



The Hon. Matt Kean MP
Treasurer
Minister for Energy

Net Zero Emissions and Clean Economy Board

Statement of Expectations to 31 January 2024

This Statement of Expectations (SoE) sets out the Government's expectations about the roles and responsibilities of the Net Zero Emissions and Clean Economy Board (the Board). This SoE applies for the period from 1 February 2023 to 31 January 2024.

As Minister for Energy, I am responsible for the *Energy and Utilities Administration Act 1987* (the Act) which includes provisions under section 34W for the establishment of advisory committees. The Board has been established under this section through the *Energy and Utilities Administration Regulation 2021* (the Regulation). The Regulation sets out the Board's advisory role and functions in matters related to the Net Zero Plan, emissions reduction and the transition to a net zero economy.

NSW Government objectives to reduce emissions and promote economic growth

In March 2020, the NSW Government announced its Net Zero Plan Stage 1: 2020–2030 (the Net Zero Plan), laying the foundation for our action on climate change to reach our goal of achieving net zero emissions by 2050. Since the launch of the Plan, the NSW Government has made significant progress in the pursuit of its priorities. The Plan and related policies are projected to deliver emissions reductions in NSW of 55.2 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent by 2035.

This means that the State is projected to reduce its emissions by 70 per cent below 2005 levels by 2035.

I ask the Board to consider ways that the NSW Government can build on this progress towards achieving net zero while ensuring that communities thrive as the NSW economy decarbonises. I request that the Board consider opportunities to promote jobs and economic growth through our response to climate change.

Implementing the Net Zero Plan

The Board will also advise the Department on the implementation of key programs under the Net Zero Plan: the Net Zero Industry and Innovation Program, the Hydrogen Program, NSW Net Zero Primary Industries Productivity and Abatement Program, the NSW Safeguard Acceleration Program, the NSW Business Decarbonisation Program and the Electric Vehicle programs.

The Department will act as decision maker in relation to Climate Change Fund expenditure on net zero programs within parameters already approved by me. To inform its decision making, the Department will seek and consider the advice of the Board on:

- funding guidelines and merit assessment criteria for grant applications
- awarding of funding unless a funding decision is considered straightforward or lower impact and low risk consistent with a framework approved by the Board.

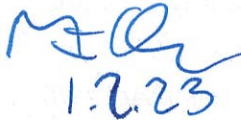
I request that in providing your advice on these matters, you consider the Net Zero Programs Funding Principles. The Department will make decisions under the Energy and Utilities Administration Act (Climate Change Fund) Instrument of Delegation 2022.

I may also seek your advice in relation to key matters for the broader Net Zero Plan, including governance arrangements, recommendations on improvements to programs and other plans and strategies to achieve the emissions reduction objectives of the State.

Conclusion

This SoE will be updated annually to ensure it maintains focus on emerging opportunities in low carbon technology and research.

I look forward to working with the Board to help meet the State's emissions reduction objectives while supporting jobs and creating a resilient low emissions economy.



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