

Justice and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2026

Submission No: 009

Submission By: Arrow Energy Pty Ltd

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17 March 2026

Justice, Integrity and Community Safety Committee
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Email: JJCSC@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Committee Members,

Re: Justice and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2026

Arrow Energy Pty Ltd (Arrow) welcomes the opportunity to engage on the *Justice and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2026*.

Arrow supports the stated objectives of the Bill to disrupt the theft, sale and disposal of stolen metal.

Metal theft, particularly from sites containing heavy machinery and high-voltage electricity, presents a significant danger to the community. It creates risks of fire and serious injury to workers, first responders and those committing the thefts themselves. It also results in material economic losses when infrastructure must be shut down to repair or replace damaged and stolen components.

We commend the Government for introducing measures aimed at addressing this serious and growing form of criminal activity.

We'd also like to take the opportunity to thank the Queensland Police Service, who have worked closely with Arrow to investigate instances of metal theft.

About Arrow Energy

Arrow is a Queensland-based natural gas company specialising in the development, production and sale of coal seam gas (CSG), along with electricity generation.

We have a more than 20 years' experience operating responsibly in the Surat Basin, with our first well drilled in 2001. We are committed to the safe and sustainable supply of natural gas to power homes, businesses and industries, supporting Queensland's transition to cleaner energy. This is achieved through effective management of our CSG tenures and fostering genuine coexistence through partnerships with hundreds of farming families and local communities.

Operating in the Surat Basin of southern Queensland, with a corporate office in Brisbane, Arrow is currently delivering a major project expected to power the equivalent of more than four million homes every day once it reaches capacity.

Arrow is an incorporated joint venture between Shell and PetroChina. We employ more than 450 people across Queensland, with approximately one third of our workforce living or working in the Surat Basin region.

Metal theft

Metal theft has become an increasingly significant issue for the gas industry in recent years.

In 2023, the Parliament conducted an inquiry into scrap metal theft.

During the inquiry, industry stakeholders provided evidence of the scale, cost and safety risks of this criminal activity. Including:

- more than 500 well sites had been targeted in the year leading up to the inquiry
- at its peak, up to 20 well sites were being targeted per day
- the cost to industry at that time exceeded \$50 million.

Thieves commonly target copper cabling, batteries, solar panels, tools and trailers. While Arrow has not been impacted to the same extent as some other operators, we continue to experience theft across our operations. Over the past 12 months, incidents relating to our Surat assets have included:

- a lock cut and earthing cable stolen from a facility in March 2026
- cabling and instruments stolen from two wells in February 2026
- batteries and cabling stolen from two excavators at a construction site in February 2026
- cabling stolen from gas gathering assets in January 2026
- cables and cable trays stolen from a construction site in December 2025
- a lock cut and a shed accessed to steal tools, batteries and a large quantity of cabling from an Arrow water treatment plant in July 2025
- cables and a camera stolen from a facility in April 2025
- batteries, earthing and power cables stolen from seven Arrow wells in March 2025.

These incidents are particularly dangerous for the perpetrators and Arrow workers who have to make the sites safe again. Many of the facilities operate under high-voltage power, and the removal of cabling by untrained individuals, without proper isolations in place, creates a serious risk of electrocution and fire.

The Bill

The Justice and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2026 (the Bill) contains a number of provisions that will assist in addressing metal theft, including:

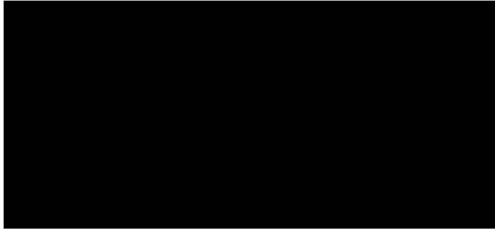
- strengthening requirements for scrap metal dealers to obtain photographic identification information from sellers
- increasing penalties for unlicensed second-hand dealing in scrap metal
- requiring the recording of all scrap metal transactions, regardless of value
- requiring second-hand dealers to report suspected stolen property to police.

These measures represent an appropriate and pragmatic step towards disrupting the market for stolen metal. Given the remote nature of many industrial sites, preventing theft at the point of occurrence can be challenging. Measures that target the sale and disposal of stolen material are therefore critical to reducing the incentive for this criminal behaviour.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this submission. Arrow supports the stated objectives of the Bill and its intent to improve safety outcomes for workers, communities and industry.

Should you require any further information, please contact Matthew Pitman, Principal Government Relations, on [REDACTED] or via email [REDACTED].

Yours sincerely,



Matthew Jeffries
Vice President
Arrow Energy