

Dear Sir / Madam

I welcome this inquiry into the resilience of electricity infrastructure. There is no doubt that the negative effects of climate change urgently require this review and implementation of systemwide changes to meet the rapidly changing circumstances we find ourselves in.

I believe governments need to adopt the following measures:

1. Implement emission reduction targets that respond appropriately and commensurately to the undeniable evidence from climate science.
2. Lead the transition away from gas for Australian households. It is increasingly uneconomic for homes to use gas, so governments should be helping consumers adopt energy supplies that are inexpensive and involve minimal emission of carbon dioxide, and pollutant gases and particulates.
3. Recognise the full value of distributed energy and storage in the electricity supply chain.
4. Recognise that the cost per unit of energy of new coal and gas infrastructure is now considerably more than that of renewable energy; that is, the unit cost of both the infrastructure and subsequent operations for renewables are now less than for coal or gas.
5. Recent progress in massive battery technology at viable cost has negated the old arguments concerning supply fluctuations.
6. Other energy storage methods (such as potential energy created by pumping water into high-level reservoirs) may also be viable in some states (e.g. Tasmania).

Thank you for the opportunity to give you input to this important inquiry.

Sincerely,
Harry Audus

