



Western Australia's Climate Change Bill

About Western Australia's climate change legislation

WA's climate change legislation will require government to set greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets, report annually to Parliament about Western Australia's progress against emissions reduction targets and develop policies and plans to support achievement of targets and enhance climate resilience.

The State Government has committed to introducing climate change legislation to contribute to national and global goals for decarbonisation, enhance accountability, provide certainty for businesses, and attract the investment required for the net zero transition.



Climate change legislation will enshrine the State's long-term target of net zero emissions by 2050. It will provide statutory requirements to set interim emission reduction targets and develop policies to reduce emissions and enhance climate resilience. The legislation will also require the Minister for Climate Action to report annually to Parliament on Western Australia's net emissions and progress against the emission reduction targets.



The Climate Change Bill creates obligations for the State Government to set targets, report emissions and create policies to support achievement of targets and enhance climate resilience.



The Climate Change Bill complements existing State and national legislation covering facilities with significant greenhouse gas emissions, including the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*, the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting scheme and the Safeguard Mechanism. The Bill is intended to hold Government to account, not create obligations for business or duplicate existing mechanisms for regulating industrial greenhouse gas emissions.

Why is climate change legislation important?

While climate change legislation is not required to deliver the Government's goals for climate action, legislated targets and reporting are best practice and will help provide the certainty and stability the community and investors are seeking.

Western Australia is already experiencing the impacts of climate change, including more frequent and severe droughts, heatwaves, high-risk bushfire weather, extreme rainfall events and rising sea levels. Urgent action is needed to enhance the resilience of our vulnerable assets, communities, ecosystems and infrastructure.

Decarbonisation and adaptation require investments with long lead times. Households and businesses will need to be confident that policies will remain stable over many years if they are to invest in and change their behaviour in line with government climate change objectives.

Climate change legislation will enhance the credibility of the Government's climate change response, provide greater certainty about emissions reduction pathways for Western Australia and reduce investment risks because of uncertainty.

Climate change legislation will ensure that Western Australia contributes to global efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and will align with the Australian Government's commitments to reducing national emissions.

To learn more about the Western Australia's climate change legislation visit the [website](#) or email us at climatebill@dwer.wa.gov.au.