

# CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY AND CCUS IN AUSTRALIA

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM FOR ACCELERATING THE  
DISSEMINATION OF JAPANESE ENVIRONMENTAL-SOUND  
TECHNOLOGIES, MEIJI UNIVERSITY

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# THE POLICY LANDSCAPE

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Recent policy developments offer positive signals to support the development of CCS projects in Australia.



Supportive commonwealth and state-level regulatory frameworks.



Australia offers significant opportunity and may play an important role in supporting CCS deployment in the Asia Pacific region.

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# CCS POLICY LANDSCAPE

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- **Emissions Reduction Plan**

- The Australian Government announced Australia's Long-term Emissions Reduction Plan in 2021.
- Proposes a whole-of-economy plan to achieve net zero emissions by 2050.
- Carbon capture and storage is highlighted as one of the low emissions technologies critical to achieving net-zero.
- Aims to support deployment of the technology by driving down cost.

- **Australian Technology Investment Roadmap**

- Sets out Australia's approach to developing and deploying low emissions technologies.
- CCS is included as one of five priority technologies.
- Roadmap identifies price goals for each technology and aims to ensure the cost of each technology is competitive with existing alternatives.
- First LETS statement 2020 proposed an economic stretch goal for CCS – carbon dioxide compression, hub transport and storage - under \$20 per tonne of CO<sub>2</sub>.

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# INCENTIVISING DEPLOYMENT

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- **Expanding the remit of funding bodies**

- The Commonwealth government has authorised the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) to support "*low emissions technologies*" included in the LETS 2020.
- Decision means that CCS activities are now eligible to receive funding support.
- The government has also proposed the Clean Energy Finance Corporation (CEFC) also be able to offer support to CCS projects.

- **CCS funding**

- LETS 2021 announced funding for CCUS Hubs and Technologies programme – government to award AUD\$250M.
- LETS 2020 included AUD\$50M under the CCUS Development Fund for CCS commercialisation - six businesses to pilot, demonstrate and support the commercial deployment of CCUS technologies.

- **CCS-specific Methodology under the Emissions Reduction Fund**

- New CCS methods will enable ACCUs to be earned for every tonne of emissions avoided through CCS ERF projects.
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# ACREAGE RELEASE

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- **Greenhouse gas storage/exploration areas released**
  - Commonwealth Government has announced the release of areas for the 2021 Offshore Greenhouse Gas Storage Acreage Release around offshore Western Australia and Northern Territory (Bonaparte Basin, Browse Basin, Northern Carnarvon Basin).
  - The Queensland State Government released four areas for greenhouse gas storage exploration within the Surat/Bowen, Galilee and Eromanga basins.

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# REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS

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- **Commonwealth**

- Utilises the existing Commonwealth petroleum title system to include and regulate offshore CCS activities.
- Establishes titles for exploration, injection and storage activities (GHG storage tenure).
- Detailed exploration and site selection requirements.
- Permitting model for the construction and operation of storage facilities.
- Provisions addressing long-term liability.
- Existing national authority to act as the titles administrator for CCS activities.

- **States and Territories**

- Victoria, Queensland and South Australia have implemented CCS-specific models – some variations to approach and complexity.
- Western Australia has developed project-specific model to support Gorgon.
- Northern Territory – early stages of considering their approach (Institute involvement).



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# REGIONAL ROLE

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- **Well-positioned to capitalize upon regional deployment of technology**
  - Strong history of CCS-specific collaboration - support and participation in regionally-focused fora aimed at supporting CCS R&D and deployment.
  - Considerable interest in Australia as a destination for CO<sub>2</sub> – geographic proximity and geologic potential.
  - Pre-existing regional trade relationships and partnerships.
- **Recent regional cooperation agreements include CCS-specific collaboration**
  - Agreement with Korea to cooperate on low emissions technologies, including hydrogen gas supply networks, development of CCS technologies and low carbon steel.
  - Joint initiative with Singapore to work on low emissions fuels and technologies, including clean hydrogen and clean ammonia.

# GLOBAL STATUS OF CCS 2021

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