

Outcomes

Climate Change Authority Meeting 14 May 2024



Preamble

The Climate Change Authority met on 14 May 2024. The meeting commenced with an Acknowledgement of Country, delivered by the Chair, and standard deliberations relating to administrative matters and declarations and handling of potential conflicts of interest.

Mr Archer delivered the CEO's report focusing on consultation on the authority's 2024 issues paper and the authority's First Nations engagement, and noting the government's recently released *Future Gas Strategy* and other government announcements in the lead up to the 2024-25 federal budget.

Members discussed a special meeting, held on 6 May, where they received a presentation from the authority's external expert modelling advisor, Dr Steve Hatfield-Dodds, on the modelling work undertaken for the authority for its sector pathways and targets projects by the CSIRO. Members noted the preliminary results and updates, and sought further information and analysis on various aspects of the work.

The remainder of the agenda consisted of updates on the authority's consultation program, Sector Pathways Review and 2035 Targets Advice and a guest speaker presentation.

Summary

Consultation update

Members discussed progress on the authority's consultation program including the significant number of stakeholder meetings and roundtables undertaken to date, and noted consultation would soon close on the issues paper.

Guest speaker

Ms Rebecca Mikula-Wright, CEO of the Investor Group on Climate Change (IGCC), presented on the challenges IGCC members see, and that sector plans could help address, in achieving a rapid and orderly transition to net zero by 2050.

Sectoral Pathways Review

Members discussed an annotated outline of the Sector Pathways Review and the timeline for finalising the report before it is delivered to the Minister on 1 August 2024. Members agreed to provide any further feedback in writing for the secretariat to incorporate in preparing the draft of the review report.

2035 Targets Advice

Members discussed the Paris Agreement and the legislated requirements and principles that guide the authority's targets advice, and the criteria they will use to assess possible recommendations on Australia's 2035 targets. Members then considered draft content on some topics to be addressed in the report and the timeline for providing the report to the Minister. Members agreed to a process and timeline for receiving and providing feedback on draft material for the report.

Other business

Members briefly discussed the topic of methane emissions, which the authority made recommendations on in its 2023 review of the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act, and agreed to continue considering the issue in its forward work program.

Attendees

Mr Grant King	Chair
Professor Lesley Hughes	Member
Mrs Fiona Simson	Member
Ms Susie Smith	Member
Dr Virginia Marshall*	Member
Mr Richard Bolt	Member
Mr John McGee*	Member
Dr Cathy Foley AO PSM FAA FTSE*	Member (Ex-officio)

** Partial attendance*

Apologies

Nil

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
Secretariat staff	Minute takers