

## Towards 2050: Gas infrastructure in a zero emissions economy (interim report)

Scientific data shows 2050 is not a realistic target to address man-made climate change in a meaningful way - other countries have a ten year projection for green energy transition.

The most tenable option (to maintain living standards and prevent extinction events) is no natural gas, no CCS - with solar, wind and hydro renewable electricity replacing fossil fuels, asap.

Page 33 of the interim report already acknowledges that green energy (no gas or coal) is the preferred option for an overwhelming 59% of the population.

The interim report's conflicted focus on the "importance of gas" factoring into the proposed remedial options is concerning. Again I note page 33 which acknowledges that not more than 12% of the population want the gas options promoted so heavily in this report. Consequently:

- Limited gas use should not be on the table as an option (Scenario B)
- Carbon capture storage should not be considered as a viable option (Scenario B and D)
- Carbon emission offsets by agroforestry/carbon trading is a flawed option (Scenario C).

Clearly the current framework of the National Gas Law which the report states is a key consideration (page 38) is outdated and should be reviewed, revised, repealed as appropriate to ensure it is no longer contrary to international mandates and majority public opinion.

The carefully selected weak language and meaningless motherhood statements of the interim report are also concerning - e.g page 5 "an immediate scaling up of proven, reliable and relatively low-cost solutions is likely [emphasis added] to be required". The wording "likely" is a red flag that this report is merely mendacious, lip service that will not result in any real or timely required action.

While some argue green energies are not as cost effective as current polluting power stations (as if monetary issues and profits are the only essential considerations) prices will obviously reduce as manufacturing scales up and life-saving investment is made by big business despite government short-sighted, pugnacious opposition.

The limited scope of the report, lacking full analysis of potential options, is another concerning red flag. Man-made climate change has been reported for more than 100 years. You've had plenty of time to collect analysis into alternative green energies already extensively undertaken by scientists and in research funded by citizen advocacy groups in the past few decades.

Scientific research shows a 2050 timeline is inadequate — it is untenable that Australia continues to drag its flat-earth feet while the rest of the world finally embraces responsible action. The earth as a spherical planet will continue to revolve around the sun, we just have to decide whether we want it to remain habitable (should be an easy question).

The barrier to Australia pulling its weight to protect our population, environment, and preserve a reasonable standard of living and protect against further extinction events is the mentality of embracing dirty coal and gas for personal monetary gain to the deprivation of all else. Next we'll have to address the other elephant in the room - unsustainable land clearing for animal agriculture.

Sincerely  
Corinne MacKenzie