

ClimateSmart 2050



Queensland's *ClimateSmart 2050* climate change strategy is a \$1.4 billion investment by the Queensland Government that contributes to Australia's and the global effort to tackle climate change. *ClimateSmart 2050* presents a balanced mix of short, medium and long-term initiatives for responding to climate change and contributing to a national greenhouse gas emissions reduction target of 60 per cent below 2000 levels by 2050.

The strategy was developed to deliver the next steps in Queensland's climate change response and includes:

- immediate investment in renewable and low emission technologies including carbon capture and storage;
- promotion of energy efficiency in households, industry and government; and
- engaging in national efforts to establish an emissions trading scheme.

Summary of key initiatives within the strategy:

Queensland Climate Change Fund

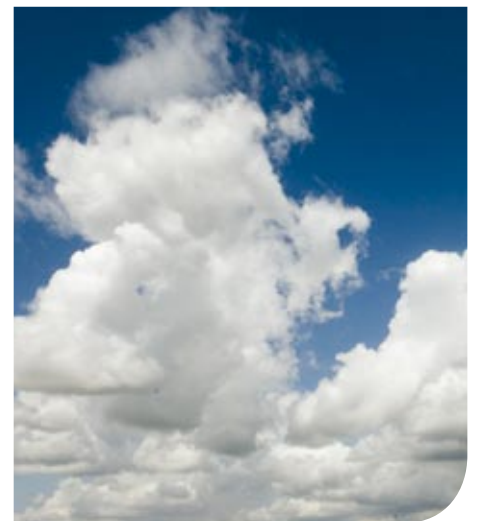
A key commitment in the strategy is the establishment of a \$430 million Queensland Climate Change Fund, with interest earned on the fund providing an ongoing funding source of approximately \$30 million each year for future climate change initiatives.

Clean Coal Fund

The Queensland Government has allocated \$300 million from the Queensland Future Growth Fund to develop carbon capture and storage technologies. The government will work with the state's coal industry which has agreed to provide \$600 million over 10 years towards these technologies.

Queensland has some world-leading carbon capture and storage (CCS) demonstration projects currently in planning phases. These include:

- ZeroGen's Integrated Gasification Combined Cycle with CCS;
- CS Energy's Oxyfuel combustion with CCS; and
- Fairview Power's enhanced coal bed methane recovery (using CO₂) and gas fired power and carbon storage project.



Queensland Renewable Energy Fund (QREF)

The QREF is a \$50 million investment by the Queensland Government to take renewable energy technologies from demonstration stage to deployment. The funding program supports the development and deployment of renewable energy generation technologies in Queensland that are beyond proof of concept. The QREF will provide concessional loans for up to 100 per cent of the project's value or as a grant of up to 50 per cent of the project's capital value. Funding is being allocated through annual funding rounds.

Queensland Smart Energy Savings Fund (SESF)

The SESF is a \$55 million investment by the Queensland Government to assist Queensland small and medium enterprise energy users invest in energy efficiency. The funding program provides support to Queensland businesses to implement energy efficient technologies in buildings, appliances and industrial processes. The SESF will provide secured concessional loans for up to 100 per cent of the project's capital value or as a grant of up to 50 per cent of the project's capital value. Funding is being allocated through bi-annual funding rounds.

Queensland renewable and low-emission energy target

As part of *ClimateSmart 2050* the government announced a target of 10 per cent renewable and low-emission energy (RLEET) by 2020. This target will provide a strong commercial incentive to develop renewable and low-emission technologies and optimise investments in renewable energy industries such as solar photovoltaic cells, wind, geothermal, biomass (eg. the waste from sugar cane milling) and landfill gas projects. The Australian Government has committed to a 20 per cent Mandatory Renewable Energy Target (MRET) by

2020. The Queensland Government will consider how to incorporate the 10 per cent RLEET into the national scheme.

Four-star energy-efficient commercial buildings

All new commercial buildings in Queensland will be required to reach a minimum four-star energy efficiency rating by 2010. Energy efficiency measures in commercial buildings will achieve greater levels of comfort, reduced reliance on artificial heating and cooling and significant financial savings from reduced energy use.

Phase-out of electric storage hot water systems

The Queensland Government will begin phasing out electric storage hot water systems in existing homes, initially in gas reticulated areas. From 2010, when an existing electric hot water system breaks down it will only be replaced with a greenhouse-friendly system, such as gas, heat pump or solar. Replacing all domestic electric hot water systems in Queensland with greenhouse-friendly alternatives should reduce demand by 300 megawatts of electricity and eliminate approximately 2.6 million tonnes of greenhouse gases. This would provide the energy needs of 328 000 houses.

Government leading by example

The Queensland Government will lead by example and has already committed to:

- cutting energy consumption in government buildings and carbon-neutral government office buildings by 2020;
- reducing State Government car fleet emissions by half by 2017 and offsetting 50 per cent by 2010 and 100 per cent by 2020; and
- Queensland Government agencies purchasing carbon offsets for all air travel where available.

ClimateSmart 2050 review

There have been a number of national and international developments such as the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change *Fourth Assessment Report*, Australia ratifying the Kyoto Protocol, the release of the Garnaut Climate Change Review Draft Report and the announcement of a range of climate change policies by the new Commonwealth Government. The latest science is also telling us that climate change is happening faster and with greater impact than previously estimated.

In light of these developments the Queensland Government is reviewing, updating and consolidating its climate change strategy. The review will outline ways that the Queensland economy and the community can reduce greenhouse gas emissions and prepare for the physical impacts of climate change.

The Queensland Government is keen to hear the views of Queenslanders on this important issue. Submissions to the Review can be made at cs2050.review@climatechange.qld.gov.au

More information

Climate change in Queensland

www.climatechange.qld.gov.au

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

Reports can be downloaded at <http://www.ipcc.ch/>

Garnaut Climate Change Review

www.garnautreview.org.au