



Australian Government

Australia's 2035 Nationally Determined Contribution



AUSTRALIA

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Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

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1.

Australia's 2035 emissions reduction target

Since the adoption of the Paris Agreement in 2015, the global response to climate change has gained significant momentum and has sparked a transformation in the way the world produces and consumes energy. Despite global conflicts and other headwinds, investment in renewable energy continues to accelerate; the cost of renewable energy has steadily declined to become one of the most cost-effective and accessible energy sources; demand for renewables, low-emissions materials, and the critical minerals that support them, continues to grow apace.

Australia's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) reflects the transformative changes underway as we rapidly decarbonise. Australia stands to benefit from the global transition 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.



As with many countries across the world, Australia is experiencing the profound and accelerating effects of climate change. From our cities to our farmlands, it is reshaping our economy, jeopardising public health and wellbeing, compromising national security, and threatening our unique natural heritage. Robust global action is important to safeguarding Australia's national interests and essential to the stability, prosperity, and economic development of all countries in our region.

Australia is working with the global community to address this shared challenge. We are committed to the achievement of the Paris Agreement goals and present our second Nationally Determined Contribution with our 2035 emissions reduction target submitted in accordance with Article 4 of the Paris Agreement. Australia also reaffirms our existing emissions reduction commitment for 2030 and to achieve net zero by 2050.

Australia's 2035 target is a 62-70% reduction in net national greenhouse gas emissions below 2005 emissions levels, covering all sectors of the economy and all greenhouse gases.

This will be implemented as an emission budget over 2031–35. This target aligns with Australia's Net Zero Plan, which charts out Australia's path to achieving our commitment to reach net zero by 2050.

Further technical information on Australia's target pursuant to 4/CMA.1 is at Annex A.

Our 2035 emissions reduction target is built on comprehensive consultation, analysis and planning for implementation, including our detailed Net Zero Plan and 6 sector emissions reduction plans (sector plans).

Australia's 2035 emissions reduction target and implementation of our Net Zero Plan and sector plans will continue to grow our economy, strengthen our industrial competitiveness, and safeguard the health and wellbeing of Australians. They will provide certainty and clear signals to investors to accelerate our decarbonisation and build our clean energy export industries.

Our target is ambitious and achievable. It is a meaningful contribution to global efforts to avoid the dangerous and costly impacts of climate change. It will allow Australia to work in step with our trading partners and the global community to respond to climate change. With the decarbonisation of our economy and growth of new clean energy industries, Australia will play an important role in helping other countries to achieve their decarbonisation goals.

Australia's 2035 emissions reduction target is consistent with requirements established under the *Climate Change Act 2022*. Under the Act, the Australian Government must consider advice from its independent Climate Change Authority (CCA) before setting national emissions reduction targets or communicating its NDC. The CCA provided its advice to government on 12 September,¹ and after consideration, the government adopted the CCA's recommendation to set a 2035 national emissions reduction target of 62-70%.

Australia's NDC is part of our broader response to climate change. Australia's First Nations peoples have cared for the country for 65,000 years and our actions should build on this legacy. We recognise the crucial role of adaptation to protecting Australian people, livelihoods, and ecosystems. We have developed a National Adaptation Plan,² which establishes a framework for adapting to nationally significant physical climate risks. These are identified in our National Climate Risk Assessment,³ which provides a comprehensive assessment of the most consequential climate risks facing Australia.

Australia is bidding to host COP31 in 2026 in partnership with Pacific nations. Together, we aim to deliver an ambitious agenda to accelerate action and investment to drive global implementation to keep temperatures at safer limits, help build resilience to climate impacts, and unlock economic opportunities in the global clean energy transition.

2.

A target in Australia's interest

Climate change is already impacting Australia, our region and the world

Australia is experiencing the profound and accelerating impacts of climate change. Australia's average land temperature has increased by approximately 1.5°C since 1910.⁴ Australians are already witnessing more frequent and severe events, such as droughts, floods, bushfires and heatwaves.⁵ Many communities have experienced recent hazards and disasters, such as ex-tropical cyclone Alfred in NSW and QLD, the Tasmanian west coast bushfires in 2025, and drought conditions affecting large parts of the southern states. Climate change is also contributing to the emergence of new types of adverse events, such as South Australia's ongoing algal bloom, which is partly driven by extended periods of warm ocean temperatures.⁶ Events like this underscore that new impacts will emerge as climate change intensifies.

Australia's National Climate Risk Assessment published in September 2025 provides the first comprehensive government-led assessment of the nationally significant risks Australia faces as a result of climate change.⁷ It presents a sobering future, underscoring that climate-fuelled extreme weather events are increasing pressure on our natural ecosystems and the livelihoods and communities that rely on them. It is also clear that we have choices about the future, with every action we take today to reduce emissions helping to avoid the worst impacts on Australians.

Climate disasters are impacting our infrastructure, including our transport networks, hospitals, schools and homes; and these costs are escalating over time. This is affecting our economic productivity and imposing significant costs to regional and national economies from recovery and rebuilding efforts. For example, the 2022 NSW floods caused \$6.4 billion in insured losses alone.⁸ The Insurance Council of Australia estimates natural disasters are costing Australian homeowners around \$4 billion each year, and are increasing insurance premiums.⁹ Changes in seasonal conditions over the period 2001–2020 have reduced profits of Australian broadacre farms by an average of 23% relative to the previous 50 years. Reductions in rainfall in southern Australia could exacerbate these losses.¹⁰

Australia is not alone. In Asia and the Pacific, disasters displaced over 225 million people between 2010–2021. Over the next 45 years, climate change is projected to drive further mass displacements, escalate damages to \$3 trillion annually, and cut regional GDP by \$96 trillion by 2070 – undermining safety, security, and economic stability. Australia recognises that climate change poses an existential threat for the Pacific region.

The world is responding to climate change

Addressing climate change is a global challenge. All countries must take action to reduce emissions and seize the opportunities of climate action. In 2015, 195 parties adopted the Paris Agreement, and since then over 190 have set targets to cut emissions. Today, 165 nations, representing around 80% of global GDP, have also set long-term targets to reach net zero, charting a clear and irreversible course toward a low-carbon future.

Since the Paris Agreement, the projected global warming trajectory has improved from 4°C to 2.8 C.

Since the Paris Agreement, the projected global warming trajectory has improved from 4°C to 2.8 C.^{11,12} This marks significant progress, driven by collective global action, but also underscores the urgent need for deeper and faster emissions reductions to keep warming within safer limits. Every fraction of a degree matters – even modest temperature declines can dramatically lessen the severity of climate-related impacts on ecosystems, economies, and communities.

The global climate response is driving a positive and irreversible transition to clean energy

The global response to climate change is driving an irreversible transformation of energy systems and the global economy – arguably the most significant transformation since the Industrial Revolution. Regardless of geopolitical challenges and volatility, the economic fundamentals remain and will continue to accelerate the transition to net zero.

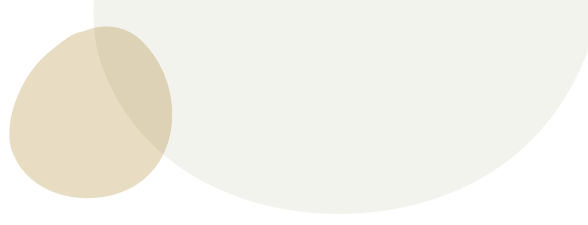
The global response to climate change is driving an irreversible transformation of energy systems and the global economy – arguably the most significant transformation since the Industrial Revolution.

Countries around the world are investing heavily in their energy and economic transitions; not only to address climate change, but also to remain competitive and capture the immense economic opportunities that are emerging from the clean energy boom.

Global energy intensity fell by an average of 2% per cent between 2010 and 2019 and 1.2% per year from 2020 to 2023.¹³ Carbon intensity (carbon dioxide emissions per unit of energy) fell on average by 0.3% annually from 2010 to 2019.¹⁴ These trends reflect structural changes in the global energy system, including improved energy efficiency and a shift away from coal towards the growing role of renewable energy.

The plummeting costs of wind and solar have seen them become the fastest growing sources of electricity,¹⁵ and clean energy investment and jobs now outnumber those in the fossil fuel industry.¹⁶ While it took 68 years to reach 1 terawatt of installed solar PV capacity globally in 2022, it took just 2 more years to reach 2 TW.¹⁷ The International Energy Agency (IEA) reports that global investment in clean energy infrastructure, efficiency and electrification are set to rise to \$2.2 trillion in 2025, almost double the investment in oil, coal and natural gas.¹⁸ They project that renewables are set to meet around 90% of global electricity demand growth out to 2027¹⁹. By 2050, the IEA project global demand to decrease by 7% for coal²⁰ and by 40% for oil and gas, from 2022, under announced climate commitments.²¹ The IEA attributes the surge in clean-energy spending to a combination of emissions reduction targets, technological innovation, and energy security concerns. It notes that major economies are deploying new industrial strategies to spur clean energy manufacturing and establish stronger positions in the emerging global market.





Renewable energy is now the cheapest way to generate electricity

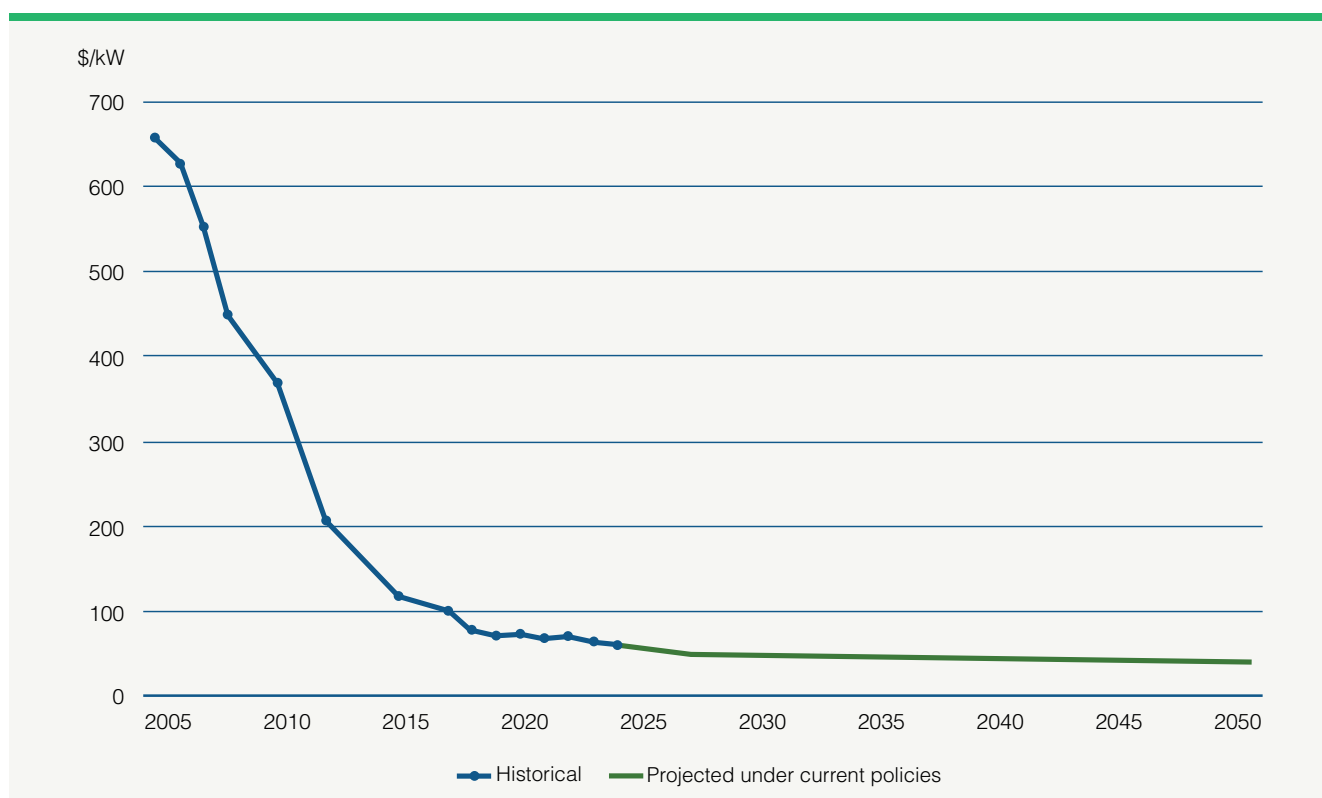
A similar change is underway in Australia as we transition from a fossil-fuel dependent and emissions-intensive economy to one powered by renewable energy and the growth of clean energy industries. Firmed renewables are the cheapest source of electricity generation in Australia, outcompeting fossil fuels.²² Electricity generation in Australia has historically been underpinned by coal-fired power plants. Australia is rapidly shifting to a modern, cost-effective electricity system based on renewable energy, with coal-fired power-generation phasing out, and gas playing a firming role alongside hydro and batteries. The share of total electricity generation from renewable sources has more than doubled in just 6 years.

There has been a 91% decline in solar PV costs from 2005 to 2024.²³ Renewables are now the least-cost pathway for new-build electricity.²⁴

Renewable energy also brings other benefits – cleaner air, less water use, fewer environmental impacts – while electrification and household efficiency make homes safer, healthier, cheaper to live in, and more resilient to climate impacts.

Renewables are already helping to limit electricity price increases. Research has suggested that recent wholesale and retail electricity prices would have been higher without renewables, with one study finding retail prices would have been 22% higher in 2024 without the impact of solar and wind lowering wholesale prices.^{25, 26}

Figure 1: Solar PV levelised cost of energy in Australia 2005–2050²⁸



Australia is ready to seize the economic opportunities of the global transition to net zero

As a trade-focused nation, Australia's economic future is linked to our ability to leverage new markets and investment. Over 90% of Australia's trade is with countries that have net zero targets.²⁷ Australia's 2035 emissions reduction target, Net Zero Plan, and sector plans will ensure we are working alongside and in step with major economies and trading partners, while building on a strong track record of policies.

Australia's world-class renewable resources, rich metal and mineral deposits, skilled workforce and stable investment environment put us in a strong position to maintain economic growth and remain competitive as the world transitions away from fossil fuels towards low-emissions goods and services. These advantages position us well to help our partners decarbonise while growing their economies as global demand for renewable energy and low-carbon products continues to climb.

The Australian Government committed \$22.7 billion over the next decade in the 2024–25 Budget to its Future Made in Australia agenda, with subsequent announcements continuing to build on this investment.

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 reduction 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. We are also making investments in sectors where domestic capability is needed to deliver economic resilience and security such as clean energy manufacturing and the processing of critical minerals.

Australia has the highest rate of rooftop solar in the world. More than 4 million Australian households and businesses are generating clean energy from their rooftops. This has reduced their energy bills by about \$6 billion a year.²⁹ Australian households and businesses have invested in rooftop solar in record

numbers because they know the benefits. In 2025, the Australian Government launched the Cheaper Home Batteries policy, to help ensure our world-class solar energy can keep powering Australia at all times, day and night. Over 55,000 batteries – with total storage capacity of over 1 gigawatt hour – have been installed in just over 2 months since the program commenced on 1 July 2025.

Investors have asked for clear and stable policy signals that support long-term decision-making. This includes ambitious targets, backed by credible transition plans.^{30, 31, 32} Our 2035 emissions reduction target and comprehensive Net Zero Plan and sector plans position Australia to meet this call. They provide a clear direction of travel for investor confidence.

“[t]he benefits from investment in new green industries could add more than \$300 billion to the [Australian] economy annually by 2035-2050, more than a 10% boost compared to Australia's current GDP.” – The Climate Change Authority *2035 Targets Advice*³³

Australia's Sustainable Finance Roadmap provides a pathway for mobilising the private capital required to achieve net zero, modernise our financial markets, and maximise the economic opportunities associated with energy, climate and sustainability goals. As part of this, 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.

3.

A target that is ambitious and achievable

Climate change is a global challenge, and all countries must play their part to achieve the Paris Agreement goals. Australia's emissions are 1.15 % of global emissions – but all the countries that contribute less than 2% to global emissions collectively emit nearly 40%. Collective action is critical to success.³⁴ Australia's contribution to the global effort is important. Every fraction of a degree matters. Australia is the 15th largest emitter,³⁵ and an advanced economy with the resources and capacity to set and achieve ambitious targets and contribute to emissions cuts beyond our borders.

Australia's ambitious target is aligned with the science and global temperature goals

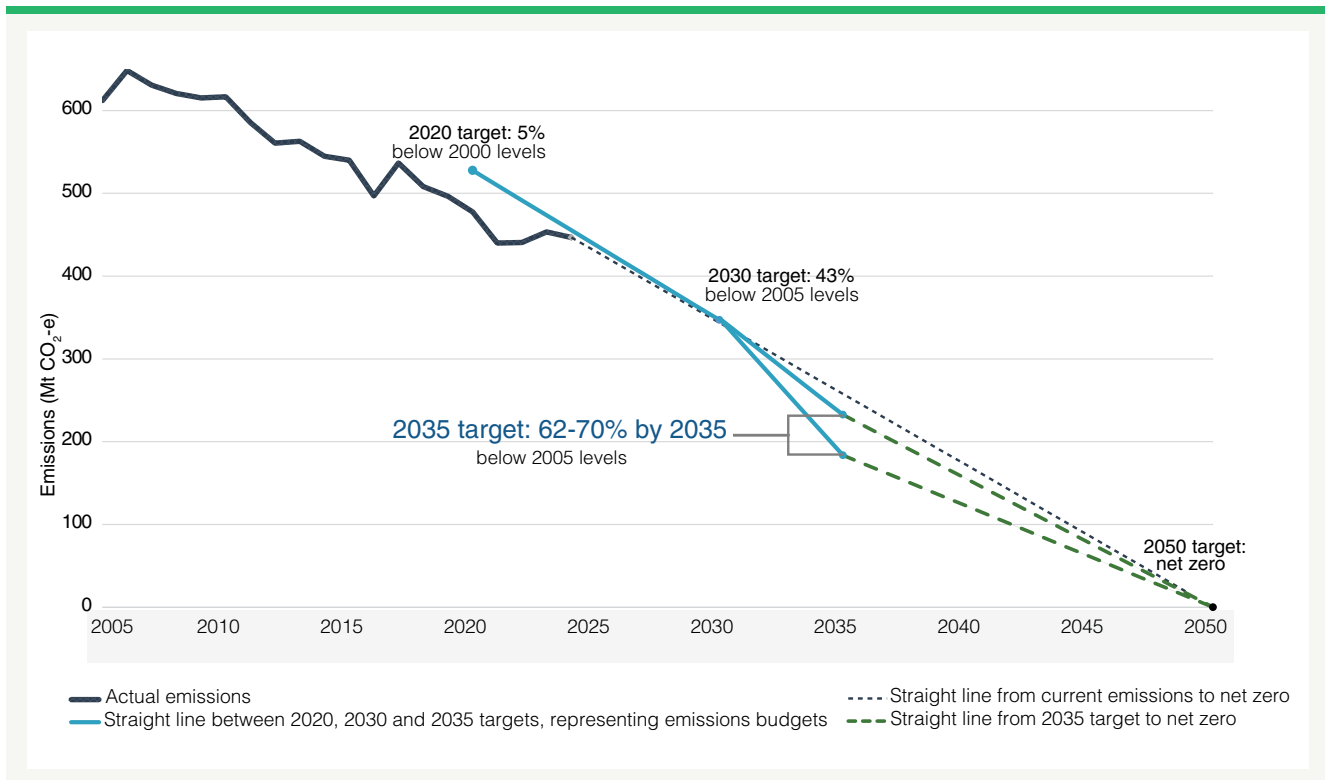
The 2023 UN Global Stocktake of progress under the Paris Agreement recognised that global emissions must reduce by 60% from 2019 levels to keep 1.5 °C within reach, as found by the IPCC's Sixth Assessment Report. While this does not

determine what national contributions should be, it provides a useful point of comparison. This is well within Australia's target range of 62-70% - for Australia, a 60% reduction on 2019 levels is equal to a 68% reduction on 2005 levels.

Our 2035 emissions reduction target is a substantial step-up in ambition of 19-27 percentage points from our 2030 emissions reduction target. Over the next 10 years, Australia aims to reduce emissions by more than it has over the past 20 years. Reducing emissions by 62-70% involves cutting Australia's emissions by roughly half from the current level. The average rate of emissions reductions will need to accelerate from 16 Mt CO₂-e per year from now to 2030, to at least 23 Mt CO₂-e per year from 2031 to 2035.

A straight-line trajectory from Australia's current emissions to net zero in 2050 indicates a 2035 emissions reduction of 57 to 58%. Australia's 2035 emissions reduction is more ambitious than a straight line to net zero, positioning us among other leading economies in the transition to a net zero future.

Figure 2: Australia's emissions reduction pathways to 2050³⁶



“Our comprehensive analysis has led us to conclude that 62–70% is an ambitious target. It is aligned to pursuing efforts to limit warming to 1.5°C, informed by the best available science, and contributes to the momentum required for timely and effective national and global action on climate.”
- Climate Change Authority 2035 Targets Advice.

An achievable target, built on strong foundations

Australia has made good progress towards our existing 2030 emissions reduction target of 43% reduction on 2005 levels. Our most recent projections show that 5 years out from 2030, Australia is within sight of this target, with current measures projected to achieve a 42.6% reduction by 2030.³⁷ Our 2030 emissions reduction target is also implemented as a 10-year emissions budget, which we are currently projected to beat by 3%.³⁸ Australia’s 2030 emissions reduction target and net zero by 2050 target are legislated under our *Climate Change Act 2022*.

Without taking further steps, and taking into account market and global trends, we are projected to be 51% below 2005 by 2035.

Australia’s current policies provide strong foundations for achieving deeper emission reductions over time.

A range of current and scheduled policy reviews provide opportunities to further drive cost-effective abatement across the economy and help achieve our 2035 emissions reduction target. Scheduled reviews to calibrate existing policies will ensure they effectively contribute to the 2035 emissions reduction target, including upcoming reviews of the Safeguard Mechanism and New Vehicle Efficiency Standard. Achieving 82% renewable electricity generation by 2030, supported by the Capacity Investment Scheme, and Rewiring the Nation, will also underpin our 2035 emissions reduction target.

Setting the target as a range allows Australia to manage risks and uncertainty. The global landscape is volatile. Shifts in global markets will affect demand for our energy commodity exports. Technology costs are often lower than predicted. Climatic and weather patterns affect emissions from our land sector, such as elevated sequestration during La Nina periods and elevated emissions during droughts. A target range factors in these risks and provides a more stable policy basis for planning against variable weather patterns and global market fluctuation.



A target working alongside global consensus

The 2023 Global Stocktake under the Paris Agreement provided a comprehensive assessment of global progress in addressing climate change and outlined next steps to accelerate action. Its conclusions – endorsed by all parties to the Paris Agreement – reflect a shared recognition of the strides made and the urgency of further efforts to meet the Agreement’s goals.

Australia’s 2035 emissions reduction target and underpinning plans represent a meaningful contribution to global efforts to take forward the Global Stocktake.

Our 2035 target is an economy-wide, absolute emissions reduction target that includes all greenhouse gases, sectors and categories – as was the case for our 2030 emissions reduction target.

The Global Stocktake recognised the global direction of travel in its consensus call to transition away from fossil fuels in energy systems and to phase-down unabated coal-fired power. In Australia, our transition is underway.

Our 2035 emissions reduction target, Net Zero Plan and sector plans reflect our rapid transition to renewable energy and make a meaningful contribution to the global goals of tripling renewable energy and doubling the annual rate of energy-efficiency improvements by 2030.

- Australia has increased its renewable energy share of electricity to over 40% on our two major grids³⁹
- Australia currently has the highest penetration of rooftop solar in the world at over 35% of households⁴⁰
- We are making significant progress towards our target of 82% renewable electricity by 2030⁴¹
- In the last decade, Australia has made a 28% improvement in energy productivity.⁴²

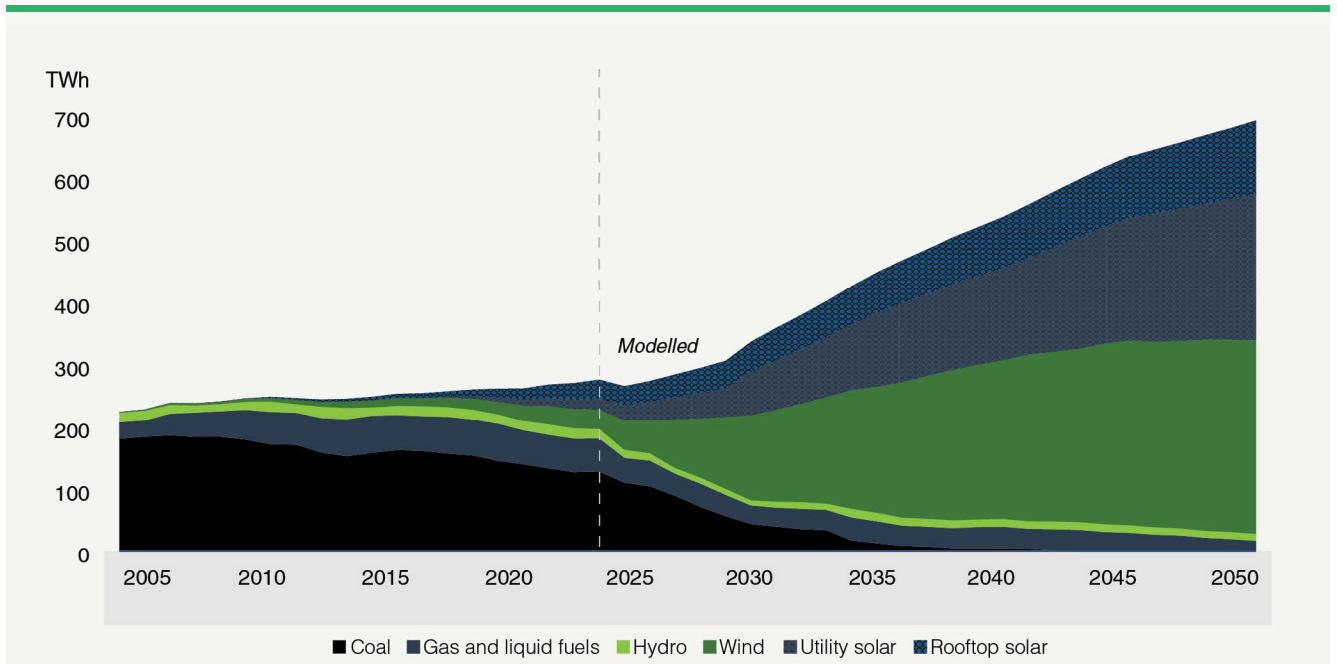
Modelling and analysis by the Australian Treasury projects the share of renewable generation reaching 97% in the National Electricity Market in 2050 under a scenario with an orderly transition to net zero (Figure 3).

Further information on how Australia’s 2035 target and climate actions respond to the calls of the first Global Stocktake is at **Annex B**.



Australia’s Julia Gardiner in her role as Chair of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) for the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement at the opening of the 62nd session of the Subsidiary Bodies meeting. Credit: SB62 Opening Plenary by UNclimatechange, CC BY-NC-SA 2.0.

Figure 3: Australian electricity generation by fuel type^{43,44}



Australia’s transformation will contribute to emissions cuts beyond our borders

Beyond our own domestic transition, our ambition is for Australian exports and expertise to play a significant role in global decarbonisation efforts including by supporting sectors such as renewable hydrogen, low-carbon liquid fuels, and green metals.

Australia is a close neighbour to some of the world’s fastest growing economies whose clean-energy needs are increasing. We aim to be a partner of choice for countries seeking the resources, technology, training and support to transition to cleaner, more secure and more affordable renewable energy.

Australia’s advantages position us to not only deliver domestic economic benefits, but to shift from being an exporter of emissions-intensive commodities to a key enabler of a decarbonised world.

Between 2025 and 2050 global demand for coal is expected to decrease by 71%, LNG by 40% and oil by 42%.⁴⁵ By contrast, global demand for the commodities needed to support the net zero transition – such as critical minerals – is projected to increase. In addition, analysis by the Australian Treasury estimates that, under a Renewable Exports Upside Scenario, Australia’s green iron, ammonia and lithium exports could contribute 466 Mt to global decarbonisation in 2050 by displacing carbon-intensive activity overseas.

Australia is working with countries to act on climate change

Since 2023, Australia has established a range of partnerships to support the achievement of our mutual climate and energy ambitions, including with the Republic of Korea, China, Germany, India, the Netherlands, Austria, New Zealand and the United Kingdom. Australia also has close climate and energy collaborations with the European Union, France, Denmark, and Japan. Our pioneering Green Economy Agreement with Singapore is among the first of its kind in the world to blend trade, economic and climate objectives.

Our partnerships will help integrate efforts to scale-up supply chains for key inputs into clean energy, such as through our low-emissions hydrogen partnership with Germany and renewable electricity work with India. These partnerships will facilitate collaboration on practical and scalable solutions for accelerating renewable energy and clean energy industries.

Complementary to these partnerships, Australia is working through the Quad⁴⁶ to build diverse and resilient global clean energy supply chains. We are working closely with major economies to develop interoperable standards and emissions accounting approaches to support the growth of new clean energy industrial sectors and mitigate potential barriers to trade.

In Southeast Asia, we are supporting the region's clean-energy transition and ASEAN priorities such as the ASEAN Power Grid. We are sharing Australian expertise on energy transition policies and regulations, and energy-system planning and management. We are also helping develop clean energy supply chains and infrastructure, and supporting partners to attract quality finance – including through the \$2 billion Southeast Asia Investment Financing Facility under *'Invested: Australia's Southeast Asia Economic Strategy to 2040'*.

Australia is partnering with countries in the Pacific to act on climate change, transform their economies and increase their capacity to respond to climate impacts. We are working with Tuvalu, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and other Pacific nations, to accelerate renewable energy deployment and fast-track their transition away from fossil fuels. We have signed the world-first Australia–Tuvalu Falepili Union, in which Australia recognises Tuvalu's continuing statehood and sovereignty; notwithstanding climate-related sea-level rise, commits to assist Tuvalu in response to major disasters, and supports mobility with dignity for the citizens of Tuvalu.

We are on track to deliver over \$3 billion towards global climate finance efforts over 2020–25. We have actively integrated climate change considerations into our International Development Policy. In 2023, the Australian Government set a goal that 80% of new bilateral and regional investments valued at over \$3 million must have a climate change objective by 2028–29. Further information on our climate finance and development assistance is provided in our Biennial Transparency Report.⁴⁷

4.

A target backed by clear policies and plans

A target based on extensive analysis and consultation

Australia’s 2035 emissions reduction target is backed by clear plans and robust policy development processes, as detailed in our Net Zero Plan.

The Net Zero Plan is supported by 6 sector emissions reduction plans (sector plans) which outline how each sector will contribute to Australia’s transition to a net zero economy, covering electricity and energy, transport, industry, agriculture and land, resources, and the built environment.

The 2035 emissions reduction target was informed by independent advice from the Climate Change Authority (CCA)⁴⁸ as required under the *Climate Change Act 2022*. Australia’s Net Zero Plan and sector plans were also informed by this advice, as well as the CCA’s Sector Pathways Review.⁴⁹ This advice was informed by extensive analysis and engagement, including macroeconomic modelling by the CSIRO, scientific and policy research, the CCA’s sectoral pathways analysis and broad stakeholder engagement. The CCA also considered social, employment and economic benefits, the physical impacts of climate change, and impacts on rural and regional Australia.

The Government considered the advice in detail, along with other considerations and inputs, and adopted the CCA’s recommended target.

The CCA found “A target of 62–70% is an achievable target. It is technically feasible, harnessing contributions across every sector and jurisdiction and enabled by practical policy measures. Careful analysis finds that delivering a reduction at the top of that range—70%—would be more challenging than 62% but is feasible by 2035.”⁵⁰

In addition to the CCA’s advice, our 2035 target was informed by the work across government to develop the Net Zero Plan and sector plans, which included engagement with subnational governments, international comparisons, Treasury’s whole-of-economy analysis, and extensive nation-wide consultation.⁵¹ This consultation included industry roundtables, meetings with unions and workforce representatives, regional community workshops, roundtables with First Nations representatives, NGOs, youth representatives, senior official council meetings with state and territory governments, and engagement with local government organisations.⁵² This engagement has reinforced that all sectors and stakeholders play a role in the transition, and the importance of enabling and encouraging broad participation.



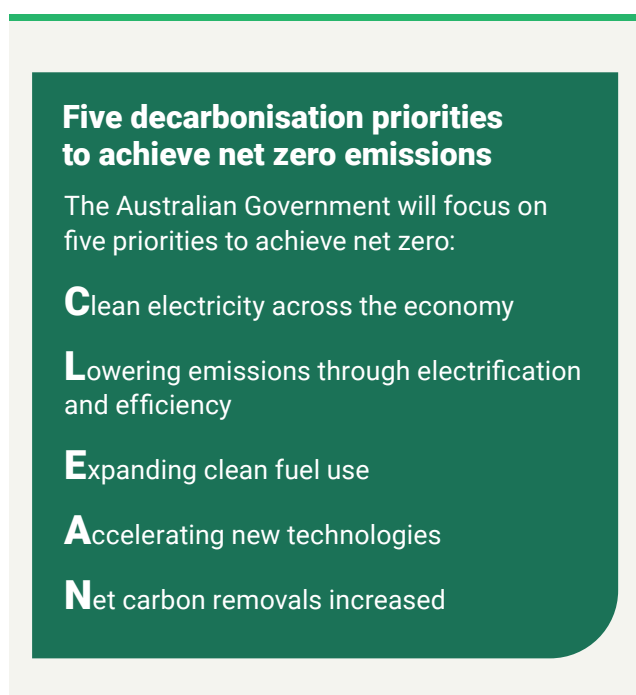
A target that is part of a comprehensive roadmap to achieve net zero

The Net Zero Plan charts an orderly and efficient pathway for Australia to reach net zero emissions by 2050 and the actions to achieve this.

Australia will take a phased approach to our net zero transition.

- The early focus is to decarbonise and expand the electricity network, electrify activities wherever possible, and improve energy performance and materials efficiency
- This will be complemented by an increasing focus on switching to low-carbon fuels where activities cannot be electrified
- Innovation to expand emissions reduction solutions will become increasingly important as we decrease emissions beyond 2035 toward net zero, with the scale-up of carbon removals having an important role throughout the transition to balance residual emissions. This will include targeted action to reduce methane emissions from key sources.

Figure 4: Australia's five priorities for net zero⁵³



A target built on strong foundations

Australia's existing suite of policies provides a strong platform for achieving our 2030 and 2035 emissions reduction targets. Since 2022, the Australian Government's policy reforms have established legally binding policies calibrated to our national emissions reduction targets for over half of Australia's emissions. These include:

- The Safeguard Mechanism, which requires Australia's largest industrial facilities to meet legislated emissions limits that decline progressively over time
- The Capacity Investment Scheme, which is a revenue underwriting scheme to accelerate investment in renewable generation and clean dispatchable projects including wind, solar and battery storage
- The New Vehicle Efficiency Standard, which sets declining emissions targets for new passenger cars and light commercial vehicles entering the Australian market from 1 July 2025.

Australia has a number of programs to incentivise the uptake of consumer energy resources to accelerate decarbonisation, including:

- The Cheaper Home Batteries program, which brings down the cost of a typical home battery by around 30%, allowing households and businesses to reduce emissions while reducing their energy bills by capitalising on Australia's world-class solar resources
- The Social Housing Energy Performance Initiative to support energy performance upgrades to over 100,000 social housing properties by 2028-29
- The Household Energy Upgrades Fund, which provides low-cost finance for energy performance initiatives by working with co-financiers to create tailored and discounted green finance products which are easy for households to access.

Australia is also considering how we can leverage investment to de-risk and crowd in private investment. Existing mechanisms include:

- The Australian Carbon Credit Unit Scheme, which incentivises projects that avoid emissions or sequester carbon from the atmosphere
- The Rewiring the Nation Program, which offers concessional loans to support investments in transmission infrastructure, building a more efficient grid, and unlocking additional renewable generation
- The Clean Energy Finance Corporation and Australian Renewable Energy Agency, which work in concert to facilitate increased finance into the clean-energy sector and accelerate the pace of pre-commercial innovation and renewable energy deployment to support Australia's transition to net zero emissions.

Progress toward our 2035 emissions reduction target is further supported by the continued implementation of state and territory government policies to achieve their own subnational emissions reduction targets, and their work on shared national priorities, including through the Renewable Energy Transformation Agreements and National Renewable Energy Priority List, as well as the recently announced National Climate Change Partnership.

The new policies and reforms introduced by the Australian Government since 2022 provide strong foundations and are already contributing to progress towards the target. This includes:

- Using the market-based Safeguard Mechanism and New Vehicle Efficiency Standard to drive least cost abatement
- Expanding foundational energy performance programs for the built environment
- Supporting electrification in manufacturing, transport and buildings
- Fostering a low carbon fuels industry to support fuel switching where electrification is not viable
- Attracting greater investment in abatement across all sectors, supported by low-cost green finance.

Without taking further steps, and taking into account market and global trends, we are projected to be 51% below 2005 by 2035.

Further policy effort will build on these foundations, including through scheduled reviews to recalibrate existing measures.

Supporting workers, skills, jobs and businesses through the transition

As Australia decarbonises, new industries are emerging while emissions-intensive industries in mining, manufacturing and transport undergo rapid change. This shift will require reskilling and retraining workers to participate in and drive clean industry growth – building on the existing skills of the energy industry workforce.

The Net Zero Economy Authority supports workers, communities and regions to manage the impacts and share in the benefits of the net zero economy, including by supporting affected communities to prosper through economic development and investment. It works closely with the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations to support workers affected by the net zero transition in emissions intensive regions.

- Regional Workforce Transition Plans will offer tailored support to meet specific needs of communities in regions most impacted by the transition
- The Net Zero Economy Authority administers the Energy Industry Jobs Plan which supports workers impacted by coal and gas power station closures, helping them transition into secure, well-paid jobs.

Australia's education system is preparing for the skills required to power new industries and support long-term prosperity. Through the nationwide Australian Curriculum, Australia equips students to understand the basics of climate change and its impacts, while empowering them to be part of creating a more climate-resilient future. Australia is using education programs such as the Key Apprenticeship Program to incentivise the uptake of careers in the priority industries of the net zero transition.

Australia is embedding equity considerations in our transition. By empowering First Nations peoples to lead and participate in the net zero transition we can take meaningful steps to achieving the priority reforms of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap. 'Working for Women: A Strategy for Gender Equality' highlights renewable energy as a key emerging industry to embed gender equality in pay, leadership and opportunities.⁵⁴

Deepening Australia's talent pool through inclusion of historically excluded groups is vital to delivering the energy transition while improving outcomes for all Australians. This is supported by the community benefit principles under the Future Made in Australia agenda, which aim to ensure public investment, and the private investment it attracts, flows to communities in ways that benefit local workers and businesses.

Improving the health and wellbeing of Australians

The Australian Government is tackling the health impacts of climate change and supporting the net zero transition and resilience of Australia's health system through implementation of the National Health and Climate Strategy. Mitigation measures such as improved household energy efficiency, electrification, renewable energy, and clean and active transport, can deliver significant direct and indirect health and wellbeing benefits to Australians.⁵⁵ These include reductions in indoor and outdoor air pollution, which will help to reduce the burden of lung and heart diseases, with downstream benefits for economic productivity.

Australia's actions on climate and the environment are mutually reinforcing

Australia's actions on climate also help protect our environment and oceans. Addressing climate change is crucial to protecting Australia's unique natural environment and biodiversity. At the same time, actions to protect and restore biodiversity and the environment, contribute significantly to Australia's climate mitigation and adaptation efforts.

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Our Net Zero Plan will work in concert with Australia's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan,⁵⁶ the National Adaptation Plan, and reform to national environmental laws.

Australia's Nature Repair Market is designed to increase investment in nature, supporting projects that enhance and protect biodiversity. The market is aligned with the Australian Carbon Credit Unit Scheme, making it easier for land managers to deliver projects that achieve both biodiversity and carbon outcomes. This will complement current carbon abatement through our land sector. The land sector contains vegetation and soils that can both emit and sequester carbon dioxide; it is currently a net-carbon sink equivalent to 16% of Australia's annual emissions.

With 5–11% of global blue carbon stocks held in Australia's oceans,⁵⁷ the integration of ocean-based climate solutions is critical to global climate change efforts. Through the development of Australia's Sustainable Ocean Plan, stakeholders have called for opportunities to pursue ocean-based climate action to help advance delivery of our emissions targets and support climate adaptation, such as through protecting and restoring blue carbon ecosystems.

Over 2020–25, the Australian Government has provided \$30.6 million in funding for practical action to support restoration, conservation and accounting for blue carbon ecosystems. Through our leadership of the International Partnership for Blue Carbon, Australia has also supported international efforts to protect, restore and sustainably manage global blue carbon ecosystems.

Australia is using its oceans to support our decarbonisation efforts. Offshore wind projects are proposed in some of Australia’s 6 declared offshore wind areas. Australia is also working to decarbonise ocean-based industries through our Maritime Emissions Reduction National Action Plan, which will facilitate Australia’s pathway to decarbonise shipping and the broader maritime sector.⁵⁸ While international shipping emissions are not counted towards Australia’s emissions reduction targets, Australia is working with the Republic of Korea and Singapore to establish green and digital shipping

corridors that will support efforts to accelerate maritime decarbonisation of key shipping routes. Australia is also working to reduce emissions from aviation through the Sustainable Aviation Fuel Funding Initiative to support the development of an industry with production from renewable feedstocks in Australia, and working with New Zealand to investigate the conditions required to develop a regional sustainable aviation fuel industry.

Australia is rapidly progressing its circular economy transition, with the ambition to double Australia’s circularity by 2035. The achievement of this goal is expected to contribute toward the mitigation of up to 23% of Australia’s greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.⁵⁹ Increasing material efficiency and implementing Australia’s Circular Economy Framework are priority actions under Australia’s Net Zero Plan to lower energy demand and reduce Australia’s emissions.



First Nations leadership in achieving net zero

First Nations people have managed Australia's natural environment for over 65,000 years and have experienced the climate changing over the millennia, with integral knowledge being passed down through generations. Many communities today maintain a deep and enduring connection to the land, seas and waters that make up their Country and Culture. This knowledge and connection to Country continues to play a role in Australia's efforts to tackle climate change.

First Nations peoples are leading climate mitigation activities through active land management, participating in the Australian Carbon Credit Unit Scheme. Projects such as savanna fire management provide opportunities for First Nations people to apply traditional knowledge and strengthen their connection with Country, while also reducing emissions. Savanna fire management projects cover over 34 million hectares of north Australia; 70% of this area is managed by Indigenous projects using intergenerational knowledge. Projects undertaking fire management methods are issued on average 1.2 million Australian Carbon Credit Units each year.⁶⁰

Australia's Indigenous Protected Areas cover over 13% of Australia's landmass, and more than 6 million hectares of sea. The Australian Government has committed to expanding the coverage of IPAs, with more First Nations managed land and sea Country. The government is supporting 2,900 Indigenous rangers working on-ground to achieve environmental, climate and cultural outcomes in the management of Country and increasing the role of First Nations people in achieving Australia's climate objectives.

Australia's First Nations Clean Energy Strategy provides the foundation for climate action through the renewable energy transition in partnership with First Nations people. It addresses the intersection between First Nations' rights and interests and the renewable-energy transition to support First Nations people to lead and benefit from the transition wherever they live in Australia. An estimated 70% of Australia's land and waters are owned, managed or co-managed by First Nations people and/or subject to other rights and interests including native title,⁶¹ underscoring

the central role First Nations communities must be afforded in managing the transition to net zero. The strategy prioritises collaboration, respect for cultural knowledge, and the development of clean energy projects that deliver social, economic, and environmental benefits to First Nations communities.

Empowering the next generation of Australians

Children and young people are uniquely vulnerable to climate change, but they bring vital perspectives, innovation, and leadership to climate solutions, and serve as beneficiaries of those solutions. Australia is committed to ensuring the perspectives of young Australians are reflected in our domestic and international climate efforts, including through capacity building and participation in the Paris Agreement, the UNFCCC process, and broader climate action.

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Through our 'Engage!' youth strategy and its advisory mechanisms, Australia advocates for the convening of young people to ensure they are meaningfully engaged in shaping national policy.⁶² The strategy will serve as a supporting framework for capturing youth perspectives in climate policy development processes as we implement our Net Zero Plan, to support inclusive, effective and future-focused climate decision-making.



Annex A: Information pursuant to 4/CMA.1

Australia's 2035 commitment as detailed below is in addition to our existing 2030 and 2050 commitments as outlined in our previous NDC.⁶³

Information element	Response
NDC Target	Reduction in net national greenhouse gas emissions of 62–70% below 2005 levels by 2035, implemented as an emissions budget covering the period 2031–35.
1. Quantifiable information on the reference point (including, as appropriate, a base year):	
1a. Reference year, base year, reference period or other starting point.	Reference period: Emissions budget for the period 2031–35.
1b. Quantifiable information on the reference indicators, their values in the reference period.	<p>The indicator is net national greenhouse gas emissions. The reference period (emissions budget) values are calculated using the method set out in section 5f-i) below.</p> <p>The indicative values of the reference period, based on net national emissions reported in 2025, are 1,248 to 1,395 million tonnes carbon dioxide equivalent (Mt CO₂-e).</p>
1c. If a Least Developed Country (LDC) or Small Island Developing State (SIDS), info on strategies, plans and actions	Not applicable.
1d. Value of target relative to the reference indicator.	<p>Australia's 2035 emissions reduction target is a reduction in net national greenhouse gas emissions of 62–70% below 2005 levels by 2035, implemented as an emissions budget covering the period 2031–35.</p> <p>The emissions budget values are the target values, calculated using the method set out in Section 5f-i) below. Indicative target values, based on net national emissions reported in 2025, are 1,248 to 1,395 Mt CO₂-e.</p>
1e. Data used in quantifying the reference point.	Quantification of the reference period (emissions budget) is based on data reported in Australia's latest annual National Inventory Report, up to the end of the period. Following this, quantification will be based on data reported in the National Inventory Report for the year 2035.
1f. Updates to reference indicators.	<p>Net national emissions used to calculate the reference period (emissions budget) will be updated to reflect improvements implemented in Australia's latest annual National Inventory Report, including use of additional data sources and recalculations resulting from continuous methodological improvements.</p> <p>Net national emissions for the year 2005 used to calculate the emissions budget according to the method set out in Section 5 (f-i) below may be updated to reflect an average of a multi-year period. Such an update would be applied as necessary to maintain reliability and comparability in tracking progress towards the 2035 emissions reduction target.</p>
2. Timeframes	
2a. Time frame for implementation.	2031–35
2b. Single-year or multi-year target.	Multi-year: emissions budget.
3. Scope and coverage	
3a. General description of the target.	Absolute economy-wide net national greenhouse gas emissions reduction target, implemented as an emissions budget covering the period 2031–35.
3b. Sectors, gases, categories and pools covered by the nationally determined contribution.	<p>Carbon dioxide (CO₂); Methane (CH₄); Nitrous oxide (N₂O); Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs); Perfluorocarbons (PFCs); Sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆); Nitrogen trifluoride (NF₃).</p> <p>All sectors, categories and carbon pools, as defined by the IPCC 2006 Guidelines, and additional sources reported in the annual National Inventory Report.</p>

Information element	Response
NDC Target	Reduction in net national greenhouse gas emissions of 62–70% below 2005 levels by 2035, implemented as an emissions budget covering the period 2031–35.
3c. Complete and continuous coverage.	Australia has included all categories of anthropogenic emissions and removals, as defined by the IPCC 2006 Guidelines and additional sources reported in its annual National Inventory Report, in the 2035 target in this NDC. All sources, sink, or activity, that was included in Australia’s previous NDC and 2030 emissions reduction target, continue to be covered.
3d. Mitigation co-benefits.	Not applicable.
4. Planning processes	
4a. Information on planning processes and implementation plans for the preparation of the NDC including, as appropriate:	
4a-i). Domestic institutional arrangements, public participation and engagement with local communities and Indigenous peoples, in a gender-responsive manner.	<p><u>Domestic Institutional Arrangements</u></p> <p>The Australian Government is responsible for climate policy-making at the national level, including the development of the 2035 emissions reduction target contained in this NDC.</p> <p>Australia’s 2035 emissions reduction target and NDC was developed in line with the <i>Climate Change Act 2022</i>.</p> <p>The Act enshrines in legislation Australia’s 2030 emissions reduction target to reduce our net greenhouse gas emissions to 43% below 2005 levels by 2030 and reducing Australia’s net greenhouse gas emissions to zero by 2050. The Act requires the Minister to present an annual Climate Change Statement to Parliament which speaks to progress made during the year towards achieving Australia’s GHG emissions reduction targets.</p> <p>The Act establishes a process that ensures that independent, expert advice informs the setting of 5-yearly targets on the pathway to net zero by 2050:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Minister must at least every 5 years request advice from the Climate Change Authority (CCA) on Australia’s greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets under the Paris Agreement. • When preparing that advice, the CCA must consider (amongst other things) social, employment, and economic benefits, the matters in Article 2 of the Paris Agreement and conduct public consultation. • The Minister must receive and consider the CCA advice before deciding and communicating Australia’s next greenhouse gas emissions reduction target. • The CCA must publish its advice, and the Minister must prepare a response to the advice within 6 months, and table that response in parliament. <p>In September 2025, the CCA published its advice to government to adopt a 2035 emissions reduction range target of 62-70% reduction on 2005 levels by 2035 and to commit to stay within an emissions budget of 1,248–1,395 Mt CO₂-e between 2031 and 2035. This advice was informed by extensive analysis and engagement, including scientific and policy research, the Climate Change Authority’s sectoral pathways analysis, macroeconomic modelling by CSIRO, and broad stakeholder engagement.</p> <p>Advice from the CCA was considered by the Minister and the government alongside the 6 sector plans, analysis from the Australian Treasury and consultation with states and territories, experts, industry and the broader community on the Net Zero Plan, 2035 emissions reduction target and sector plans.</p> <p><u>Public participation and engagement with local communities and Indigenous people, in a gender-responsive manner</u></p> <p>Consultations on the Net Zero Plan, 2035 emissions reduction target, and sector plans, including those conducted in collaboration with the CCA, included industry roundtables, meetings with unions and workforce representatives, regional community workshops, roundtables with First Nations representatives, ministerial and senior official council meetings with state and territory governments, and engagement with local government organisations.</p> <p>Discussions on gender-responsive approaches, diversity and opportunities for women in the transition to net zero featured across each of these groups.</p>

Information element	Response
NDC Target	Reduction in net national greenhouse gas emissions of 62–70% below 2005 levels by 2035, implemented as an emissions budget covering the period 2031–35.
	<p>Australia recognises that women and girls face unequal impacts from climate change, and that it is critical women have a seat at the table to address these challenges. Australia’s Working for Women: A Strategy for Gender Equality, recognises the gendered impacts of climate change, and ensuring their full inclusion to ensure climate solutions work for women.</p> <p>Australia assesses the social and economic impacts of its policies and measures via a thorough impact analysis during the policy design phase. This can also include analysis of distributional effects to identify how certain cohorts, such as women, First Nations people and people in remote and regional areas, may be affected disproportionately by particular policies.</p> <p>In addition to the impact analysis process, the Office for Women supports the analysis of gender impact assessments, the National Indigenous Australians Agency supports the analysis of First Nations impacts, and the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts supports the analysis of Regional Australia Impacts.</p> <p>Further information is available in Section 2.8 of Australia’s first Biennial Transparency Report.</p>
<p>4a-ii)-a. Contextual matters, including, inter alia, as appropriate: National circumstances, such as geography, climate, economy, sustainable development and poverty eradication.</p>	<p>Information on Australia’s government structure, and economic, geographic and climate profiles can be found in Chapter 2.1 of Australia’s first Biennial Transparency Report.</p> <p>Australia is experiencing the profound and accelerating impacts of climate change. The CSIRO’s 2024 State of the Climate Report warned that in the coming decades, Australia will experience ongoing changes to its weather and climate, including increased temperature, bushfires, sea-level rise, and marine heatwaves. The National Climate Risk Assessment reinforced that climate-fuelled extreme weather events are increasing pressure on Australia’s natural ecosystems, and communities.</p> <p>Australia’s unique national circumstances shape its response to climate change. Australia’s system of government, vast size, diverse landscapes, climatic variability, resource-based economy and small but growing population living mostly in coastal regions pose challenges and opportunities to managing the impacts of climate change.</p> <p>Australia is transitioning away from being an emissions-intensive economy. Our transition starts with our own domestic electricity supply. Already, over 40% of electricity in our two major energy grids is renewable, representing significant progress to achieving 82% renewable electricity by 2030.</p> <p>We have abundant renewable energy resources, strong access to battery minerals and a skilled workforce. We are working to build new industries to help the world transition through our low-emissions exports.</p>
<p>4a-ii)-b. Best practices and experience related to NDC preparation.</p>	<p>Australia’s NDC follows guidance for clarity, transparency and understanding set out in decision 4/CMA.1. Australia’s target determination process follows best practice in requesting and considering the independent advice from the Climate Change Authority, as legislated in the <i>Climate Change Act 2022</i> (see further section 4(a)(i)) above. A range of Australian Government agencies were involved in the development of the NDC, including a whole-of-government process for determining our 2035 emissions reduction target and Net Zero Plan, with responsible ministers allocated to each sector’s emissions reduction plan together with economic analysis from the Treasury, reflecting shared policy responsibility.</p>
<p>4a-ii)-c. Other priorities acknowledged when joining the Paris Agreement.</p>	Not applicable.
<p>4b. Information applicable to Parties acting jointly.</p>	Not applicable.

Information element	Response
NDC Target	Reduction in net national greenhouse gas emissions of 62–70% below 2005 levels by 2035, implemented as an emissions budget covering the period 2031–35.
4c. Global stocktake consideration.	See Annex B.
4d-(i-ii). Information in relation to Article 4 paragraph 7.	Not applicable.
5. Assumptions and methodological approaches for emissions estimates and accounting	
5a. Accounting for emissions and removals.	<p>Australia will assess progress towards its 2035 emissions reduction target by comparing cumulative net national greenhouse gas emissions over the period 2031–35 with the emissions budget for the period.</p> <p>Both cumulative net national greenhouse gas emissions and the emissions budget will be calculated based on data submitted in Australia’s latest annual National Inventory Report. Australia’s National Inventory Reports are compiled in accordance with the Modalities, Procedures and Guidelines adopted by the CMA (currently decisions 18/CMA.1 and 5/CMA.3), including application of methodologies and common metrics assessed by the IPCC and adopted by the CMA (section 5d below refers).</p> <p>Australia has no plans or policy to count internationally transferred mitigation outcomes for use towards NDCs. Should the Australian Government authorise any internationally transferred mitigation outcomes for use towards NDCs, Australia will make corresponding adjustments, consistent with guidance adopted under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement.</p>
5b. Accounting for the implementation of policies and measures or strategies.	Not applicable.
5c-d. IPCC methodologies and metrics used and existing approaches.	<p>The estimates of emissions and removals used in accounting for the NDC will be those reported in Australia’s National Inventory Reports, which apply the IPCC 2006 Guidelines, or subsequent version or refinement as agreed by the CMA, supplemented by the IPCC 2019 Refinement and IPCC 2013 Wetlands Supplement.</p> <p>The metric used will be the 100-year time horizon Global Warming Potential values as agreed by the CMA for the compilation of National Inventory Reports, currently the relevant metrics are those listed in Table 8.A.1 of the IPCC Fifth Assessment Report (decisions 18/CMA.1 and 5/CMA.3 refers).</p>
5e-i). Natural disturbances.	Australia’s NDC covers anthropogenic emissions and removals. Australia will address non-anthropogenic emissions and subsequent removals from natural disturbances in accounting for its NDC. The carbon stock changes from natural disturbances are included in the national emissions totals, as described in Australia’s National Inventory Report (May 2025) consistent with approaches set out in the IPCC 2006 Guidelines and the IPCC 2019 Refinement. Australia will continue to provide information on its approach to addressing emissions and subsequent removals from natural disturbances in its annual National Inventory Reports.
5e-ii). Harvested wood products.	Australia will use a stock-change approach consistent with the IPCC 2006 Guidelines to estimate emissions from Harvested Wood Products, consistent with the 2006 IPCC Guidelines and paragraph 56 of the Annex to decision 18/CMA.1. The methodology will be described in detail in Australia’s annual National Inventory Reports.
5e-iii). Effects of age-class structure in forests.	Not applicable.

Information element	Response
NDC Target	Reduction in net national greenhouse gas emissions of 62–70% below 2005 levels by 2035, implemented as an emissions budget covering the period 2031–35.
<p>5f-i). Other assumptions and methodological approaches used, including:</p> <p>Construction of the reference indicators.</p>	<p>The emissions budget (reference period) values for the 2035 emissions reduction target are calculated using straight-line trajectories to the lower and upper ends of the 2035 target range. The trajectories begin in 2030 with net national emissions at 43% below 2005 levels (Australia’s 2030 single-year emissions reduction target) and finish in 2035 – one with net national emissions 62% below 2005 levels, the other with net national emissions 70% below 2005 levels. The area under each trajectory for the period 2031–35 are the emissions budget values for the 2035 emissions reduction target.</p> <p>As stated in section 5a above, the emissions budget values will be calculated based on data submitted in Australia’s latest annual National Inventory Report and may be updated as set out in section 1f above.</p>
5f-ii-iv). Non greenhouse-gas components; Climate forcers, as applicable; Further technical information, as necessary.	Not applicable.
5g. Intended use of voluntary cooperation under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement.	<p>Australia currently has no plan to engage in international cooperative approaches under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement towards achievement of its NDC.</p> <p>Should Australia decide to use cooperative approaches under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement towards achievement of its NDC or to authorise the use of internationally transferred mitigation outcomes towards the NDCs of other parties, it would report on such use or authorisation through its Biennial Transparency Reports and consistent with guidance adopted under Article 6.</p>
6. How the party considers that its nationally determined contribution is fair and ambitious in the light of its national circumstances	
6a. A fair and ambitious contribution.	<p>Australia’s 2035 NDC is a significant 19-27 percentage point increase over our 2030 emissions reduction target.</p> <p>It is an ambitious target that reflects a significant transition of Australia’s economy, including a shift towards 82% renewable energy by 2030. Australia’s contribution to global climate action is complemented by actions to increase our clean energy and other low-emissions exports to help other countries achieve their emissions reduction targets.</p> <p>Australia also provides significant support to other countries that contributes to global emission reductions.</p> <p>Australia’s 2035 emissions reduction target is consistent with requirements established under the <i>Climate Change Act 2022</i>. Under the Act, the Australian Government must consider advice from its independent Climate Change Authority (CCA) before setting national emissions reduction targets or communicating its NDC. The CCA’s advice is the culmination of two years’ work, informed by modelling from CSIRO, extensive scientific and policy analysis, and public consultation. The CCA’s 2035 Target Advice was also informed by its Sector Pathways Review.⁶⁴ This advice was provided on 12 September 2025, and recommended a target of 62- 70%.</p> <p>The CCA’s comprehensive analysis led it to conclude that 62–70% is an ambitious target for Australia to achieve by 2035, and represents the highest possible ambition for Australia.</p> <p>The CCA notes it involves cutting Australia’s emissions by roughly half from the current level.⁶⁵</p> <p>The CCA provided government with this advice on 12 September. The government considered this advice alongside other important inputs, such as the consultation on work undertaken to complete the Net Zero Plan and sector plans, including Treasury’s modelling and analysis.</p> <p>After consideration in light of its own target analysis, government agreed with the CCA’s recommendation to set a 2035 national emissions reduction target of 62-70%.</p>

Information element	Response
NDC Target	Reduction in net national greenhouse gas emissions of 62–70% below 2005 levels by 2035, implemented as an emissions budget covering the period 2031–35.
6b. Fairness considerations, including reflecting on equity.	<p data-bbox="504 338 890 362"><u>International equity considerations</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 380 1374 456">Australia’s 2035 emissions reduction target reflects a meaningful contribution to global efforts and calls to action under the Global Stocktake which have been endorsed by every party to the Paris Agreement.</p> <p data-bbox="504 474 1382 551">It reflects consideration of the best available science, as recognised in the Global Stocktake, that global emissions must be 60% below 2019 levels by 2035 to limit warming to 1.5°C.</p> <p data-bbox="504 568 1417 806">The increased ambition in our 2035 emissions reduction target reflects our contribution to global efforts to mitigate the impacts of climate change on current and future generations. We recognise that actions taken to protect the climate system today will benefit peoples and individuals of present and future generations. The Treasury modelling for the 2023 Intergenerational Report finds that reduced global climate ambition increases the cost of physical risks.⁶⁶ Australia’s suite of climate policies reflect the Global Stocktake’s encouragement for parties to implement climate policy and action that is gender-responsive, fully respects human rights, and empowers youth and children.</p> <p data-bbox="504 824 1430 1061">Australia’s international engagements are guided by our International Gender Equality Strategy, International Disability Equity and Rights Strategy and Humanitarian Policy, which recognise the important nexus of climate change and human rights in all areas of humanitarian assistance and climate action, including mitigation, adaptation, disaster risk reduction, preparedness, response and recovery. Through these strategies, the Australian Government is prioritising the delivery of equitable climate action and integrating disability equity across our international engagement on foreign policy, international development, trade, humanitarian assistance and climate with a particular focus on the Indo-Pacific region.</p> <p data-bbox="504 1079 847 1104"><u>Domestic equity considerations</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 1122 1410 1198">In the delivery of its advice to government, the CCA is required to take into account a number of principles including equity, public interest, economic efficiency, and the impact on households, businesses, workers, and communities.⁶⁷</p> <p data-bbox="504 1216 1366 1292">Australia’s domestic policy design and implementation seeks to improve the wellbeing and prosperity of all Australians, including First Nations communities, transitioning workforces, women and regional communities.</p> <p data-bbox="504 1310 1426 1467">We are supporting First Nations and other community-backed clean energy projects, with improved community engagement principles and through our First Nations Clean Energy Strategy. This strategy and its principles will guide actions under the Net Zero Plan and will be applied by government agencies leading the sector emissions reduction plans drawing on best practice approaches to identify specific challenges and opportunities for First Nations communities for each sector.</p> <p data-bbox="504 1485 1430 1693">In implementing our 2035 target and Net Zero Plan, we are partnering with communities, workers and businesses affected by the transition to reduce emissions, develop new clean energy industries, and grow the skills and training needed for a strong, future-ready workforce. The Net Zero Economy Authority and the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations are ensuring an inclusive approach to Australia’s transition by promoting consultation, fairness, and shared benefits for affected communities, with a focus on empowering First Nations people to benefit from the net zero transition.</p>

Information element	Response
NDC Target	Reduction in net national greenhouse gas emissions of 62–70% below 2005 levels by 2035, implemented as an emissions budget covering the period 2031–35.
6c. How the NDC is a progression and reflects highest possible ambition.	<p>Australia’s 2035 emissions reduction target is an increase in ambition of 19-27 percentage points from our 2030 emissions reduction target.</p> <p>The CCA advised that a target of 62-70% represents Australia’s highest possible ambition, noting it will involve cutting Australia’s emissions by roughly half from the current level.⁶⁸ “Our comprehensive analysis has led us to conclude that 62–70% is an ambitious target for Australia to achieve by 2035. ... It aligns with what the science demands: strong and urgent action.”⁶⁹</p> <p>Over the next 10 years, Australia aims to reduce emissions by more than it has over the past 20 years, while our population continues to grow. Australia’s 2035 target will reduce our annual per-capita emissions down from the current level of 16.5 t CO₂-e to around 7.5–5.9 t CO₂-e by 2035.</p> <p>It is built on comprehensive modelling that indicates Australia has extensive abatement potential. Our track record shows we have the means – and the commitment – to act. Advice from the Climate Change Authority show that a 2035 emissions reduction target of 62-70% can be achieved with existing technologies in renewable electricity generation, energy efficiency, the electrification of a range of household, industry and transport activities and continued sustainable land management practices.</p>
6d. Economy-wide absolute emissions reduction targets.	Australia’s 2035 target is an economy-wide absolute emissions reduction target, covering all sectors and greenhouse gases.
6e. Special circumstances of LDCs and SIDS.	N/A
7. Achieving the objective of the Convention as set out in its Article 2	
7a. How the NDC contributes towards achieving the objective of the Convention as set out in its Article 2.	Australia’s NDC, submitted in accordance with the Paris Agreement, aligns with the objective set out in Article 2 in contributing to global efforts to stabilise greenhouse gas emissions.
7b. How the NDC contributes towards the Paris Agreement’s temperature and mitigation goals.	Australia’s NDC submitted in accordance with the Paris Agreement, takes into consideration the findings of the IPCC as recognised in the consensus Global Stocktake decision, that limiting global warming to 1.5 °C with no or limited overshoot means the world needs to reduce emissions by 60% below 2019 levels by 2035, noting the Paris Agreement temperature goal is to hold the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels and pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels.

Annex B: Australia's response to the Global Stocktake

Australia's contributions to the first Global Stocktake (Decision 1/CMA.5) includes:

28(a) and (c) Tripling renewable energy capacity globally and doubling the global average annual rate of energy efficiency improvements by 2030. Accelerating efforts globally towards net zero emission energy systems, utilizing zero- and low-carbon fuels, well before or by around mid-century.

Since 2018, Australia has more than doubled its renewable energy capacity, adding 34 GW over the period at a rate of almost 6 GW per year. We have policies in place to support a further doubling of our proportion of renewables by 2030, increasing renewable electricity generation to a target of 82% by 2030. The Australian Government has introduced the Rewiring the Nation program to support the modernisation of the electricity grid, alongside the Capacity Investment Scheme, a national framework to support greater investment in renewables, to deliver 40 GW of renewable energy generation capacity by 2030. The National Renewable Energy Priority List supports the delivery of accelerated planning and approvals processes for priority renewable energy infrastructure. Our Cheaper Home Batteries program has brought down the cost of a typical battery by around 30%, helping to reduce household bills while building a fairer, cleaner and more reliable energy system for all Australians. Over 55,000 batteries – with total storage capacity of over 1 GWh – have been installed in just over 2 months since the program commenced on 1 July 2025. Australia's Electricity and Energy Sector Plan lays out the pathway to transition Australia's energy sector to net zero emissions.

While increasing renewable energy supply, 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.

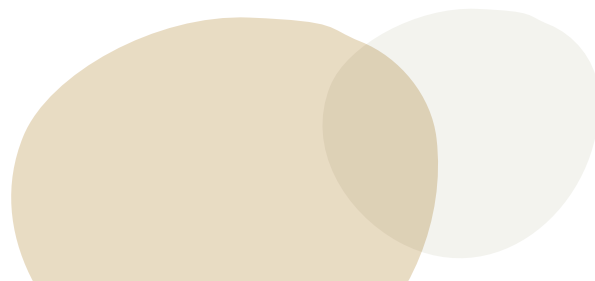
Energy-efficiency programs such as these have helped deliver a 28% improvement in energy productivity across our economy over the last decade, and are expected to continue improving our energy productivity and direct emissions abatement.

- 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 2 decades it has been operating.

28(b) Accelerating efforts towards the phase-down of unabated coal power.

Australia's electricity generation is changing as our remaining coal-fired power stations are reaching the end of their life. Ten of Australia's major coal-fired power stations have closed since 2012. Modelling by the Australian Energy Market Operator indicates that under a net zero scenario, 90% of today's coal capacity could be closed by 2035, and the entire coal fleet before 2040.

Alongside the exit of coal from our energy system, the Australian Government is accelerating the deployment of renewable resources to deliver cleaner, more reliable energy for Australia. Over the last 15 years, more than a quarter of electricity generation in Australia has shifted from fossil-fuel burning generation to renewables – resulting in a 30% reduction in electricity-related emissions.⁷⁰ At COP29, Australia joined a Call to Action calling for countries to not build any new unabated coal-fired power plants in domestic energy systems.



28(d) Transitioning away from fossil fuels in energy systems, in a just, orderly and equitable manner, accelerating action in this critical decade, so as to achieve net zero by 2050 in keeping with the science.

Australia's electricity system is the largest contributor to our emissions. The government's policies to increase the uptake of renewables into our electricity system has seen renewables surge to now constitute over 40% of our two major grids, a significant increase from 32% in 2022.

Alongside our domestic efforts, Australia will work bilaterally and through multilateral forums to speed up the transition in our region and beyond. The Australian Government has committed \$75 million to Singapore's Financing Asia's Transition Partnership initiative to support the region's clean energy ambitions and supported Vietnam to develop its new Electricity Law and Power Development Plan (2024), which will unlock a 50% increase in Vietnam's energy capacity by 2030. Across Southeast Asia, the Australian Energy Regulator is working with the ASEAN Energy Regulators Network and peer agencies to enhance the region's electricity frameworks and help accelerate the uptake of renewable energy. This also includes ongoing investments that help build secure and diversified clean energy supply chains, and the Future Made in Australia plan.

Consistent with the call to transition 'in a just, orderly and equitable manner', 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 is in full operation, focusing on engaging regions, implementing the Energy Industry Jobs Plan, and coordinating national efforts to support workers, communities and industries.

The Authority works directly with industry, 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.

Australia takes seriously its reputation as a trusted and reliable energy exporter and its relationships with our long-standing regional partners. Through the Future Made in Australia plan, Australia will continue to invest in the sectors needed to provide our trade partners with energy to remain a reliable energy partner.

28 (e) Accelerating zero- and low-emission technologies, including, inter alia, renewables, nuclear, abatement and removal technologies such as carbon capture and utilisation and storage, particularly in hard-to-abate sectors, and low-carbon hydrogen production.

In 2024, the Australian Government released its revitalised National Science and Research Priorities⁷¹ and National Science Statement. The priorities include transitioning to a net zero future as a priority to align investment in science and research across industry and the science community.

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. Not limited to net zero, some of the current CRCs cover emissions in fuels, agriculture, buildings, heavy industry and waste. The government is also delivering a Carbon Dioxide Removal (CDR) Roadmap in partnership with CSIRO. The CDR Roadmap will consider the realisable potential of CDR in Australia, and options for how we can responsibly deploy and scale the industry.



The government is further supporting the development of new technologies through the Carbon Capture Technologies program. The Program is committed to accelerating research, development and demonstration of carbon dioxide capture, removal and use technologies, critical to reaching net zero by 2050.

Australia has no plans to introduce nuclear energy because it is not suitable for our national circumstance. Independent advice from the CSIRO and Australian Energy Market Operator has repeatedly confirmed that nuclear energy is too expensive and too slow to be deployed in Australia, while firmed renewables remain the most efficient and affordable way to modernise our energy grid.

28(f) Accelerating the substantial reduction of non-carbon-dioxide emissions globally, in particular methane emissions by 2030.

Australia is accelerating the reduction of non-carbon-dioxide emissions to deliver its NDC by incentivising investment in energy efficiency, fuel switching, and technology improvements in industry. The Safeguard Mechanism covers various greenhouse gases, including carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, sulphur hexafluoride and specified kinds of hydrofluorocarbons and perfluorocarbons, as reported under the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Scheme.⁷² 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.

The Resources Methane Abatement Fund and Powering the Regions Fund have awarded over \$41.2 million to develop and demonstrate technologies to cut methane emissions from Australia's coal industry. The government is

investing \$29 million in the Methane Emissions Reduction in Livestock program to fund research and development of methane-reducing feed additives and forage legumes for livestock. These projects have explored a range of methane-reducing feed additives with abatement potentials of up to 66-98% and 99% in cattle and sheep, respectively. The government is also investing \$87 million over 10 years to establish the Zero Net Emissions Agriculture Cooperative Research Centre, and a further \$4 million over 10 years for the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry to become a partner.

Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) phase-down is contributing to Australia's greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets and is encouraging industry to move to alternative technologies using lower or zero global warming potential gases. Australia is phasing-down HFCs under the *Ozone Protection and Synthetic Greenhouse Gas Management Act 1989* toward an 85% reduction from baseline in 2036. An estimated 40 Mt CO₂-e was avoided since 1995 through Australia's successful phase-out of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) and hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs).

Australia's world-class National Greenhouse Accounts⁷³ provide the necessary robust data and foundations for these actions and are continuously improved based on the latest science, technologies and practices. The government has committed \$10.2 million to continue to improve fossil methane-emission estimation and reporting. This includes establishing an Expert Panel, led by Australia's former Chief Scientist, to advise on the potential role atmospheric measurement approaches could play, and supporting a world-first study⁷⁴ in Australia coordinated by UNEP's International Methane Emissions Observatory to evaluate the capability of such approaches in a simulated surface-mine setting. Findings from this work will help all countries better understand and manage fugitive methane emissions.

Australia joined to the Global Methane Pledge in 2022 where participants commit to collaboratively reducing global methane emissions by at least 30% below 2020 levels by 2030. 160 nations have committed to the pledge as of August 2025.

28(g) Accelerating the reduction of emissions from road transport on a range of pathways, including through development of infrastructure and rapid deployment of zero- and low-emission vehicles.

Australia is reducing its emissions from road transport through action to accelerate the uptake of low-emission vehicles including electric vehicles (EVs) – which have grown from 0.8% of new light vehicle sales in 2020 to 10% in 2025⁷⁵.

The Australian Government released its first National Electric Vehicle Strategy in April 2023 which outlines plans to increase the supply of affordable and accessible EVs and establish the resources, systems and infrastructure to encourage rapid EV uptake.

The Australian Parliament passed the *New Vehicle Efficiency Standard Act 2024* (NVES Act) to increase the supply of more fuel-efficient, low- and zero-emissions cars and light commercial vehicles to the Australian market. The NVES Act is expected to reduce the emissions intensity of new passenger vehicles by around 60% by 2030 and halve the emissions of new light commercial vehicles over the same period. The Standard is expected to achieve 20 Mt of abatement by 2030, 80 Mt by 2035 and 321 Mt by 2050.⁷⁶ More information on the government's plans to reduce transport emissions is available in Transport Sector Plan.

28(h) Phasing out inefficient fossil-fuel subsidies that do not address energy poverty or just transitions, as soon as possible.

Australia joined G20 leaders in 2009 in committing to remove inefficient fossil-fuel subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption. The Australian Government does not provide inefficient fossil-fuel subsidies.

Australia has supported the domestic implementation of this commitment, as well as others relating to fossil fuels, renewable energy and energy efficiency, as agreed at COP28.

Australia joined the Clean Energy Transition Partnership in 2023, reinforcing our efforts to focus investments and international support into clean and renewable energy projects, and away from the international unabated fossil-fuel energy sector.

The Australian Government has taken strong action to restrict direct Government support for the fossil fuel energy sector. These include:

- legislating to prohibit direct financing for the extraction of coal and natural gas and the construction of pipeline infrastructure primarily for the extraction of natural gas in the *National Reconstruction Fund Corporation Act 2023*.
- legislating to prohibit the prescription of funding programs where they would subsidise the extraction of coal and gas in the *Industry Research and Development Act 1986*.
- legislating that Export Finance Australia must have regard to Australia's obligations under international agreements, including Australia's emissions reduction targets and the Statement on International Public Support for the Clean Energy Transition.
- restricting new Future Made in Australia support for: the extraction of coal, crude oil or natural gas; the construction of infrastructure for the primary purpose of extracting coal, crude oil or natural gas; directly financing investments for the sole purpose of the use of coal, crude oil or natural gas in the *Future Made In Australia Act 2024*.
- the amendment of almost 20 Acts to embed Australia's emissions reduction targets in their objects, to direct government organisations to achieve these targets and provide certainty to industry and the broader community.

33. Further emphasises the importance of conserving, protecting and restoring nature and ecosystems towards achieving the Paris Agreement temperature goal, including through enhanced efforts towards halting and reversing deforestation and forest degradation by 2030. Also applies to other terrestrial and marine ecosystems acting as sinks and reservoirs of greenhouse gases and by conserving biodiversity, while ensuring social and environmental safeguards, in line with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

Through our *Strategy for Nature 2024–2030*, Australia aims to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030. It sets ambitious national targets to tackle the drivers of biodiversity decline, to protect and repair our natural ecosystems and put nature on a path to recovery. The strategy recognises that prioritising nature in decision-making is essential to tackling the drivers of environmental decline, and increasing climate resilience, and that actions which provide benefits to biodiversity can increase climate resilience.

The alignment of Australia's Nature Repair Market with the Australian Carbon Credit Unit Scheme (ACCU) supports mitigation and biodiversity co-benefits. Landholders can deliver projects that could earn both a biodiversity certificate and ACCUs, where they meet the eligibility requirements.

Australia is a strong advocate for sustainable forest management. The government is delivering a suite of initiatives totalling over \$300 million to innovate and improve the capacity, capability and sustainability of Australia's forest sector, as well as through advocacy in a range of international fora. There is comprehensive legislation in place to maintain environmental, economic and social benefits across all forest uses, and Australia is in the top 10 countries for proportion of forest legally protected.

35. Preserve and restore oceans and coastal ecosystems and scale-up, as appropriate, ocean-based mitigation action.

Australia is a world leader in marine protection – we now protect 52% of our ocean territory within our marine reserve system, with 24% of Australia's ocean under a high level of protection. Recent expansions of this network have focused on strengthening sub-Antarctic protection and increasing the area of ocean managed by First Nations people through Sea Country Indigenous Protected Areas and joint management of marine parks. The Australian Government champions sustainable ocean management through our active support of the Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction process and its Preparatory Commission, as well as our membership of the High Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy, our co-leadership (with Chile) of the 100% Alliance for Sustainable Ocean Management, and developing a national Sustainable Ocean Plan. Through engagement on the plan's development, stakeholders have called for ocean-based climate actions to mitigate, adapt and build resilience to climate change as part of a holistic approach to a healthy ocean and the social and economic development it underpins.

Australia was also one of the first countries to begin reporting on coastal wetlands in our national greenhouse gas inventory (2017) using the voluntary guidance in the 2013 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Wetlands Supplement. Noting the critical importance of blue carbon ecosystems, we will continue to account for the net emissions from emergence/loss of coastal wetlands.



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