Outcomes





Preamble

The Climate Change Authority met on 5 December for its final meeting of 2023. The meeting commenced with an Acknowledgement of Country, followed by standard deliberations relating to administrative matters and handling of potential conflicts of interest. The Authority's chair, Mr Grant King, declared he has assumed a new role, chair of North Harbour Clean Energy, and advised that he no longer has an interest in GreenCollar.

The CEO, Mr Brad Archer delivered his report to members, including updates relating to the public release of the authority's 2023 Annual Progress Report and work program for 2024.

The remainder of the agenda consisted of discussions on the authority's First Nations engagement approach, an update on the Sectoral Pathways Review and proposed Interim Paper for the authority's Pathways and Targets project. Members also discussed the authority's approach to providing advice for the 2024 annual climate change statement.

Summary

First Nations engagement

Members discussed the authority's approach to engaging with First Nations people in developing its advice throughout 2024. Members noted the breadth of First Nations engagement currently underway across government and how the authority might leverage some of these opportunities.

Members expressed the goal of the authority leading by example and ensuring there is very strong First Nations engagement to support the development of its advice, noting this will require effort to overcome the challenges associated with the geographical dispersion and cultural diversity of First Nations people. Members noted the importance of seeking a wide range of perspectives.

Members agreed to refine the authority's approach over coming months, noting success will be measured by what is revealed and incorporated in its advice, not simply the act of engaging.

Sectoral Pathways Review

Members discussed progress of the sectoral pathways review, including initial analysis of each sector and scenario narratives that describe the different plausible futures that inform the authority's analysis. Members agreed narratives should be informed by the outcomes of the global stocktake at COP 28.

The discussion also included an update on the authority's modelling project, including the outcomes from the recent modelling consultation paper. Discussions centred around the importance of capturing both the 'time' element (i.e., when emission reductions occur) and the 'quantum' element (i.e., scale of emissions reduction) for each sector.

Pathways and Targets: Interim Paper

Members discussed the proposed scope of the Pathways and Targets: Interim Paper, which is designed to serve as a consultation paper for both the 2035 Target Advice and the Sectoral Pathways Review, presenting

an update on the authority's consideration of sectoral pathways and emissions reduction targets.

The Pathways and Targets: Interim Paper is intended to be released for public comment in April 2024.

2024 Annual Progress Report

Following release of the 2023 Annual Progress Report, which constitutes the authority's advice for the annual climate change statement, members turned their minds to the approach for next year's advice and potential areas of focus. Member noted the importance of monitoring the progress with implementation of key government measures, and that statutory requirements for the authority to report specifically on outcomes under the safeguard mechanism will commence in 2024.

Attendees

Mr Grant King Chair

Professor Lesley Hughes Member

Dr Russell Reichelt AO Member

Mr Mark Lewis Member

Ms Susie Smith Member

Dr Virginia Marshall Member

Ms Sam Mostyn AO Member

Mr John McGee Member

Dr Cathy Foley AO PSM FAA FTSE Member (Ex-officio)

Secretariat

Mr Brad Archer Chief Executive Officer

Ms Eliza Murray General Manager, Strategy Branch

Dr Matt Searson Acting General Manager, Analysis Branch

Mr Tim Banks* General Counsel

Minute takers Secretariat staff

^{*} Part attendance