

# List of recommendations

## Recommendation 1

**5.16** The committee recommends that the Australian Government adopt a comprehensive energy transition plan, including reform of the National Electricity Market rules.

## Recommendation 2

**5.17** The committee recommends that the Australian Government, in consultation with industry, community, union and other stakeholders, develop a mechanism for the orderly retirement of coal fired power stations to be presented to the COAG Energy Council.

## Recommendation 3

**5.18** The committee recommends that the Australian Government, through representation on the COAG Energy Council, put in place a pollution reduction objective consistent with Australia's obligations under the Paris Agreement in the National Electricity Objectives.

## Recommendation 4

**5.19** The committee recommends that the Australian Government establish an energy transition authority with sufficient powers and resources to plan and coordinate the transition in the energy sector, including a Just Transition for workers and communities.

## Recommendation 5

**5.24** The committee recommends:

- That the Australian Government commission a comprehensive and independent assessment of the health impacts of coal fired power stations.
- That the Australian Government develop a load-based licencing arrangement for coal fired power stations for adoption at COAG based on the New South Wales Load-Based Licencing scheme, with fees that reflect the health impacts and other externalities of power station emissions.
- That the Australian Government take additional measures to ensure compliance with the standards set in the National Environmental Protection (Air Quality) Measure and - in the case of sulphur dioxide and nitrogen dioxide - international best practice standards. In regions where these standards are exceeded such as the Hunter and Latrobe Valleys, coal fired power stations must be compelled to reduce emissions to levels below the NEPM standards.

- That the Australian Government ensure a more rigorous assessment of power station emissions through an independent audit of reports provided through the National Pollutant Inventory.

#### **Recommendation 6**

**5.27** The committee recommends that the Commonwealth and state energy ministers should undertake a national audit of likely rehabilitation costs for existing coal mines and power stations and assess these costs against the current provisions or bond arrangements.

**5.28** The committee recommends that the Commonwealth and state energy ministers should also work to develop a common approach to setting rehabilitation bonds to ensure that rehabilitation costs are properly provisioned for.

#### **Recommendation 7**

**5.34** The committee recommends that the Australian Government continue and expand the Renewable Energy Target beyond 2020 and consider adopting renewable energy reverse auctions such as adopted by the ACT to bring more new generation into the national electricity market.

**5.35** The committee also recommends that the Australian Government support the continuing deployment grid level battery storage and of household solar and battery storage technologies, including making the necessary regulatory changes, such as aligning the settlement and bidding time periods in the National Electricity Market, to encourage the utilisation of products that promote decentralisation of electricity production while enhancing the stability of the grid.

#### **Recommendation 8**

**5.40** The committee recommends that the Australian Government commit to not provide any direct funding, subsidies or other support for the construction of new coal fired power stations in Australia.

#### **Recommendation 9**

**5.43** The committee recommends that the Australian Government reverse its ideological opposition to the introduction of a scheme for managing the transition in the electricity sector such as an Emissions Intensity Scheme or the setting of pollution intensity standards and commit to considering fairly all policy options presented by the forthcoming final report of the Finkel Review.