

QUEENSLAND ENERGY AND JOBS PLAN

Power for generations

Interim Energy Industry Council

Tripartite representation of unions, industry and Government

Our commitment is to help form the bridge between our proud energy history and our bright energy future. Energy workers within our publicly owned energy businesses have been the backbone of Queensland's secure and reliable energy system.

Generations of workers in our traditional power generating assets have helped keep the lights on in Queensland and helped to build our great state. We respect their efforts and contributions while looking ahead to the future and the next generation of energy workers.

Our commitment is to put people first and to support workers, their families, and their communities and regions to continue to deliver a lasting legacy and prosperous future for Queensland.

Meeting Communiqué – June 2024

The Queensland Energy Workers' Charter was signed on 28 September 2022, alongside the launch of the Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan.

In its inaugural meeting in February 2023, the interim Energy Industry Council (EIC) agreed on a forward work program with three key objectives identified:

1. To see the EIC, Job Security Guarantee and Queensland Renewable Energy Jobs Advocate formally established in legislation.
2. Identify critical support mechanisms for workers; and
3. Have processes in place for developing individual transition plans for workers in government owned coal-fired power stations.

The interim EIC met six times in 2023 and will continue a similar cadence in 2024. A subcommittee was established in March 2023, comprising representatives from each member organisation, and has been providing invaluable support to the interim EIC in progressing these matters.

Energy (Renewable Transformation and Jobs) Act 2024

Members received an update from the Department of Energy and Climate on the progress of Regulations to support the implementation of the *Energy (Renewable Transformation and Jobs) Act 2024*.

The Act enshrines the Job Security Guarantee and establishes new governance bodies to advise Government on the impacts and opportunities of the energy transformation for workers and communities.

The Regulation will support the implementation of the Job Security Guarantee Fund by outlining the types of supports to be provided by the Fund and the types of affected energy workers eligible to receive these supports.

An update was also provided to members around the progress of the appointments to the new governance bodies.

Subcommittee Update

Representatives of the subcommittee provided an update on its ongoing work to guide the implementation of the Job Security Guarantee Fund.

This presentation included an overview of the development of a process for issue resolution and key considerations for how the Job Security Guarantee Fund could be accessed by affected energy workers.

The subcommittee will continue to develop guiding materials and processes to support implementation of the Fund.

These processes are being developed to ensure the operation of the Fund is transparent and accountable and able to meet the needs of workers.

Net Zero Economy Agency

The interim EIC received a presentation from the Net Zero Economy Agency on the key aspects of the new Net Zero Economy Authority Bill 2024 and recent Federal Budget commitments.

The Bill provides for the establishment of a new Net Zero Economy Authority which will promote orderly and positive net zero economic transformation for regions, industries, workers and communities. The Bill will also establish Energy Industry jobs Plans to support employees impacted by the transition away from coal and gas-fired generation.

The interim EIC and subcommittee will continue to engage with the Agency as the Net Zero Economy Authority is established.

Powering Skills Organisation

The Powering Skills Organisation (PSO) provided members with an overview of key findings of national workshops in relation to VET pathways for the energy industry.

The PSO is one of the ten Jobs and Skills Councils established by the Commonwealth Government to identify the skills and workforce needs for the energy sector, map career pathways across education sectors, develop VET training products and support collaboration between industry and training providers.

Worker Engagement

Evidn provided an update on the progress of worker engagements and further insights from these activities, ahead of their final report being tabled with the Council.

Members discussed the role of ongoing worker engagement activities and reaffirmed the importance of this in delivering the work program of the interim EIC.

Next Meeting

The next EIC meeting is scheduled for August 2024.

Membership

Interim EIC members represent the interests of signatories to the Queensland Energy Workers' Charter and are supported by the Department of Energy and Climate.

Unions	Electrical Trades Union Australian Manufacturing Workers' Union Mining and Energy Union Queensland Professionals Australia The Services Union
Publicly Owned Energy Businesses	CleanCo Queensland CS Energy Energy Queensland Powerlink Queensland Stanwell Corporation