

## 2025 consultation

<b>Submission type</b>	Guided submission
<b>Submitter</b>	Anonymous
<b>Response ID</b>	276673

### Disclaimer

This document is a submission to the Net Zero Commission’s 2025 consultation. As part of the consultation process, the commission has committed to publishing the submissions it receives. Submissions do not represent the views of the commission.

## 2025 consultation questions

<p><b>1. What can you tell us about your experience of the impacts of climate change and how can the commission seek to reflect and respond to this in its work?</b></p>	<p>Being impacted by more extreme weather events, climate anxiety, loss of biodiversity or changed biodiversity, increased exposure to illnesses that were previously not present in Sydney (Ross River Virus).</p>
<p><b>2. What actions can the commission take to engage across the community to help drive the shifts needed for the net zero transition and for effective climate change mitigation and adaptation?</b></p>	<p>1) Communicate a clear vision - what should net-zero NSW by 2050 look like - which is locked into law. 2) Share a clear roadmap - where will we be by 2030, 2040 etc., what will happen when. 3) Implement a clear policy to effect this change. It should take a carrot and stick approach, with incentives to make changes (such as subsidies on energy efficient housing upgrades, HVAC upgrades, mandatory energy certificates for housing which affect rental and sales prices like in the EU) and fines/ punishments (for laggards).</p>
<p><b>3. How should the commission best engage with First Nations people to learn about cultural knowledge and practices to support adaptation, and what information and evidence should it draw on to inform its understanding of these practices?</b></p>	
<p><b>4. What additional mechanisms, support, or incentives can meaningfully empower and enhance First Nations people's involvement in climate mitigation, adaptation and environmental stewardship?</b></p>	<p>I think that all Australians, regardless of their ancestry, should be empowered to see our Country through First Nations eyes. That is, we should already as children learn how humans are just one species within a complex web of other species, and that we have a responsibility to help maintain the fragile balance of this system. It would also be fantastic if as part of our coming of age, all children would be given a totem in our Aboriginal tradition, that is an Australian animal which they are tasked with learning deeply about and helping to protect as part of their life mission. By teaching all Australians to understand and appreciate our Country like First Nations peoples do around the world, but in the tradition of our own First Nations people, we would empower all Australians to collectively address Australia's specific climate and biodiversity challenges.</p>
<p><b>5. What additional information and evidence should the commission consider when assessing progress towards NSW's targets for reducing net greenhouse gas emissions?</b></p>	<p>The approach and learnings from other leading jurisdictions around the world. There's no need to reinvent the wheel, we are all on the same journey and the faster we can learn from each other the better.</p>

<p><b>6. The speed of deployment of electricity generation and infrastructure is a key risk to emissions reduction targets. What more could be done to fast-track deployment?</b></p>	<p>The government has a key role to play, in consultation with industry and communities, in breaking down the barriers of building big renewable energy projects. These include issues in getting the infrastructure to build renewable energy projects (such as ships to deliver and build offshore wind turbines), agreeing on suitable locations to construct them (ensuring there are adequate incentives for farmers and others so they do want it in their back yard), financing them (providing clear investment incentives) and sourcing parts from offshore suppliers (seeing if local assembly or other assistance can help). At the same time, the government should do everything in its power to fast-track small scale renewable energy projects, through incentives like subsidies and grants along with legislative reform and public communication campaigns. If each building becomes a power plant, there is much less cost and risk involved, more people benefit, and our targets can be achieved much faster and more easily.</p>
<p><b>7. Are the measures now in place sufficient to ensure community engagement and benefit sharing from the build out of infrastructure for the energy transition?</b></p>	<p>If our transition isn't happening fast enough and there remains community opposition, then I would say no.</p>
<p><b>8. Are First Nations communities adequately engaged and included in sharing the benefits of the transition? What more could be done, and by whom?</b></p>	
<p><b>9. What are likely to prove the most effective approaches to accelerate rapid decarbonisation across freight and passenger transport?</b></p>	<p>Like in health and safety, the first focus should be how do we eliminate or at least reduce individual vehicles. How can we build out better public transport and cargo transport networks with metro/rail lines through key corridors? How can we incentivise car or cargo pooling? How can we have a km driven approach to vehicle insurance which incentivises people for driving less?</p> <p>Then the focus should be on electrifying the remaining individual vehicles. There must be mandatory emission reduction targets aligned with the net zero plan, so industry can plan investment and fleet upgrades, as well as fines or other punishments if they are not met. Then there need to be incentives to facilitate the transition, support to build out infrastructure for electric vehicles, and community education campaigns to promote electrification.</p>
<p><b>10. What specific actions or policies could increase uptake of emissions reduction strategies in agriculture, both in the short and long term?</b></p>	

<b>11. Given the uncertainties in land-sector net emissions, how should NSW incorporate this sector into the states climate policy and emissions profile?</b>	
<b>12. What specific actions could increase carbon storage and resilience of the existing carbon stock in the land sector and meaningfully enhance the application of First Nations people's knowledge and practices?</b>	
<b>13. What policies or programs at a sectoral level could complement the Safeguard Mechanism to support the accelerated decarbonisation of heavy industry in NSW?</b>	
<b>14. What measures could accelerate industrial heat electrification in NSW, where technology is viable?</b>	
<b>15. What short to medium term measures could be prioritised to address the systemic challenges regarding waste generation and resource recovery?</b>	<p>Studying European nations, such as Denmark who do not use landfills, the government should consider implementing waste-to-energy incineration. This would help the energy transition and address the waste challenges. Of course the priority should be on avoidance, reuse, and recycling before considering incineration or landfilling.</p> <p>Another important aspect is to implement legislation to reduce eliminate waste in the first place, so it never needs to be sent to landfill or incineration. Styrofoam and other plastic based single use packing materials should be phased out, incentives should exist for more sustainable substitutes and taxes for those who don't comply. Better recycling systems should be available too and where relevant, legislation should allow the movement of waste streams across states to achieve the economies of scale required to justify investments in the latest recycling systems.</p>
<b>16. How could transparency of how coal mines meet their</b>	

<b>Safeguard Mechanism obligations be improved?</b>	
<b>17. What measures would lead to coal mines prioritising on-site abatement over offsetting?</b>	
<b>18. What measures should be considered beyond the Safeguard Mechanism to reduce emissions of the resources sector, particularly methane emissions, to meet NSW's emissions reduction targets?</b>	
<b>19. What additional measures could accelerate electrification and increase energy efficiency of new and existing buildings?</b>	Supporting and approving updates to the National Construction Code which require improved efficiency. Supporting the local industry for manufacturing and delivering modular passive or active homes. Making energy certificates mandatory when renting out or selling homes, like in the EU, so potential renters or buyers can see the energy consumption per m2 and influence the price accordingly. Ensuring appliances sold meet minimum efficiency targets (i.e. minimum GEMS star rating).
<b>20. How could social equity be better addressed in the transition to an electrified built environment?</b>	Ensure there are incentives to upgrade existing homes and build new homes to passive house standards. This way they will not need expensive heating or cooling. Electrification will therefore only be needed for hot water and appliances then and if there are mandatory energy certificates for homes like in the EU, landlords will be incentivised to make their homes as efficient and run off renewables as far as possible.
<b>21. What approaches could NSW consider to eliminate refrigerants with a GWP &gt;10 from buildings?</b>	Mandate the GWP refrigerant threshold values in line with the Australian Sustainable Finance Taxonomy (page 99, Table 14), so suppliers will only provide conforming refrigerants from the sunrise date of 1 January 2027.
<b>22. What should be included in an emissions monitoring framework for NSW in the context of the transition to net zero, including any specific metrics and indicators?</b>	BASIX and NABERS ratings data
<b>23. The adaptation objective is for NSW to be more resilient to a changing climate. The Act allows for regulations</b>	A resilient NSW has a low carbon economy powered by renewables, it has a clear strategy to move peoples homes from higher risk to lower risk lands, it has strong emergency preparedness to protect people and NSW's unique species, building and infrastructure assets that can withstand acute shocks, it has vast green urban spaces and passive

<b>to further define the adaptation objective. What does a more resilient NSW look like to you?</b>	homes that combat heat stress, and it has a strategy for its unique biodiversity so it can also withstand acute stresses.
<b>24. What additional information and evidence should the commission consider when assessing progress towards the adaptation objective?</b>	The Resilient Sydney Strategy 2025-2030
<b>25. How can adaptation planning better use the NSW Government's climate change projections (NARClIM)?</b>	
<b>26. What other information or tools are needed to support decision-makers in NSW?</b>	Anything to facilitate a systems approach to climate challenges. It's imperative that different sectors and government departments don't work in isolation but are empowered to work collaboratively, so that their individual actions contribute effectively towards a more resilient NSW where people and our incredible nature not only survive but thrive. The Greater Cities Commission did a good job of bringing together all agencies towards a common vision, perhaps we need something similar focussed on resilience.
<b>27. What initiatives should the commission consider in assessing NSW's preparation and responses to extreme heat and humidity events in NSW?</b>	Taking a health and safety best-practice ISO45001 aligned approach, there should be a clear policy and plan with relevant scenarios. These scenarios or extreme events should be tested, through drills in different communities, before being learned from and improved. Any gaps should be fed into a plan and regular audits should be conducted and reports made to ensure that this management system is effective and preparation for extreme events keeps improving.
<b>Are there any other pieces of evidence or feedback you would like to add?</b>	