

Emissions targets statement under the national energy laws

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About the AEMC

The AEMC reports to the energy ministers. We have two functions. We make and amend the national electricity, gas and energy retail rules and conduct independent reviews for the energy ministers.

Acknowledgement of Country

The AEMC acknowledges and shows respect for the Traditional Custodians of the many different lands across Australia on which we live and work. The AEMC office is located on the land of the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation. We pay respect to all Elders past and present, and to the enduring connection of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to Country.

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The purpose of the targets statement

The national energy objectives in the national energy laws include a reference to:¹

...the achievement of targets set by a participating jurisdiction –

- (i) for reducing Australia’s greenhouse gas emissions; or
- (ii) that are likely to contribute to reducing Australia’s greenhouse gas emissions.

The AEMC is required under the national energy laws to publish a list of the jurisdictional targets to be considered when applying the national energy objectives.² The AEMC has prepared, and maintains, this targets statement to set out the relevant targets.

In having regard to the emissions component of the national energy objectives as set out above, the market bodies and other relevant entities must consider, as a minimum, the targets in this targets statement.³

The MCE⁴ and Ministers of participating jurisdictions⁵ can provide the AEMC with written directions to include targets in or remove targets from this targets statement from time to time, as required.⁶

The targets statement is set out in two sections, consistently with the emissions component of the national energy objectives:

- Section 1 includes targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions
- Section 2 includes targets that are likely to contribute to reducing Australia’s greenhouse gas emissions.

1 Section 7(c) of the National Electricity Law (NEL); section 23(b) of the National Gas Law (NGL); section 13(b) of the National Energy Retail Law (NERL). The emissions provisions in the national energy objectives were introduced by the *Statutes Amendment (National Energy Laws) (Emissions Reduction Objectives) Act 2023* (SA).

2 Section 32A(1) of the NEL; section 72A(1) of the NGL; section 224A(1) of the NERL.

3 Section 32A(5) of the NEL; section 72A(5) of the NGL; section 224A(5) of the NERL.

4 The MCE is a legally enduring body comprising the Federal, State and Territory Ministers responsible for energy. The MCE is currently constituted by the [Energy and Climate Change Ministerial Council](#).

5 Note that participating jurisdictions vary depending on the relevant energy law. WA is not a participating jurisdiction under the NEL. WA, NT and Victoria are not participating jurisdictions under the NERL. However, this list includes targets of all jurisdictions, as each jurisdiction is a participating jurisdiction under at least one of the energy laws.

6 Section 32A(2) of the NEL; section 72A(2) of the NGL; section 224A(2) of the NERL.

1 Targets for reducing Australia's greenhouse gas emissions

The economy-wide targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHG emissions) at the Commonwealth, state, and territory level are summarised in the table below.

Table 1.1: Targets for reducing Australia's greenhouse gas emissions

Jurisdiction	2030 target	2035-2045 targets	2050 target
Commonwealth	43% below 2005 levels (as a point target and an emissions budget 2021-2030)	62-70% below 2005 levels by 2035 (as an emissions budget 2031-2035)	Net zero
Australian Capital Territory	65-75% below 1990 levels	90-95% below 1990 levels by 2040 Net zero by 2045	Net zero
New South Wales	50% below 2005 levels	70% below 2005 levels by 2035	Net zero
Northern Territory	—	—	Net zero
Queensland	30% below 2005 levels	75% below 2005 levels by 2035	Net zero
South Australia	60% below 2005 levels	—	Net zero
Tasmania	Net zero (or lower)	—	Net zero (or lower)
Victoria	45-50% below 2005 levels	75-80% below 2005 levels by 2035 Net zero by 2045	Net zero
Western Australia	80% below 2020 levels for government GHG emissions	—	Net zero

2 Targets likely to contribute to reducing Australia's greenhouse gas emissions

This section includes government targets that:

- are not expressed in terms of emissions reductions but are likely to reduce emissions, given the nature of the target, and
- have some relevance for the electricity or gas sectors (as they are to be considered by energy market bodies under the energy laws).

This may include targets for:

- renewable energy, including large-scale and small-scale electricity generation and renewable gases such as biomethane and hydrogen
- energy storage or renewable firming services
- electrification, eg of transport, or of domestic or industrial gas consumption
- demand response, including load shifting and demand reduction.

These targets are set out by jurisdiction in the following table.

Table 2.1: Targets likely to contribute to reducing Australia's greenhouse gas emissions

Jurisdiction	Target
Commonwealth	Supply side: • 2030 target of: • at least 26 gigawatts (GW) of renewable generation capacity; and • at least 14 GW of clean dispatchable capacity • National renewable electricity target of 82% by 2030 Demand side: • Not applicable
Australian Capital Territory (ACT)	Supply side: • 100% electricity from renewable generation from 2020 onwards Demand side: • Zero emissions vehicle sales target for ACT of 80-90% by 2030
New South Wales	Supply side: • Construct renewable generation infrastructure with 12 GW of capacity by 2030 • Construct long duration storage infrastructure with storage of 16 GWh and capacity of 2 GW by 2030 Demand side: • Peak demand reduction of 10% by 2030
Northern Territory (NT)	Supply side: • Not applicable Demand side:

Jurisdiction	Target
	Increase the number of EVs in NT Government fleet by 20 per year over ten years, totalling 200 vehicles by 2030
Queensland	Supply side: - Not applicable Demand side: Reduce tailpipe emissions of the Queensland government vehicle fleet by 10% by 30 June 2030
South Australia	Supply side: 100% net renewable electricity by 2027 Demand side: - Not applicable
Tasmania	Supply side: 15,750 GWh of electricity generated from renewables in a calendar year by 2030 21,000 GWh of electricity generated from renewables in a calendar year by 2040 Demand side: Target to convert government fleet to 100% electric by 2030
Victoria	Supply side: Targets for percentage of electricity generated in Victoria to come from renewable sources: 65% by 2030 95% by 2035 Energy storage targets: - Capacity to store and dispatch at least 2.6 GW of electricity at any time, by 2030 - Capacity to store and dispatch at least 6.3 GW of electricity at any time, by 2035 Offshore wind electricity generation targets: 2 GW by 2032 4 GW by 2035 9 GW by 2040 Gas substitution roadmap - Targeting net zero in gas sector to support net zero in Victoria by 2050 Demand side: 50% of light vehicle sales to be zero emissions vehicles by 2030
Western Australia (WA)	Supply side: Not applicable

Jurisdiction	Target
	Demand side: • Not applicable Note: As WA does not apply the NEL or NERL, this table does not include WA's EV targets as they are relevant in the context of electricity use, rather than gas.

Abbreviations and defined terms

AEMC	Australian Energy Market Commission
Commission	See AEMC
EV	Electric vehicle
GHG emissions	Greenhouse gas emissions
GW	Gigawatt
GWh	Gigawatt hours
MCE	Ministerial Council on Energy
NEL	National Electricity Law
NERL	National Energy Retail Law
NGL	National Gas Law