

INTEGRATED ENERGY PLAN

Information for households



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 households.

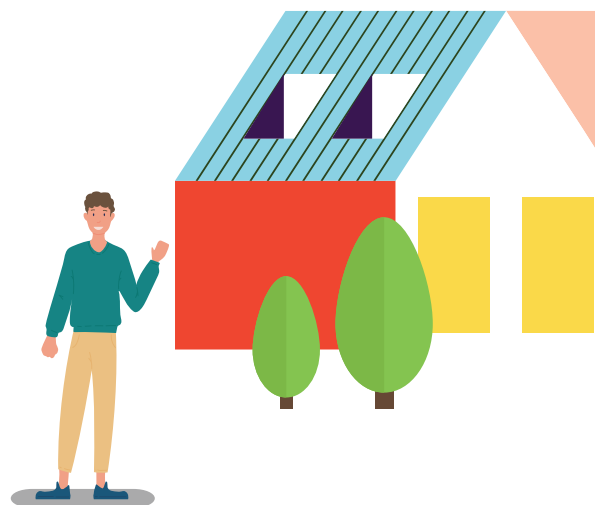
Integrated Energy Plan 1 2024 – 2030

Setting the foundations for success

IEP 1 will focus on continuing to support a consumer-led transition away from fossil fuel gas. Many households are already choosing to make energy efficient upgrades, switching to electric vehicles and installing rooftop solar.

The ACT Government will continue to support and encourage these choices with a range of schemes and rebates, and ongoing education. Visit climatechoices.act.gov.au for more information about what support might be available for your household.

We will also work hard to address known issues in the transition to renewable energy by assisting those members of the community who cannot transition themselves.



What are we proposing?

Education and information

Through further education, it is expected that even more ACT households who have the means will transition to more energy efficient electric homes. In addition, there is the potential for further regulatory approaches to support consumers by making information more available and transparent. This could include:

- > providing information about the ACT's electrification pathway at the point of sale to support informed choices when choosing between gas and electric appliances and/or
- > disclosing existing gas connections in property sale and rent advertisements.



Equitable transition for households needing support

Lower income households will need support to transition away from gas. Often, people who have the least capacity to pay for energy efficiency upgrades or electrification live in homes that are the most expensive to heat and cool. Assisting these households to transition is the highest priority area for action in the IEP out to 2030. We are considering the most effective ways to provide support.

Renters face the added challenge of not having direct control over things that influence their energy costs. There is also little incentive for a rental provider to pay for electric upgrades as they will not see any reduced costs themselves. Minimum energy efficiency standards have recently been introduced for rental homes (in relation to ceiling insulation), but there is scope for further options to encourage energy efficiency improvements and electrification for renters and rental providers.



Regulatory changes

The ACT Government will introduce a regulation to prevent new gas network connections in late 2023. This will mean new homes and businesses will not need to transition from fossil fuel gas in the future and protects them from expensive retrofit costs.

The implications for the way a gas connection is managed after it is no longer needed is another consideration for the community. Most people prefer to disconnect a connection no longer in use, as it is more affordable for the household or business than abolishment.

Abolishment is more expensive, however it is the safest option as it removes all risks of a having pressurised gas pipe on a property. The ACT Government and the Australian Energy Regulator are considering the appropriateness of the current abolishment charges and whether there is anything that can be done to remove this as a barrier to electrification.



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.
- > Supporting households who need assistance to electrify –this group is at highest risk of bearing the costs of the transition and being left behind.
- > Investigating regulatory options designed to increase information and transparency to support consumer choice.



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