

# **REVIEW OF *CLIMATESMART 2050***

## **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

### **PURPOSE:**

To update and consolidate Queensland's climate change strategy, *ClimateSmart 2050*, in light of the latest scientific assessments as well as national and international developments in climate change and climate change policy.

### **OBJECTIVES:**

To ensure that Queensland has an updated and comprehensive climate change strategy that:

- Takes account of the latest scientific advice;
- Responds to the policy directions of the Council of Australian Governments (COAG), including the introduction of a national emissions trading scheme and the findings and recommendations of the Garnaut Review of Climate Change;
- Builds upon the suite of greenhouse gas reduction measures in *ClimateSmart 2050*, and outlines how these measures contribute to achieving the national target of a 60% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 (compared with 2000 levels); and
- Provides a set of priority adaptation measures to prepare Queensland's economy and communities for the inevitable physical impacts of climate change.

### **CONTEXT:**

- *ClimateSmart 2050* was an important first step in Queensland's response to climate change. Some of the initiatives in *ClimateSmart 2050* were Australian-firsts.
- However, in late 2007 a number of developments marked a significant shift in the context for Queensland's response to climate change, including the Fourth Technical Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the ratification by Australia of the Kyoto Protocol, as well as the announcement of a range of climate change initiatives by the Federal Government.
- In February 2008 the Interim Report of the Garnaut Climate Change Review (interim report) was released, which highlighted that the world is moving towards the high risks of dangerous climate change more rapidly than has generally been understood.
- The interim report makes a case for Australia making a strong commitment to emissions reductions in the international context in order to encourage strong commitments from other nations.

- The Federal Government is committed to introducing an Emissions Trading Scheme from 2010, and the Garnaut Review has recently published an extended consideration of this matter.
- Australia must position itself for international negotiations on binding emission reduction targets by 2009 for the period beyond 2012 (as adopted under the Bali Roadmap).
- 2008 represents a ‘window of opportunity’ to review, update and consolidate Queensland’s climate change strategy in light of these developments.

## **METHODOLOGY:**

The Review of *ClimateSmart 2050* will:

- Be based on a detailed assessment of Queensland’s historical greenhouse gas emissions profile;
- Take into account Queensland’s projected emissions out to 2050;
- Consider the policy directions of COAG, and the Garnaut Review of Climate Change reports, in particular the implementation of a national emissions trading system (ETS) and principles for complementary measures.
- Draw upon the public feedback received on *ClimateSmart 2050* following its launch on 3 July 2007;
- Identify the climate change abatement approaches and report on progress within each sector to date;
- Assess the effectiveness and efficiency of various abatement options, and recommend a mix of abatement actions that contribute to the achievement of national greenhouse gas reduction targets.
- Prepare a thorough assessment of the likely physical impacts of climate change on Queensland’s regions and industrial sectors;
- Identify the climate change adaptation measures and progress undertaken by Government, industries and communities to date; and
- Building on Queensland’s *ClimateSmart Adaptation 2007-12* action plan, recommend priorities for adaptation action and allocate responsibilities.

## **DELIVERABLES**

- An assessment of Queensland’s greenhouse gas emissions by sector, in absolute and per capita terms, within the global and national context;
- Queensland’s projected greenhouse gas emissions by sector to 2050;
- An assessment of the physical impacts of climate change on Queensland’s regions and industry sectors;
- A marginal abatement cost curve for Queensland;
- A recommended mix of abatement opportunities as complementary measures to an ETS to contribute to the achievement of national greenhouse gas reduction targets; and
- A detailed list of adaptation priorities to prepare and support Queensland industries and communities for the physical impacts of climate change.

## **CONSULTATION**

- The Review will be coordinated by the Queensland Government Office of Climate Change, Environmental Protection Agency.
- All Queensland Government agencies will be consulted in the progression of the Review.
- The Review will seek broad stakeholder involvement and input.
- Consultation on the Review will be open and regular.
- The Review will also be informed by the Premier's Council on Climate Change.