

INQUIRY INTO EMISSIONS FROM THE FOSSIL FUEL SECTOR

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Considerations for Emissions from the Fossil Fuel Sector

Introduction

I am grateful for the chance to present my views on emissions from the fossil fuel sector. As a long-time New South Wales resident and experienced educator, I have witnessed the ongoing transition toward net zero emissions and wish to highlight several key considerations.

Key Areas for Consideration

- **Holistic Policy Approach:** Develop strategies that address not only economic aspects but also the substantial social and health impacts of climate change.
- **International Commitments:** Honour our Paris Agreement obligations and help neighbouring countries with their climate change initiatives.
- **Comprehensive Emissions Assessment:** Evaluate and respond to the full range of emissions—including scope 3, beyond scope 1 and 2.

Please note the following recent developments, which reinforce the importance of these recommendations:

Recent Legal and Policy Developments

- The International Court of Justice (ICJ) recently ruled that states affected by scope 3 emissions can seek legal redress from the states responsible for those emissions.
- The Mt Pleasant mine appeal established the importance of accounting for scope 3 emissions within environmental assessments.
- In the case involving Uncle Pabai and Uncle Paul from the Torres Strait Islands, while the negligence claim was dismissed, the court nonetheless recognised the significant impacts of climate change on the plaintiffs.