

Australian Government  
Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources

Submitted via email: [technologyroadmap@industry.gov.au](mailto:technologyroadmap@industry.gov.au)

9 February 2022

### Low Emissions Technology Statement 2022

The Australian Energy Council ('AEC') welcomes the opportunity to make a submission to the Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources' ('Department') consultation on the third Low Emissions Technology Statement 2022.

The Energy Council is the industry body representing 21 electricity and downstream natural gas businesses operating in the competitive wholesale and retail energy markets. These businesses collectively generate the overwhelming majority of electricity in Australia, sell gas and electricity to over ten million homes and businesses, and are major investors in renewable energy generation.

The AEC recognises the Technology Investment Roadmap as an important strategy document to guide Australia's decarbonisation and reach net-zero emissions by 2050. The AEC is committed to a net-zero by 2050 future and recently [announced](#) its support for an interim target of achieving 55 percent emissions reduction by 2035. Over the coming months, the AEC intends to publish a series of research papers that analyses the different opportunities that exist for Australia to meet such an interim target. Some of these opportunities, such as electrification, have the technology readily available now and we encourage the Department to prioritise them in the third iteration of the Low Emissions Technology Statement.

### Emissions Reduction by Sector

Last year, DISER published its *Australia's Emissions Projections 2021*, which highlighted that the electricity sector is doing almost all the heavy lifting when it comes to reducing Australia's emissions. The data projects that electricity emissions will fall 55 percent by 2030, equivalent to 91 million less tonnes of carbon between 2019 and 2030. Despite these efforts, Australia's overall carbon emissions reductions will be less than 91 million tonnes because some sectors will see their emissions increase. The table below illustrates that, by 2030, transport and stationary energy are projected to become the largest sectoral emitters.

Sector Emissions (Mt CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	2005 (National GHG Inventory)	2019 (National GHG Inventory)	2030 (Projection)
Electricity	197	179	88
Stationary Energy	82	99	99
Transport	82	100	97
Fugitives	41	55	56
Agriculture	86	75	76
Industrial Processes and Product Use	31	32	28
Waste	16	14	11
Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry	89	-25	-16
Total	624	529	439

Source: DISER [Australia's Emissions Projections 2021](#) Sectoral Breakdown (p11)

### **Decarbonisation Opportunities in Other Sectors**

The AEC notes that the Federal Government has committed \$20 billion to support technological development in other sectors and this will prove helpful, however these abatement technologies are still emerging and therefore some time away. Promisingly, for large emitting sectors like transport and stationary energy, electrification is a readily available technology that offers an immediate and economically efficient way for these sectors to decarbonise. The Federal Government has promised funding to establish more charging stations across Australia to promote electric vehicle uptake, and the AEC advocates for more policies like this. One such area the Technology Statement could give greater priority to is replacing gas with electricity for residential and commercial heating and cooking, such as by incentivising investment in heat pumps.

In this regard, the AEC suggests the Commonwealth engage closely with the development of the Victorian Government's [Gas Substitution Roadmap](#). As the state with the largest potential to decarbonise these activities, Victoria's forward thinking is welcome. Victoria's actions alone could make significant progress in Australia's carbon journey, and this could be consolidated further by other states with gas penetration following suit.

Any questions about this submission should be addressed to Rhys Thomas, by email to [Rhys.Thomas@energycouncil.com.au](mailto:Rhys.Thomas@energycouncil.com.au) or by telephone on (03) 9205 3111.

Yours sincerely,



**Ben Skinner**  
GM Policy  
Australian Energy Council