

INTEGRATED ENERGY PLAN

Information for businesses



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 small and medium business.

Businesses are important climate action leaders. With more than 30% of gas demand in the ACT from businesses, they play a vital role in meeting the ACT's emissions reduction target of net-zero by 2045.

Many small and medium businesses will transition like households and enjoy the benefits of energy bill savings from increased energy efficiency and electrification.



We understand that the transition may be complex for businesses where electric technology does not currently exist or is too expensive to transition. Challenges for businesses can include:

- > cost of new equipment
- > space required for appliances
- > whether the electricity connection, wiring and switchboard can handle the extra electricity demand
- > preference for cooking with gas
- > difficulty finding electric replacements for gas appliances
- > if a business premises is leased, whether the landlord will permit any required alterations to enable the transition
- > difficulty accessing EV charging infrastructure for commercial vehicles.

We know the journey to electrification for business may be a long one. Many electric alternatives for businesses will become more affordable and available over time.

For example, advancements in commercial induction cooktops or more efficient commercial clothes dryers.

The ACT Government currently supports businesses with independent advice and rebates through the [Sustainable Business Program](#). Visit climatechoices.act.gov.au for more information about what support might be available for your business.

Through IEP 1, we will work with businesses on the best way to support a transition at a time that is right time for them. We know this will likely be when appliances come to end of life, leases end or as buildings are upgraded.

Government-industry partnerships can also help ensure we have the right workforce and skills for the future, regulatory frameworks that encourage business growth and entrepreneurship, and appropriately targeted support programs.

Proposed policy directions at a glance:

- > Review and continue to provide support through programs like:
 - Energy Efficiency Improvement Scheme
 - Sustainable Business Program
 - Business Fleet Advisory Service
- > Supporting business to electrify when the time is right for them by focussing on education and encouraging innovation.



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