

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 – April 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 iEIC in progressing these matters.

Energy (Renewable Transformation and Jobs) Act 2024

On 18 April 2024, Queensland Parliament passed the *Energy (Renewable Transformation and Jobs) Act 2024*. This legislation enshrines in law key commitments from the Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan, creates the infrastructure frameworks needed to build the Queensland SuperGrid, and establishes the governance and advisory bodies for success. Of note, this legislation locks in the Government's Job Security Guarantee and Fund, commitment to ongoing public ownership of energy assets and formally establishes the EIC and Jobs Advocate.

By enshrining key commitments, such as the Job Security Guarantee and public ownership, in legislation, energy workers can be confident that they will be supported through the energy transformation. Further, the formal establishment of the EIC and the Jobs Advocate will ensure Government is receiving representative advice on the impacts and opportunities of the energy transformation for workers and communities. This legislation will ensure Queensland has a smooth, coordinated energy transformation that protects workers at Queensland's publicly owned coal-fired power stations.

With the Act now in place, the iEIC and subcommittee are focused on providing advice on the supporting Regulation. This is where the eligibility requirements for the \$150 million Fund, and the supports available for affected energy workers from the Fund, will be detailed. Work is also underway on supporting guidance materials, which will outline how the Fund can be accessed and payments made.

Update from the subcommittee

Representatives of the iEIC subcommittee provided an update on their ongoing work to develop guidance and supporting materials for the Fund, including the elements to be included in a Handbook for affected energy workers and the processes for developing individual transition plans. The iEIC thanked the subcommittee for their work and encouraged further development of the guidance materials and processes. This will be the focus of the subcommittee over coming months.

Worker engagement

Representatives from the tripartite iEIC and subcommittee participated in Townhall events at Kogan Creek and Callide Power Stations (March and April 2024 respectively). These events were an opportunity for members to share the work of the iEIC and to hear first-hand the views of workers. Both events were well attended.

Comments and questions raised across both townhalls centred on the employment opportunities across the sites, and through Queensland's transition more broadly, as well as mechanisms to retain existing workers.

The insights provided from workers through these townhall events will inform the ongoing work of the iEIC and the subcommittee. The events will be complemented by ongoing engagement activities across both these sites, as well as Stanwell and Tarong power stations.



Next Meeting

The next interim EIC meeting is scheduled for June 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