports the

³ [Australia's Net Zero Plan](#)

⁴ [Australia's Sectoral Plans](#)

delivery of accelerated planning and approvals processes for priority renewable energy infrastructure.

In 2025, the Australian Government launched the Cheaper Home Batteries program to help ensure our world-class solar energy can keep powering Australia at all times, day and night. More than 3.5GWh of battery storage was installed across more than 155,000 households and small business in the first 5 months of the program's operation between July and December 2025. The government has expanded the program to an estimated \$7.2 billion over four years, which will see more than 2 million Australian homes install a battery by 2030, delivering approximately 40 GWh of capacity.

2.2 Reducing energy demand

Energy efficiency is the first fuel and can be a substantial driver of productivity. The Australian Government has introduced measures to reduce energy demand through the National Energy Performance Strategy, working with state and territory governments and local councils. Key measures include the Equipment Energy Efficiency program, Commercial Building Disclosure program, the National Construction Code energy-efficiency requirements, the National Australian Built Environment Ratings System, the Nationwide House Energy Rating Scheme, and the Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme.

Energy-efficiency programs such as these have helped deliver a 28% improvement in energy productivity across our economy over the last decade and are expected to continue improving our energy productivity and direct emissions abatement. The Household Energy Upgrades Fund, and Social Housing Energy Performance Initiative are estimated to cumulatively provide 3.6 Mt of abatement to 2030. The Greenhouse and Energy Minimum Standards Act has avoided approximately 40 to 60 Mt of emissions over the last decade. The program is expected to contribute a further 2.9 Mt of abatement based on current settings. The National Australian Built Environment Rating System has reduced emissions by approximately 13 Mt in the two decades it has been operating.

2.3 Technology and innovation

The Australian Government enables low-emission technology development through the work of the CSIRO and relevant Cooperative Research Centres (CRCs) supported under the CRCs Program which establishes collaborations between industry and the research sector. The work of CRCs tackle emissions in fuels, agriculture, buildings, heavy industry and waste.

The \$1.7 billion Future Made in Australia Innovation Fund supports the deployment of innovative technologies and facilities linked directly to priority net zero industries, including green metals and low carbon liquid fuels. The Australian Government has invested \$3.2 billion over the next decade through the Australian Renewable Energy Agency to support the commercialisation of net zero technologies.

2.4 Sustainable Finance Roadmap

Australia's Sustainable Finance Roadmap provides a pathway for mobilising the private capital required to achieve net zero and modernise our financial markets. Australia's Sustainable Finance

Taxonomy offers investors a voluntary framework to assess the sustainability claims of economic activities, align with international standards, and confidently invest in projects that advance net zero. Climate-related financial disclosure obligations also support greater transparency of climate-related risks, opportunities, commitments and action.

2.5 Caps on emissions

Under the Safeguard Mechanism, Australia's largest industrial emitting facilities are required to meet legislated emissions limits called baselines. Together, these facilities across the mining, manufacturing, transport, oil, gas and waste sectors produce around 31% of Australia's emissions. These baselines will decline predictably and gradually on a trajectory consistent with Australia's 2030 emission reduction target and net zero by 2050. This policy is expected to achieve around 200 million tonnes of abatement to 2030. The Safeguard Mechanism is being reviewed in 2026-27. This will include setting the decline rates for 2030–31 to 2034–35.

2.6 Restricting financial support for fossil fuels

Australia is a signatory to the Clean Energy Transition Partnership which aims to better align international investments with the goals of the Paris Agreement. The Australian Government has also taken action to restrict direct Government support for the fossil fuel energy sector including by excluding direct financing for extractive industries.

Export Finance Australia must have regard to Australia's obligations under international agreements, including Australia's emissions reduction target. Australia has amended almost 20 Acts to embed our emissions reduction targets in their objects, to direct government organisations to achieve these targets and provide certainty to industry and the broader community.

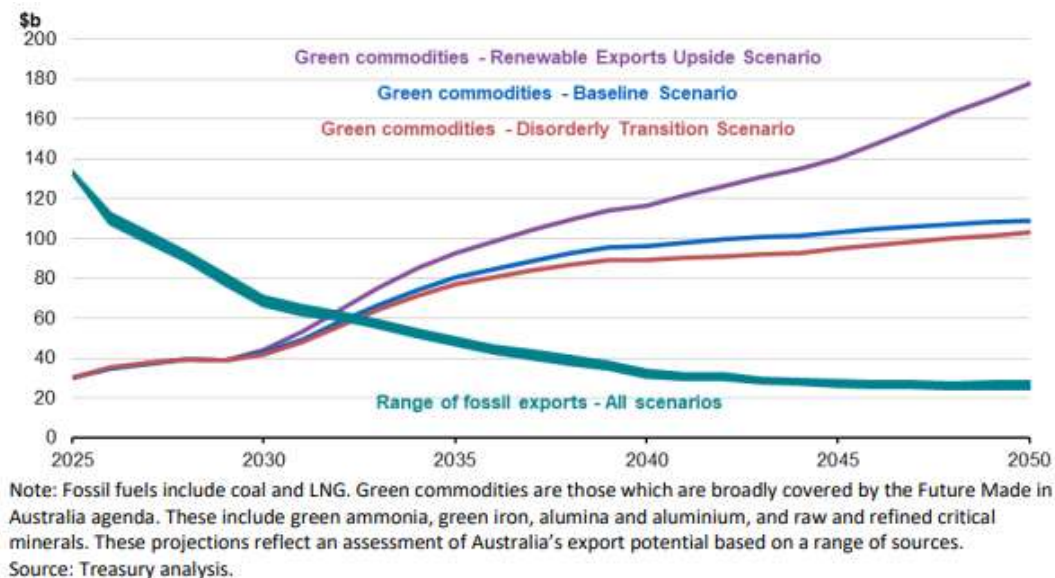
3. Establishing new industries; supporting workers, communities and regions through the transition

3.1 Supporting clean energy industry growth

The Australian Government has committed to its Future Made in Australia agenda. Through a Future Made in Australia, we are building new clean energy industries in sectors important to our net zero transformation including renewable hydrogen, green metals, and low-carbon liquid fuels. By building these industries, Australia can contribute to global emissions reductions by producing the clean energy embedded products the world needs to decarbonise – while attracting investment, creating new jobs and maintaining our role as a reliable global energy supplier. Australia's Treasury has modelled⁵ the projected value of Australia's clean energy exports through to 2050 (Chart 1). The modelling shows demand for fossil fuels is likely to decline, though the International Energy Agency projects small amounts of fossil fuels will still be traded in 2050. The modelling also shows that Australia's export of green commodities is likely to significantly increase across all modelled scenarios.

⁵ [Australia's Net Zero Transformation: Treasury Modelling and Analysis](#)

Chart 1: Projected value of Australian exports, 2025 to 2050 (from Australia's Net Zero Transformation: Treasury Modelling and Analysis)



3.2 Ensuring a just transition – Australia's Net Zero Economy Authority

In 2024, Australia established the Net Zero Economy Authority to help ensure workers, communities and regions are supported to manage the impacts and share the benefits from Australia's transition to a net zero economy. The authority's focus is on engaging regions; implementing the Energy Industry Jobs Plan; coordinating national efforts to support workers, communities and industries; and facilitating investment opportunities.

The Net Zero Economy Authority works directly with industry, communities, First Nations people, workers, and state and local governments to support and facilitate public and private sector participation and investment in net zero transformational projects in Australia. These efforts are complemented by the Future Made in Australia community benefit principles which aim to ensure public investment, and the private investment it attracts, flow to communities in ways that benefit local workers and businesses.

The Net Zero Economy Authority administers the Energy Industry Jobs Plan (EIJP) which supports workers impacted by coal and gas power station closures. The EIJP requires the owners of closing power stations and supply chain businesses directly impacted by the closure to offer transition assistance including career planning, paid time off to attend interviews and training, and engagement with new employers and unions.

The Net Zero Economy Authority is supporting the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations to develop Regional Workforce Transition Plans. These plans will support workers, their families and communities in regions that are, or will be significantly impacted by Australia's transition to a net zero emissions economy. This includes workers not covered by the Energy Industry Jobs Plan.