Outcomes

Climate Change Authority Meeting 9 May 2023



Preamble

The Climate Change Authority met on Tuesday 9 May for the third meeting of 2023. The meeting commenced with an Acknowledgement of Country and the standard deliberations relating to administrative matters and handling of potential conflicts of interest. Members agreed there were no interests raising potential conflicts of interest in relation to the matters to be discussed in the meeting. Members also discussed the Authority's use of media, completed a regular review of the Authority Charter, and agreed to publish on the Authority's website in coming weeks the Charter, the Standing Notice of Members' Interests, and summaries of meeting outcomes.

Members then discussed projects in the Authority's 2023-24 work program, including the finalisation of an issues paper for public consultation, leading indicators for the annual progress report to advise the Annual Climate Change Statement, and the Authority's potential participation in events as part of the 2023 United Nations climate change conference, COP28.

Summary

Issues Paper

The Authority will shortly be releasing an Issues Paper for public consultation. The Issues Paper contains a number of issues the Authority is seeking broad public feedback on relating to advice on progress towards emissions reduction targets, advice on the 2035 Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) target, the legislated review of the Carbon Credits (Carbon Farming Initiative Amendments) Act 2024 (CFI Review) and the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007 (NGERS Review).

Following deliberations, Members agreed, subject to some minor amendments, to release the Issues Paper in the week of 15 May 2023.

Leading Indicators

Members discussed indicators of the response to climate change that could be incorporated in the Authority's 2023 Annual Progress Report, which will inform the 2023 Annual Climate Change Statement by the Minister for Climate Change And Energy. The focus in this meeting was on metrics that can signal how Australia is likely to track towards its emissions reduction targets.

Members considered an initial list of leading indicators relating to electricity generation, electric vehicles, livestock and fuel switching, and agreed to further develop these and other indicators across other sectors including heavy transport and land-use and land-use change, for discussion in future meetings.

COP28 Engagement

Members discussed the Authority's potential involvement at COP28 in the United Arab Emirates in November 2023, noting the Authority has not been formally asked to participate. The Authority acknowledges the importance of the UNFCCC framework in working toward meeting the Paris Agreement goals. Members agreed that 2023 is a transition year for the Authority and delivery of its reviews and advice must take precedence, noting its Annual Progress Report and the CFI and NGERS reviews are all due in the second half of the year. Members also noted that while the Authority will not have a presence at COP28, it may undertake more targeted engagement this year and intends to engage more deeply in future Conferences of the Parties.



Attendees

Mr Grant King Chair
Ms Susie Smith Member
Mr Mark Lewis Member
Dr Russell Reichelt AO Member
Mr John McGee Member
Ms Sam Mostyn Member

Dr Cathy Foley Member (ex officio)

Apologies

Dr Virginia Marshall Member

Secretariat

Mr Brad Archer Chief Executive Officer
Ms Eliza Murray General Manager
Dr Matt Searson A/g General Manager