

Queensland Climate Transition Strategy

July 2017

On 11 July 2017 the Queensland Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport and Minister for Infrastructure and Planning, the Hon. Jackie Trad MP, and Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection and Minister for National Parks and the Great Barrier Reef, the Hon. Steven Miles MP, released the Queensland Climate Transition Strategy and the Queensland Climate Adaptation Strategy.

At the core of these two strategies is a zero net emissions target for Queensland by 2050. This will be supported by an existing interim 50 per cent renewable energy target by 2030, and government policies including the Biofutures 10 Year Roadmap and an Electric Vehicle Strategy.

Queensland Climate Transition Strategy

The Queensland Climate Transition Strategy outlines a two-stage approach to achieve the net zero emissions target.

Stage one will prepare industries and communities for the transition to a net zero emissions economy over the next three years. This includes de-carbonizing the energy sector, developing the state's carbon sink capacity and driving innovation. The second stage, from 2020, involves the implementation of policy measures.

The strategy is broken down into six responses under three pathways which will guide the transition of industries, the economy and communities over these two stages.

Pathway 1, Response 1 - Facilitate the zero emissions industries of the future

Promoting platform technologies aimed at driving down carbon emissions through collaborative partnerships that accelerate the development and deployment of these (platform) technologies. It will also expand on the CarbonPlus fund which supports landowners undertaking carbon farming activities and develop an action plan which supports the transition to low carbon biofuels.

Pathway 1, Response 2 – Lead by example

Response 2 will see the Queensland Government signing the Under2 MOU – a coalition of subnational governments setting ambitious climate targets. All Government Departments will also be required to report on their emissions from 2018.

The Queensland Treasury will also issue certified green bonds in the following potentially eligible projects to investors:

- renewable energy
- energy efficient processes and products
- low-carbon transport—electrified rail infrastructure and cycleways
- drought resilience and flood defence
- water and wastewater treatment plants and distribution infrastructure
- preservation of the Great Barrier Reef and other natural ecosystems
- low-carbon buildings and

- other projects covered by new or revised climate bond sector-specific standards.

Pathway 2, Response 3 - Understand the risks and opportunities that a zero net emissions future presents for Queensland

Over the next two years government will release regional impact statements that identify opportunities and risks associated with transitioning to a net zero emissions economy. Engagement with industry, local governments and the non-government sectors will then be strengthened around local responses to transitioning the economy, communities and workforces.

Pathway 2, Response 4 - Encourage innovation and transition to low and zero carbon technologies

The government will focus on incorporating the net zero emissions target, and the interim 50 per cent renewable energy target by 2030 into the government's ongoing policy agenda – specifically the Advance Queensland agenda, as well as focusing on fostering new industries.

Pathway 3, Response 5 - Support Queensland communities to take action

Under the Strategy's fifth Response, the government will engage with industry, local governments and local communities to implement localised responses at regional and city levels. This will include government assisting industry, not-for-profit and local government sectors to build the capacity of communities to have transition conversations. Indigenous communities will also be provided with increased renewable energy infrastructure and energy storage capacity.

Pathway 3, Response 6- Skill Queenslanders for new economy jobs

Government will use the opportunities and risks analysis developed during Response 3, to identify communities hardest hit by the economic transition and work with industry and the not-for-profit sector to develop localized plans to support job creation. The sixth response will also include engagement with industry to better expand on government's understanding of future (industry) needs.

Queensland Climate Adaptation Strategy

The purpose of the Queensland Climate Adaptation Strategy (Q-CAS) is to better prepare the state for current and future challenges posed by climate change. A Q-CAS Partners Group comprising of leading representatives from business, local government and industry, has been established to advise government on the development of the strategy and its ongoing implementation. Q-CAS outlines four pathways of adaptation actions, key elements of which are outlined below.

Sectors and Systems Pathway

The government will work with industry, business and the not-for-profit sectors to develop sector adaptation plans (SAPs), the development of which will be led by representatives from each sector. Two SAPs have been developed for the Agriculture and Built Environment and Infrastructure sectors. The remaining SAPs will be developed between 2017-18.

People and Knowledge

- Partnering with community organisations to build the resilience of communities.
- Developing innovative programs to engage communities.
- Working with industry and research institutions to expand the state's climate research and expertise.



State Government Pathway

- Includes recent changes to the state's planning instruments which now require projected climate change impacts be mitigated in strategic land use planning and development assessment.
- Maintaining cross-jurisdictional partnerships.
- Reviewing Q-CAS every three to five years to assess its effectiveness and implementing any recommended changes.

Local Governments and Regions Pathway

- Funding 32 councils to develop and implement local government climate adaptation plans.
- Partnering with natural resource management groups to deliver local climate adaptation projects.

Further information

Further information on the Queensland Climate Transition Strategy is available [here](#).

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