The Climate Change Authority provides rigorous, independent advice on climate change policies to improve the quality of life for all Australians.

The Authority is an independent agency established by the Climate Change Authority Act 2011.

The Authority seeks to deliver independent and expert advice by:

- engaging stakeholders to gather information and debate policy options
- undertaking extensive and rigorous research and analysis
- presenting insightful, transparent and practical reports
- operating within a strong governance and accountability framework.

The Authority conducts reviews of the following climate change initiatives:

- Australia’s emissions reduction targets, carbon budgets and caps for the carbon pricing mechanism;
- progress towards meeting Australia’s medium and long term emissions reduction targets;
- the carbon pricing mechanism;
- the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting System;
- the Carbon Farming Initiative; and
- the Renewable Energy Target.

The Authority publishes all its reports on its website.

The Commonwealth Government is required to respond to the Authority’s reports within six months, but does not have to follow the Authority’s recommendations.