

## ENERGY ROADMAP AMENDMENT BILL 2025

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| <b>Submission No:</b>      | 28   |
| <b>Submitted by:</b>       | Local Government Association of Australia  |
| <b>Publication:</b>        | Making the submission and your name public |
| <b>Attachments:</b>        | See attachment                             |
| <b>Submitter Comments:</b> |  |



Every Queensland  
community deserves  
to be a liveable one

30 October 2025

Governance, Energy and Finance Committee  
Parliament House  
George Street  
BRISBANE QLD 4000  
[gefc@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:gefc@parliament.qld.gov.au)

Dear Sir/Madam,

**RE: Energy Roadmap Amendment Bill 2025**

As the peak body for Queensland's 77 councils, the LGAQ appreciates the opportunity to provide feedback to the Governance, Energy and Finance Committee (the Committee) on the *Energy Roadmap Amendment Bill 2025* (the Bill).

As the level of government closest to the communities affected by the energy transition, councils' insights and local knowledge needs to be both considered and at the forefront of decision making by other levels of government.

Local government supports a coordinated whole-of-government approach to the delivery of objectives outlined in the Queensland Energy Roadmap (the Roadmap) and to improving energy performance and security across all sectors.

Please find enclosed a copy of our submission which contains eight key recommendations. These focus on the need for a coordinated approach to regional energy projects, as well as opportunities to collaborate on the implementation and delivery aspects of the Bill and Roadmap.

Recognising the significant investment and development of energy projects across Queensland and with councils at the forefront of energy developments, the LGAQ has a strong interest in ensuring the delivery of the Bill and the Roadmap is underpinned by a coordinated and consultative approach.

The LGAQ remains committed to working in partnership with the State Government to ensure local governments are equipped to deliver meaningful outcomes for their communities, and to play a central role in Queensland's energy journey.

If you would like to discuss any aspect of this submission further, please do not hesitate to contact Crystal Baker, Manager – Strategic Policy at [REDACTED] or Robert Chow, Lead – Energy and Resources at [REDACTED].

Yours sincerely,



Alison Smith  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Every Queensland  
community deserves  
to be a liveable one

# Energy Roadmap Amendment Bill 2025

Submission to the Governance, Energy and  
Finance Committee, Queensland Parliament

October 2025

Web: [www.lgaq.asn.au](http://www.lgaq.asn.au)

Twitter: @LGAQ

LinkedIn: Local-Government-Association-of-  
Queensland

Facebook: /LocalGovQld

Instagram: @localgovqld



## Contents

|     |  |    |
|-----|--|----|
| 1.0 | Executive Summary .....  | 4  |
| 1.1 | Recommendations .....  | 5  |
| 2.0 | Introduction .....   | 7  |
| 2.1 | LGAQ Policy Statement and Annual Conference resolutions .....                | 7  |
| 3.0 | LGAQ Response to Energy Roadmap Amendment Bill 2025.....                     | 8  |
| 3.1 | Energy System Outlook, Strategic Infrastructure Path and Objectives .....    | 8  |
| 3.2 | Public ownership of energy assets.....                                       | 8  |
| 3.3 | Governance arrangements.....   | 9  |
| 3.4 | Streamlining the Power Transmission Investment (PTI) framework.....          | 9  |
| 3.5 | Hubs as a market-led investment framework for coordinated transmission ..... | 10 |
| 3.6 | CopperString Project .....   | 11 |
| 3.7 | Other considerations .....   | 12 |
| 4.0 | Conclusion .....   | 13 |
|     | Attachment 1: LGAQ Policy Statement .....                                    | 14 |
|     | Attachment 2: LGAQ Annual Conference Resolutions .....                       | 15 |



## About the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ)

The Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) is the peak body for local government in Queensland. It is a not-for-profit association established solely to serve councils and their needs. The LGAQ has been advising, supporting, and representing local councils since 1896, enabling them to improve their operations and strengthen relationships with their communities. The LGAQ does this by connecting councils to people and places; supporting their drive to innovate and improve service delivery through smart services and sustainable solutions; and providing them with the means to achieve community, professional and political excellence.

## Equal Partners in Government Agreement

The LGAQ on behalf of all 77 Queensland local governments is a signatory to a three-year Equal Partners in Government Agreement<sup>1</sup> with the State of Queensland (signed 11 March 2025).

The Agreement details the key principles underlying the relationship between the state and local governments and establishes the foundation for effective negotiation and engagement between both levels of government.

The Agreement acknowledges that local government is the closest level of government to the community, affecting the lives of everyday Queenslanders and acknowledging local government as a genuine partner in the Australian government system.

The intent of the agreement was to continue the tradition of working in genuine partnership to improve the quality of life for all Queenslanders to enjoy. By identifying the roles and responsibilities of each party, it provides a solid foundation for effective negotiation and engagement between both levels of government.

The LGAQ is committed to working with the State Government and will continue to be a passionate advocate for councils, to serve our joint jurisdiction for the people of Queensland.

## Rural and Remote Councils Compact

The Rural and Remote Councils Compact<sup>2</sup> signed on 14 August 2025, is a sub-agreement to the Equal Partners in Government Agreement between the LGAQ and the State Government.

It provides a platform to ensure issues of priority for these communities are properly considered by the Government when developing policies, programs, and legislation.

The Rural and Remote Councils Compact, pledges to amplify the voice of and improve outcomes for the state's 45 rural and remote councils and their local communities by enhancing engagement between both levels of government.

---

<sup>1</sup> [Equal Partners in Government Agreement](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Rural and Remote Councils Compact](#)

# Energy Roadmap Amendment Bill 2025

## 1.0 Executive Summary

The LGAQ welcomes the opportunity to make a submission on the *Energy Roadmap Amendment Bill 2025* (the Bill) and acknowledges the intent of the Bill is to:

- Increase the amount of electricity generated in Queensland in a way that is cost-effective, safe, secure and reliable;
- To facilitate and support the efficient and coordinated augmentation of the national transmission grid in Queensland to accommodate the increased generation of electricity; and
- To provide for support for workers in the energy industry and communities affected by the increased generation of electricity.

As the level of government closest to the communities affected by the energy transition, councils have valuable insights and local knowledge that needs to be considered and needs to be at the forefront of decisions made by other levels of government, to ensure the interests of local communities are adequately represented and protected.

Communities throughout Queensland that host and/or are affected by energy developments occurring within their region, have consistently called for improved regulation of, and engagement on, large-scale energy projects and, critically, a guarantee that legacy benefits will be delivered to local communities as a result of these projects.

As such, the LGAQ commends the State Government's partnership with local government and for taking action to respond to the calls of local government and very much welcomes:

- The recent changes to the *Planning Act 2016* through the introduction of the *Planning (Social Impact and Community Benefit) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025*.
- A commitment to progress a code of conduct for renewable energy proponents, with a focus on legacy community benefit and addressing current community concerns.

These reforms, particularly the introduction of the Community Benefit Framework for renewable energy developments, have significantly responded to the concerns raised by councils in managing the social impacts of renewable energy developments.

Overall, the LGAQ supports many of the proposed amendments outlined in the Bill and the recent planning reforms where these align with several key local government priorities that are essential to ensuring a robust, equitable, and workable energy transition that enhances liveability for Queensland communities.

The two-week period for consultation on this Bill during the 2025 LGAQ Annual Conference period, has been challenging and limited the ability for councils and the LGAQ to provide detailed feedback in relation to all aspects of the Bill. Notwithstanding, this submission reflects the agreed policy positions of Queensland councils.

Specifically, the LGAQ welcomes reforms that promote:

- **Strategic Coordination:** Integrated policies, frameworks, and agencies that effectively manage the development of energy projects across the state, while supporting emerging industries and Queensland's economic transition.
- **Transparent Engagement:** Genuine, early, and meaningful engagement with councils and communities, including clear notification and consultation processes. This ensures transparency and provides affected and neighbouring landholders and councils with a real opportunity to influence development in their regions.
- **Community Benefits:** Guaranteed, lasting benefits for local communities that host or neighbour renewable energy developments, delivered by project proponents.
- **Workforce and Economic Support:** Adequate support for workforce and economic transition in communities impacted by industry diversification and the shift to renewables, while maintaining the sustainability of Queensland's resources sector.
- **Empowered Communities:** Tools and support that enable councils, communities, and landholders to effectively navigate the energy transition.
- **Renewable Energy Hub Planning:** Coordinated planning through Renewable Energy Hubs to guide investment in enabling infrastructure such as roads, housing, and water systems.

As the Committee may be aware, the Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning is developing a *Social Licence in Renewable Energy Toolkit for Local Government*, with an initial tranche of five tools released on 21 October 2025.

The Toolkit presents an opportunity to support local governments through Queensland's energy transition, and the LGAQ will work with the State Government to support delivery of further tools within that toolkit, in consultation with Queensland councils.

## 1.1 Recommendations

In total, the LGAQ has made eight recommendations for consideration by the Governance, Energy and Finance Committee. These are summarised below:

- **Recommendation 1:** The LGAQ recommends the State Government investigates the development of a Domestic Reserve Policy to complement the Queensland Energy Roadmap to improve energy reliability for all Queenslanders.
- **Recommendation 2:** The LGAQ recommends the State Government undertakes region specific workforce surveys, provides funding support and maps existing workforce in transitioning industries against expected needs of energy developments.
- **Recommendation 3:** The LGAQ recommends the State Government proceeds and engages closely with Queensland councils on the development of a Code of Conduct for renewable energy developers, to complement and support other recent policy reforms such as those through the Queensland planning framework.
- **Recommendation 4:** The LGAQ recommends the State Government considers how Regional Energy Hubs can be leveraged to improve coordination and planning across multiple energy projects, including infrastructure needs and cumulative impact management.

- **Recommendation 5:** The LGAQ recommends the State Government extends the current funding arrangements for the Queensland Councils Energy Partnerships Program (QCEP) beyond 30 April 2026 to strengthen local government's ability to engage with proponents and communities effectively on energy matters.
- **Recommendation 6:** The LGAQ recommends the State Government allocates adequate funding and resources to Co-Existence Queensland to provide enhanced information, engagement and coordination between community, local government and industry on land access and coexistence issues across the energy sector.
- **Recommendation 7:** The LGAQ recommends the State Government ensures ongoing consultation and engagement with affected councils in the Northern and North West Queensland region on the CopperString project.
- **Recommendation 8:** The LGAQ recommends the State Government supports the call of Queensland councils for a comprehensive investigation to identify suitable existing and decommissioned mine sites, that could be repurposed for renewable energy projects.

Please do not hesitate to contact Crystal Baker, Manager – Strategic Policy via: [REDACTED] or Robert Chow, Lead – Energy and Resources via: [REDACTED] should you wish to discuss any aspect of this submission.



## 2.0 Introduction

The LGAQ welcomes the opportunity to provide feedback on the *Energy Roadmap Amendment Bill 2025* (the Bill) released for consultation on 16 October 2025.

Overall, local government supports a coordinated whole-of-government approach to the delivery of the objectives outlined in the Queensland Energy Roadmap and to improving energy performance and security across all sectors.

Recognising the significant investment and development of energy projects across Queensland and with local government at the forefront of energy developments within local communities, the LGAQ has a strong interest in ensuring the delivery of the Queensland Energy Roadmap is underpinned by a coordinated and consultative approach.

In recent years, the LGAQ on behalf of Queensland councils made multiple submissions to State and Federal governments relating to energy matters, including the:

- *Draft 2023 Renewable Energy Zone Roadmap* (September 2023),
- *Draft State Code 23: Wind farm development and associated Planning Guidance* (September 2023),
- *Energy (Renewable Transformation and Jobs) Bill 2023* (December 2023),
- *Mineral and Energy Resources and Other Legislation Amendment Bill* (May 2024),
- *Joint Select Committee on Northern Australia's Inquiry into Energy, food and water security in Northern Australia* (January 2025),
- *Draft Renewables Regulatory Framework Discussion Paper* (February 2025),
- *Net Zero Fund: Proposed Design* (October 2025).

Through these submissions the LGAQ has emphasised the importance of the energy transition and the shift towards low emissions for Queensland councils and communities, as well as the need to ensure councils and local communities are supported by coordinated leadership and investment at a State and Federal level.

Local governments are uniquely positioned to partner with State Government to assist in the delivery of Queensland's Energy System, however, it is essential for State Government to provide local government with the necessary resources to support communities in planning for energy developments both locally and regionally.

The Bill as proposed, continues to support many of these aspects and is an important step in the energy transition that will prioritise the facilitation of energy infrastructure and investment required to deliver affordable, reliable and sustainable energy for all Queenslanders.

### 2.1 LGAQ Policy Statement and Annual Conference resolutions

The LGAQ is committed to member-driven advocacy and working with member councils to build stronger local governments and more resilient local communities.

The LGAQ Policy Statement<sup>3</sup> is a definitive statement of the collective voice of local government in Queensland and provides several key policy positions of local government that are relevant to matters raised in the Interim Report. The relevant agreed policy positions of local government, as stated in the LGAQ Policy Statement, are included in **Attachment 1**.

In addition, **21** resolutions have been passed by Queensland councils at recent LGAQ Annual Conferences on matters relating to the Bill are included in **Attachment 2**.

<sup>3</sup> LGAQ Policy Statement (2025) – available online [here](#).

## 3.0 LGAQ Response to Energy Roadmap Amendment Bill 2025

In preparing this submission, the LGAQ has considered the LGAQ Policy Statement, previous LGAQ Annual Conference resolutions and direct feedback provided by Queensland councils through consultation undertaken by the LGAQ in October 2025.

The LGAQ welcomes the opportunity to engage with the State Government as the Bill and the Queensland Energy Roadmap progress, and remains committed to working together to ensure optimal outcomes are achieved, while considering the critical role Queensland councils have in delivering services for their communities.

The sections below are structured in line with the key amendment themes of the Bill, with feedback provided as appropriate.

### 3.1 Energy System Outlook, Strategic Infrastructure Path and Objectives

The LGAQ has limited its feedback on the Bill to provisions on which it has agreed member position or detailed feedback. In relation to the energy system outlook, strategic infrastructure path and objectives broadly, the LGAQ provides the following overarching feedback for the consideration of the Committee:

- Local government supports legislation, frameworks and policies that support baseload production of energy that is sufficient to meet current and future energy needs of all Queensland residents and businesses, considering all available technologies.
- Local government supports the objectives of the Bill that focus on delivering affordable, reliable and sustainable energy for all Queenslanders.

### 3.2 Public ownership of energy assets

The Bill proposes to revise the public ownership provisions to reflect the State Government's commitment to maintain ownership of energy assets, while providing opportunities for investment in new generation.

While the LGAQ does not hold a formal position on the ownership of energy transmission, distribution, or storage assets, local governments place a high priority on energy reliability and security for their communities.

At the 2025 LGAQ Annual Conference, members passed a resolution calling on the State Government to develop a Domestic Reserve Policy for all natural resources, particularly critical minerals and resources essential for energy production.

The most well-known example of such a policy in Australia is Western Australia's long-standing gas reservation policy, which requires producers to reserve 15 per cent of gas for domestic use. This has been widely credited with stabilising Western Australia's gas prices, even during periods of high global Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) demand.

Unlike Western Australia, Queensland does not have a policy in relation to gas reserves, or other critical minerals or resources needed for current and future energy production. There are

predictions that Queensland and other eastern seaboard states, could be facing a resources shortfall by 2027 and be unable to meet the needs of the domestic market.

Creating a reserve is a smart, pragmatic policy that would target both supply and demand aspects of Australia's gas, energy and critical minerals sector. Executed properly, it will shore up Australia's economic and geopolitical interests in the face of the global energy transition, geopolitical fragmentation and economic coercion.

The introduction of a Domestic Reserve Policy would support the objectives of the Queensland Energy Roadmap and drive long-term energy reliability and affordability.

- **Recommendation 1:** The LGAQ recommends the State Government investigates the development of a Domestic Reserve Policy to complement the Queensland Energy Roadmap to improve energy reliability for all Queenslanders.

### 3.3 Governance arrangements

The Bill proposes to repeal the Queensland Energy System Advisory Board, the Energy Industry Council, and the Queensland Renewable Energy Jobs Advocate. These bodies were created to advise on energy system changes, and workforce and community impacts and opportunities, including those associated with achieving renewable energy targets.

The LGAQ acknowledges the need for streamlining governance arrangements to support the delivery of the Queensland Energy Roadmap and notes that the removal of these bodies will not limit the State Government's ability to seek independent, expert advice or to consult with stakeholders to inform decisions about the direction of the State's energy policy

Queensland's resource communities face workforce challenges as mines near closure. Transitioning these workers into energy developments presents a valuable opportunity to mitigate local impacts. In the absence of the Queensland Renewable Energy Jobs Advocate, councils can support the State Government by identifying transition pathways and outlining workforce expectations through the Community Benefits System to Renewable Energy Proponents.

However, this could be further supported through region specific workforce surveys, funding and mapping of transitioning industries against expected needs of energy developments and through the provision of training pathways.

- **Recommendation 2:** The LGAQ recommends the State Government undertakes region specific workforce surveys, provides funding support and maps existing workforce in transitioning industries against expected needs of energy developments.

### 3.4 Streamlining the Power Transmission Investment (PTI) framework

The Bill proposes to streamline the PTI framework and improves its flexibility and efficiency, while ensuring appropriate checks and balances to deliver prudent and efficient strategic transmission infrastructure that supports the strategic infrastructure path objectives.

The LGAQ does not have specific feedback on the PTI framework, however, provides the following comments for consideration of the Committee with regard to the broad objectives of the PTI framework:

- Local government supports the need for flexibility and efficiency of consultation processes to expedite the development of transmission lines, which unlocks economic opportunities for regional communities and provides greater energy security and reliability. However, local communities and local government should still be consulted to ensure that local considerations are factored into decision making.
- Local government supports the development of a new Code of Conduct for renewable energy developers being progressed to guide responsible behaviour and set expectations around best industry practice, complementing recent planning changes and the LGAQ eagerly awaits engagement on this important project.
- **Recommendation 3:** The LGAQ recommends the State Government proceeds and engages closely with Queensland councils on the development of a Code of Conduct for renewable energy developers, to complement and support other recent policy reforms such as those through the Queensland planning framework.

### 3.5 Hubs as a market-led investment framework for coordinated transmission

The Bill proposes to legislate the Regional Energy Hub framework to coordinate new energy investments in regions and be responsive to industry and community by ensuring Hub declarations are market-led, based on private sector interest and development activity and aligned with community expectations.

The LGAQ acknowledges the Bill renames the Renewable Energy Zone (REZ) framework as 'regional energy hubs' and removes unnecessary prescription and processes from the framework.

Local governments have consistently called for coordinated planning of critical enabling infrastructure, particularly roads, housing and services essential for large-scale renewable and resource projects. The Regional Energy Hubs framework presents a valuable opportunity for a whole-of-government approach, in collaboration with the private sector, to identify and share the costs of infrastructure needed to support development, construction and ongoing operations.

The LGAQ warmly welcomed recent amendments to the Planning Act that empower local governments to assess social and cumulative impacts through Social Impact Assessments. These impacts can now be managed via development approvals, infrastructure agreements, and community benefits mechanisms.

The LGAQ also appreciates the work the State Government is undertaking to develop a Social Licence Toolkit and for funding provided through the Queensland Council Energy Partnerships (QCEP) program.

The QCEP program has enhanced councils' capacity to engage on energy matters and respond to the challenges and opportunities of the energy transition. As this program is only funded until 30 April 2026, ongoing funding would strengthen councils' ability to engage with proponents and communities effectively on energy matters and provide greater support for renewable energy projects.



Another emerging issue that has been identified by local government is quantifying cumulative impacts and managing consultation fatigue for local communities, particularly in regions facing multiple concurrent projects. Effective implementation of Regional Energy Hubs could help address this gap by providing visibility over project pipelines and enabling coordinated engagement.

Co-existence Queensland's current work with landholders and industry demonstrates the potential for a coordinated approach, which could be further enhanced through adequate resourcing and integration with the Regional Energy Hubs framework.

- **Recommendation 4:** The LGAQ recommends the State Government considers how Regional Energy Hubs can be leveraged to improve coordination and planning across multiple energy projects, including infrastructure needs and cumulative impact management.
- **Recommendation 5:** The LGAQ recommends the State Government extends the current funding arrangements for the QCEP Program beyond 30 April 2026 to strengthen local government's ability to engage with proponents and communities effectively on energy matters.
- **Recommendation 6:** The LGAQ recommends the State Government allocates adequate funding and resources to Co-Existence Queensland to provide enhanced information, engagement and coordination between community, local government and industry on land access and coexistence issues across the energy sector.

### 3.6 CopperString Project

The Bill proposes to insert a new Part 8 into the Energy Act to include the CopperString Project and establish the mechanism for the responsible Ministers to facilitate and support the delivery of the CopperString Project. The proposed amendments provide for the economic regulation of declared stages.

The LGAQ acknowledges the importance of the CopperString Project for Northern and North West Queensland to support economic development and ensure energy security and resilience. By enshrining the CopperString project in legislation and providing a funding investment will ensure the ongoing viability of the project and economic prosperity for Northern Queensland.

The LGAQ is aware of the North West Queensland Regional Organisation of Council's (NWQROC) *North West Queensland Enabling Infrastructure Masterplan*<sup>4</sup>, that outlines a key advocacy priority of expanding the electricity network and improving access to the CopperString project to enable economic and community growth for the region.

While the announcement in the Queensland Energy Roadmap of the commencement of delivery of the Eastern Link of CopperString is welcomed, guidance on timeframes for the Western Link would assist North Western councils in their strategic planning for the region, including preparing for opportunities that will arise from the completion of the CopperString project.

<sup>4</sup> NWQROC's North West Queensland – Enabling Infrastructure Masterplan 2024 – Available online [here](#).

- **Recommendation 7:** The LGAQ recommends the State Government ensures ongoing consultation and engagement with affected councils in the Northern and North West Queensland region on the CopperString project.

### 3.7 Other considerations

While not within the scope of the Bill, Queensland councils have raised a potential opportunity that would support the delivery of the State Government's objectives as outlined in the Queensland Energy Roadmap.

Across Queensland there are a significant number of existing and decommissioned mines that have the necessary infrastructure and capacity to support energy storage and production.

Many active and decommissioned mines have critical infrastructure, including water and transmission lines, that would provide cost efficiencies by significantly reducing construction costs for new energy projects and minimising environmental impacts as these sites have already been utilised for heavy industry.

If the State Government, in collaboration with local government, developed policy to create appropriate regulatory frameworks and amend legislation to remove any impediments to the repurposing of existing and decommissioned mines into energy storage and production facilities it would provide a cost-effective, sustainable and long-term energy storage solution for Queensland.

- **Recommendation 8:** The LGAQ recommends the State Government supports the call of Queensland councils for a comprehensive investigation to identify suitable existing and decommissioned mine sites, that could be repurposed for renewable energy projects.

## 4.0 Conclusion

In conclusion, the LGAQ supports the intent of the *Energy Roadmap Amendment Bill 2025*, to increase the amount of electricity generated in Queensland in a way that is cost-effective, safe, secure and reliable.

The LGAQ has welcomed the partnership of the State Government and the introduction of the Community Benefits Framework and is supportive of many of the proposed objectives outlined in the Bill.

The LGAQ's feedback contained in this submission is focussed on the implementation elements of the Bill and how the Queensland Energy Roadmap can be delivered effectively, aligned with the agreed policy positions of Queensland councils and including:

- the need for a coordinated approach to energy, and
- opportunities that can be leveraged to assist the State Government in achieving the objectives outlined in the Queensland Energy Roadmap.

Given the extent of initiatives being progressed simultaneously, whole-of-government coordination involving key stakeholders (such as the LGAQ and Queensland councils) will be pivotal to supporting orderly implementation in partnership with the local government.

The LGAQ remains committed to working collaboratively with the State Government to a robust, equitable, and community-focused energy system that supports Queensland's energy future and delivers genuine benefits to all Queenslanders.

## Attachment 1: LGAQ Policy Statement

The LGAQ Policy Statement<sup>5</sup> is a definitive statement of the collective voice of local government in Queensland. The relevant policy positions of local government in the context of the Bill are as follows:

### *3.5 Climate Risk Management*

#### 3.5.1 Role of local government

- 3.5.1.1 Local government is committed to providing a leadership role to assist local communities, including industry, to understand and address climate risk including acute and chronic physical risks and transition risks associated with moving to a low carbon economy.
- 3.5.1.2 Local government is committed to working in partnership with all spheres of government, industry and the community to develop and implement effective climate risk management strategies focusing on emissions reduction and adaptation.
- 3.5.1.3 Local government is committed to utilising the best available scientific information, robust risk assessment methodologies and community engagement when developing climate risk management strategies and action plans, establishing priorities and the allocation of resources.

### *5.1.5 Energy Use*

- 5.1.5.1 Local government supports a whole of government approach to improving energy performance across all sectors and greater recognition of local governments' powers and capabilities in delivering improved energy use performance through access to appropriate programs and incentives.
- 5.1.5.2 Local government supports State Government provision of accessible and relevant information on energy use management.
- 5.1.5.3 Local government supports effective and consistent standards and regulations where necessary for cleaner and more efficient energy use management.
- 5.1.5.4 Local government supports whole of government support for regional implementation of energy use management initiatives including capacity building programs, incentives schemes, regional strategies for land use planning and transport.

### *8.7 Energy*

- 8.7.1 Local government supports the development of an integrated renewable energy strategy for Queensland by the State Government, in genuine consultation with Queensland councils.
- 8.7.2 Local governments should seek partnerships with electricity authorities to promote the use of environmentally friendly equipment and practices in line with ecologically sustainable objectives including alternative energy sources and off-grid or micro-grid technologies.

---

<sup>5</sup> [LGAQ Policy Statement \(October 2025\)](#)



## Attachment 2: LGAQ Annual Conference Resolutions

The LGAQ is committed to member driven advocacy and working with members to build stronger local government and more resilient local communities. In the context of the Energy Roadmap Amendment Bill 2025, the following LGAQ Annual Conference resolutions passed by Queensland councils, are relevant.

### **Resolution 59 (2025) Undertake planning for road networks to support renewable and resource project growth**

*That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to commit to coordinated planning for road infrastructure critical to supporting the construction and operation of large-scale renewable and resource projects in regional Queensland.*

### **Resolution 61 (2025) State Government Natural Resources Reserve Policy**

*That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to develop a Domestic Reserve Policy for all natural resources, in particular critical minerals and those resources needed for energy production.*

### **Resolution 61 (2024): Allocate adequate funding and resources to Co-Existence Queensland**

*That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to allocate adequate funding and resources to Co-Existence Queensland to provide enhanced information, engagement and education services to the community and industry on land access and coexistence issues across the resources and renewable energy sectors.*

### **Resolution 62 (2024): Funded positions in councils to manage large-scale renewable and resource developments**

*That the LGAQ calls on the State and Federal governments to fund positions in councils to manage the impact of large-scale renewable, critical minerals, mining and energy projects.*

### **Resolution 63 (2024): Prioritise future energy opportunities in existing and decommissioned mines, and end of mine life assets**

*That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to undertake a comprehensive investigation, develop policy and remove impediments in legislation, and invest in the repurposing of existing and decommissioned mines for energy production and storage.*

### **Resolution 64 (2024): Renewable energy projects support for local housing**

*That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to ensure that major renewable energy projects be required to allocate an appropriate portion of project capital cost to the construction of housing to support the needs of their proposed permanent workforce, in order to mitigate the risk of housing stress on vulnerable members of communities impacted by the development.*

### **Resolution 93 (2024): Improved regulation for large-scale renewable energy developments**

*That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to improve regulation for large-scale renewable energy projects by:*

- *Developing State Codes within the State Development Assessment Provisions for the assessment of large-scale renewable energy projects by the State Assessment and Referral Agency; and*
- *Establishing public notification and council referral requirements for all large-scale renewable energy projects for all affected councils.*

**Resolution 94 (2024): Improved engagement on large-scale renewable energy developments**

*That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to improve regulation for large-scale renewable energy projects by developing a communication and engagement protocol (Code of Practice) to ensure renewable energy projects, including transmission projects, are planned, approved and constructed considering key social, environmental and economic regional considerations in proactive collaboration with all affected councils.*

**Resolution 95 (2024): Allocation of Royalties to Support Economic Transition Resulting from Mine Closures**

*That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to work in conjunction with the Association and Queensland councils to create a dedicated funding program using collected mining royalties, that will support Queensland's local resource reliant communities' economic transition and potential diversification opportunities when a mine closes.*

**Resolution 59 (2023): Community Consultation for Renewable Projects**

*The LGAQ calls on the State Government to amend the Planning Act 2016 to enable submitter appeal rights for renewable energy projects such as solar farms and wind farms.*

**Resolution 60 (2023): Road Infrastructure Renewable Energy Projects**

*The LGAQ calls on the State Government to require - through its State Assessment and Referral Agency (SARA) planning authority for renewable energy projects - that neighbouring councils with road infrastructure critical to the delivery of these projects are engaged and that appropriate road infrastructure agreements are made prior to the commencement of construction.*

**Resolution 85 (2023): Disposal of solar panels**

*The LGAQ calls on the State and Federal Governments to develop solutions for the disposal of solar panels, possibly including:*

- *reclamation, recycling, and implementation of a levy mechanism for solar panels to ensure better waste disposal; and*
- *exploring manufacturers' liability for the photovoltaic (PV) panels to encourage sustainable management; and*
- *working with State Government to legislate industry-wide solutions.*

**Resolution 134 (2023): Sustainability of Queensland's Resources Sector during Transition to Net Zero**

*The LGAQ calls on the State Government to guarantee the long-term competitiveness and sustainability of Queensland's resources sector during the implementation of current Net Zero policies, recognising the financial contribution the exploration, coal, metals, petroleum and gas sectors make to local communities, emerging industries (such as renewables) and the State as a whole.*

### **Resolution 135 (2023): Supporting the local government sector to transition to net zero emissions**

*The LGAQ calls on the State and Federal governments to support the local government sector to transition to net zero emissions through targeted operational and capital grants programs for councils to:*

- *Establish and maintain corporate emissions inventories (including mapping and annual emissions tracking) and corporate emissions reduction plans; and*
- *Invest in capital projects and supplement operational expenses, including dedicated council staff, that support identified emissions reduction priorities and climate mitigation strategies.*

### **Resolution 136 (2023): Transition Fund for Renewable Infrastructure**

*The LGAQ calls on the State Government to establish a dedicated fund to invest in critical infrastructure and to support the workforce sectors needed to enable the transitioning energy sector.*

### **Resolution 51 (2022): Local Governments' Transition to Net Zero Emissions**

*The LGAQ calls on the State and Federal governments to support Queensland local governments' transition to net zero emissions through the provision of targeted operational and capital grants programs that address local emissions reduction priorities.*

### **Resolution 73 (2022): The Need for a Regional Transformation Authority**

*The LGAQ calls on the State and Federal governments to establish a Regional Transformation Authority with statutory powers inclusive of local governments, to:*

- *Respond to changing supply and demand for fossil-fuel.*
- *Develop regional plans and coordinate a sustainable transformation, principally for Queensland's coal mining regions, but also for all Local Government Areas supplying to or reliant on the economic output of coal mining, as well as heavily coal reliant industrial regions, like the Bowen Basin, and ensure all planning supports the ongoing and sustainable diversification of the resources sectors.*

### **Resolution 74 (2022): Resourcing State Regulators of Major Resource and Renewable Projects**

*The LGAQ calls on the State Government for investment to adequately resource State Regulators of Major Resource and Renewable Projects (including the Office of the Coordinator General, Department of Environment and Science and Department of Resources) to enable both upfront education and assessment processes and understanding of social impacts vital for achieving optimal outcomes for industry and communities in the facilitation of projects by:*

- *Delivery of improved education and understanding of current legislation, standards, principles and guidelines administered by State agencies.*
- *Compliance and monitoring by State Government Agencies on delivery of Major Resource and Renewable Project commitments, conditions, and improved engagement with community to satisfy conditioning and project commitment deliverables.*
- *Improved engagement standards on mining lease permit processes outside of EIS assessment criteria are captured and transparently communicated to communities hosting these projects.*

## **Resolution 75 (2022): Establishment of a Contemporary Framework for Resource, Renewables and Clean Energy Sector**

*The LGAQ calls on the State Government to:*

1. *Undertake a wholesale review of the regulatory frameworks associated with resource, renewable and clean energy projects with consideration of a centralised agency approach to ensure consistent outcomes relative to size and impact of all projects.*
2. *Develop and implement contemporary Social Impact Assessment (SIA) type values to underpin the Queensland Resource Industry Development Plan and that those SIA values are applicable for all resource, renewable and clean energy projects with a legislated ability for the State Government to enforce compliance.*
3. *Work with local government to develop a Contemporary Integrated Social Impact Assessment Framework for closure of resource, renewable and clean energy projects with outcomes focused on sustainable communities;*
4. *Lead policy agendas in relation to the resource, renewable and clean energy sectors and that those policy settings inform regional planning and future sector investment.*

## **Resolution 78 (2022): Renewable Energy Project Contributions and Engagement with Local Communities**

*The LGAQ calls on the State Government to introduce legislation and policy which requires proponents of renewable projects to make a 'local benefit' contribution to regional communities by implementing the following measures:*

- *Have a mandatory notification process to local government for all renewable energy projects occurring within their region.*
- *Have meaningful engagement with local government, community, and local leaders.*
- *Have a community contribution fee, based on capacity, for all renewable projects to support better community outcomes.*
- *Provide access to Renewable Project Decommission Bonds, or local government hold these in trust, in order to protect prime agricultural land and support better decommissioning at an acceptable standard for community.*

## **Resolution 43 (2021): Development of an Integrated Renewable Energy Strategy for Queensland**

*That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to take the lead in planning how and where renewable energy projects are developed through the development of an integrated renewable energy strategy for Queensland.*