



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

STANDING COMMITTEE ON STATE DEVELOPMENT

MEDIA RELEASE

More support needed for an emerging hydrogen industry

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

30 September 2021

An Upper House committee has published its report on the development of a hydrogen in New South Wales, recommending that the NSW Government finalise and publish its hydrogen strategy as a matter of priority.

The State Development Committee heard that the state has the resources to develop a hydrogen industry but that government support is needed to address key barriers to the emerging industry's commercial viability.

Chair of the State Development Committee, the Hon Catherine Cusack MLC said, 'With an abundance of wastewater and renewable energy sources to produce hydrogen, and the ports and infrastructure available to transport hydrogen internationally and domestically, New South Wales is well positioned to develop a hydrogen industry. However, through this inquiry we heard that there is a lack of large scale storage options in the state, and the cost of hydrogen is significant. These are real barriers which can prevent the state from realising its hydrogen potential.'

'The NSW Government can play a key role in supporting the industry to address these barriers but also in driving the development of the industry to a commercial scale. The first step is for the NSW Government to finalise and publish its hydrogen strategy to provide certainty for industry players, attract private investors, identify key strategic projects, provide much needed funding and ensure that the industry is well planned and safe,' the Chair continued.

The committee made a number of recommendations including that the government commission a study into storage options, develop a taskforce to address cross-sector barriers, support hydrogen hubs, invest in demonstration projects, create local demand and prepare for the transition of the workforce to a hydrogen industry.

The inquiry into the development of a hydrogen industry in New South Wales was established in December 2020 in the context of the Electricity Infrastructure Roadmap which seeks to deliver a modern electricity system for New South Wales that is cheap, clean and reliable. The Roadmap highlighted the substantial economic opportunity arising from developing a hydrogen industry.

Read the report

A copy of the report and its recommendations can be found on the committee's [website](#).

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For further information, please contact Committee Chair, the Hon Catherine Cusack MLC, on (02) 9230 2915.