

To the Senate Environment and Communications Committee,
Re: Offshore Electricity Infrastructure Bill 2021

I welcome the introduction of the National Offshore Electricity Bill 2021 into the federal Parliament. This is an important and long-awaited piece of legislation that will help kickstart an offshore wind sector for Australia, and I support the timely passage of this bill.

The opportunity to establish an offshore wind sector that delivers deep emissions cuts and creates thousands of jobs is too important to ignore. The beginning of this sector is an opportunity to make sure offshore wind development is good for the climate, community and environment. The government can show leadership by delivering an offshore wind bill that:

- Puts climate action at the centre of offshore renewable energy.
- Follows the lead of the US and UK by setting an ambitious target for rolling out offshore wind projects.
- Guarantees that Work, Health & Safety Provisions are consistent, robust and adequately protects rights for workers.
- Ensures offshore renewable energy is developed with the free, prior and informed consent by First Nations People.
- Delivers protections for marine environments and sensitive ecosystems.
- Makes local content and community benefits a top priority when approving offshore wind projects.

Thankyou for your consideration, I look forward to progress on the inquiry and passage of offshore wind legislation that will progress Australia's efforts on climate change while creating jobs.

Yours sincerely,
