

INTEGRATED ENERGY PLAN

Future networks



The ACT continues to lead the world in taking action on climate change. We are set to become the first Australian jurisdiction to be powered exclusively by renewable energy, by 2045. However, with fossil fuel gas accounting for over 20% of the ACT's emissions, and transport accounting for more than 60% of emissions, there is still a long way to go in our journey to reduce emissions and achieve a 100% renewable energy supply for our city.

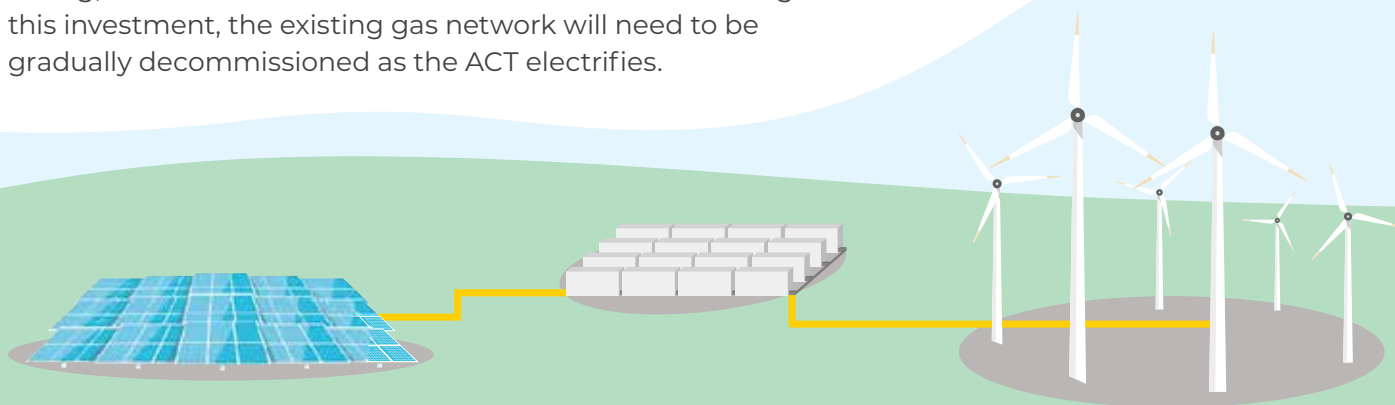
The ACT Government released the [“Our Pathway to Electrification” Position Paper](#) in August 2022, which outlined why the ACT is transforming our energy system and provided a proposed pathway to get there.

The Integrated Energy Plan (IEP) will provide our pathway to transition our energy networks and become a net zero emissions city by 2045.

The IEP sets out how the ACT will transition to an affordable and sustainable energy future over the next two decades. It will be delivered in 3 stages, with the first looking at what needs to happen between now and 2030.

This information sheet gives an overview of key proposed changes in the Integrated Energy Plan 1 (2024-2030) for the ACT's energy networks.

Electrification of our homes, businesses and vehicles will see increased demand for electricity and integration of new technologies, such as batteries and solar panels. Investment will be needed to ensure the ACT's electricity system remains strong, secure and reliable as this demand increases. Alongside this investment, the existing gas network will need to be gradually decommissioned as the ACT electrifies.



Regulatory frameworks

The management and apportionment of costs for running gas and electricity networks are governed by national energy regulatory frameworks. The appropriateness of these frameworks and cost sharing arrangements will need to be considered as the ACT electrifies. This is particularly important as other jurisdictions also move away from fossil fuel gas.

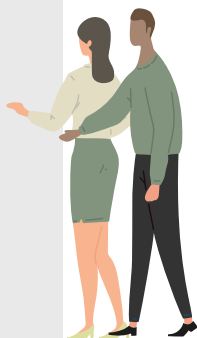


Impact of transition approach on our networks

There are a range of approaches to making the required changes to the ACT's energy systems. The two main approaches for consideration in the IEP are **consumer-led** and **staged transition**.

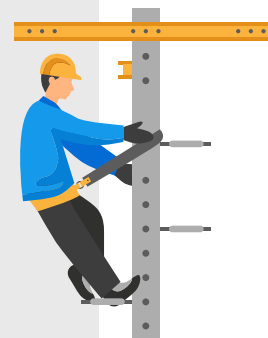
Consumer-led

This transition approach means that consumers are provided with the best available information on current technologies and are empowered to transition away from fossil fuels at a time that is right for them. It provides the greatest choice to consumers in deciding when and which transition pathway is best for them. However, it may not be the most efficient or cost-effective approach in the long-term, and it may result in a higher overall cost to consumers who remain on the gas network and are subject to increasing gas prices and cost of maintaining infrastructure.



Staged

This transition approach may involve planning for the gas network to be removed from entire areas in defined stages. It would allow for more precise forward planning and network investment by Evoenergy, the owner and operator of the ACT's electricity and gas networks, and potentially reduce the network costs that are passed through to consumers.



It is proposed that the approach to 2030 (IEP 1) is predominantly consumer-led. A combination of approaches may be appropriate for the ACT in later stages. For example, a consumer-led transition could be complemented by a staged transition that begins in later stages of the IEP.

In conjunction with Evoenergy, we will continue to monitor and model the impact of the transition on energy networks and support the ongoing integration of new technologies into the energy system.

Proposed policy directions at a glance:

- > Educating, supporting and empowering community members to transition away from fossil fuels at a time that is right for them. Consumers will decide if and when they adopt consumer energy resources, such as solar and batteries, and electric vehicles.
- > Prioritising analysis and planning to support integration of new technologies and the required growth of the electricity network.
- > Monitoring the rate of transition from the fossil fuel gas network and work with Evoenergy to plan for the wind-down of the gas network.
- > Influencing national regulatory frameworks in the interests of ACT consumers.



Have your say

To better understand the impacts of the transition, we are seeking feedback on the IEP Position Paper from all members of the ACT community.

You can provide ideas and feedback in a number of ways including by:

- > making a written submission
- > completing an online questionnaire
- > providing feedback at one of our engagement activities.

Visit yoursayconversations.act.gov.au/pathway-to-electrification

Email us at gastransition@act.gov.au

