

Ministers' Joint Statement

As the Australian Commonwealth, State and Territory ministers with responsibility for hydrogen, we are pleased to release the National Hydrogen Strategy.

Energy markets are evolving as countries seek to reduce carbon emissions, with hydrogen potentially a key part of this evolution. The Strategy lays out what is needed for Australia to build a clean, innovative, competitive and safe hydrogen industry, and position the nation as a major global player in the emerging hydrogen economy by 2030.

The potential for a major hydrogen export industry is clear. Markets are growing in Asia and in Europe, and Australia is well-placed to serve this growing demand. We have experience in building multi-billion dollar export industries, such as our success in becoming a leader in the global LNG market over the past 40 years. We have strong relationships with several of our important trading partners that have already announced they are in the market to buy hydrogen, including Japan and South Korea. We have the resources, technology, workforce and experience needed to be a world-leading hydrogen producer and exporter. Australia's renewable energy generation capacity provides particular advantages in the production of green hydrogen.

The Strategy opens up opportunities for increased domestic use of hydrogen in the industrial, transport, mining and energy sectors. While these opportunities may be small at present, beyond 2030 they could play an important role in reducing energy prices and Australia's emissions, as well as the emissions of other countries

Commissioned by the COAG Energy Council in December 2018, the Strategy involved research on current activities here and overseas, including visits to local and international hydrogen development sites. The Strategy has been informed by consultation with the community, industry groups, experts and other stakeholders, including environmental groups, safety experts, regulators, and end users.

The Strategy calls on the Commonwealth, States, and Territories to create the necessary social and regulatory framework that allows the hydrogen sector to expand. It sets out the foundations needed for Australian business to develop a vibrant hydrogen industry that benefits all Australians, while meeting safety and community standards.

Getting ahead of the game and seizing the opportunities now will ensure Australia shares in the significant benefits of a hydrogen future – regional job creation, improved energy security, lower bills for energy consumers, environmental benefits, and export potential. As Ministers, we are committed to leading these efforts.

Commonwealth

The Hon Angus Taylor MP, Minister for Energy and Emissions Reduction

Senator the Hon Matthew Canavan, Minister for Resources and Northern Australia

New South Wales

The Hon Matthew Kean MP, Minister for Energy and Environment

The Hon John Barilaro MP, Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade

Victoria

The Hon Lily D'Ambrosio MP, Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change, Minister for Solar Homes

The Hon Jaclyn Symes MLC, Minister for Resources, Minister for Regional Development, Minister for Agriculture

South Australia

The Hon Dan van Holst Pellekaan MP, Minister for Energy and Mining

Queensland

The Hon Dr Anthony Lynham MP, Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy

The Hon Cameron Dick MP, Minister for State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning

Western Australia

The Hon Bill Johnston MLA, Minister for Energy; Mines and Petroleum; Industrial Relations

The Hon Alannah MacTiernan MLC, Minister for Regional Development; Agriculture and Food; Ports; Minister Assisting the Minister for State Development, Jobs and Trade

Tasmania

The Hon Guy Barnett MP, Minister for Primary Industries and Water, Minister for Energy, Minister for Resources, Minister for Veterans' Affairs

Australian Capital Territory

Mr Shane Rattenbury MLA, Minister for Climate Change and Sustainability

Northern Territory

The Hon Dale Wakefield MLA, Minister for Renewables, Energy and Essential Services, Minister for Territory Families

The Hon Paul Kirby MLA, Minister for Primary Industry and Resources