

Federal Labor's National Hydrogen Plan

January 2019

On 22 January 2019 Federal Labor Leader Bill Shorten committed a future Labor Government to a six-point plan to develop Australia's hydrogen industry.

The *National Hydrogen Plan* is a \$1.14 billion package aimed at delivering economic, employment, energy and environmental benefits focused in regional areas.

Mr. Shorten highlighted [analysis by ACIL Allen](#) projecting hydrogen exports to be worth up to \$10 billion in the next two decades, with potential for up to 16,000 new jobs.

Research, development and commercialization

Labor will direct \$90 million of unallocated funding from the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) to support research, demonstration and pre-commercial deployment of hydrogen technologies.

Hydrogen production, storage and transport will be a key funding priority of the Australian Research Council.

Hydrogen deployment and industry development

Labor's plan includes the following investment aimed at developing the industry and supporting hydrogen deployment:

- \$1 billion from the Clean Energy Finance Corporation (CEFC) to support clean hydrogen development, as part of a commitment to double CEFC's capital by \$10 billion.
- \$40 million of unallocated funding from the CEFC Clean Energy Innovation Fund, to target hydrogen technologies and businesses that have passed the research and development stage.
- \$10 million of unallocated ARENA funding to support hydrogen refuelling infrastructure nationally.

Hydrogen regulatory reforms

The package is supported by key reforms to support hydrogen use such as:

- A 'Guarantee of Origin' scheme to certify carbon neutral hydrogen.
- An examination of rule changes through AEMC to allow for compensation for grid firming by electrolyzers.
- Pursuing international export agreements on hydrogen.
- Harmonising regulations for hydrogen vehicles from state-to-state.

National Hydrogen Innovation Hub

An initial investment of \$3 million is included to establish the National Hydrogen Innovation Hub in Gladstone. The hub will promote early commercialization of hydrogen technologies, provide a hub for investment and research agencies, and initiate opportunities to leverage LNG infrastructure to support hydrogen exports.

Further information

For more information, please contact your Hawker Britton consultant [Simon Banks](#) on +61 419 638 587.

Hawker Britton's Occasional Paper on Federal Labor's renewable energy reforms is available [here](#).

Further Hawker Britton Occasional Papers on the activities of the Federal Opposition are available [here](#).