

Energy Industry Council

Tripartite representation of unions, industry and Government

Our commitment is to help form the bridge between our proud energy history and our bright energy future. Energy workers within our publicly owned energy businesses have been the backbone of Queensland's secure and reliable energy system.

Generations of workers in our traditional power generating assets have helped keep the lights on in Queensland and helped to build our great state. We respect their efforts and contributions while looking ahead to the future and the next generation of energy workers.

Our commitment is to put people first and to support workers, their families, and their communities and regions to continue to deliver a lasting legacy and prosperous future for Queensland.

Meeting Communiqué – November 2024

The Energy Industry Council provides advice to the Treasurer, Minister for Energy and Minister for Home Ownership with regard to:

- How the optimal infrastructure pathway will affect workers and communities associated with the operations of Queensland's government owned coal-fired power stations;
- Opportunities for employment, workforce development, education and training in the renewable energy industry;
- Skills and training anticipated to build and deliver the workforce capacity and capability for the future of the energy industry;
- Implementation of the Job Security Guarantee and ensuring the safe and reliable operation of publicly owned coal-fired power stations.

The Council is supported by a sub-committee that provides the necessary research, consultation and support for designing key programs of work for the Council's consideration.

Formalisation of the Energy Industry Council

The November meeting was the first meeting of the formally appointed Council and Independent Chair following the passing of the *Energy (Renewable Transformation and Jobs) Act 2024*.

The Council has updated its Terms of Reference and Communication Protocol to reaffirm its commitment to the principles of respect and recognition, partnership, genuine ongoing engagement, providing workers with options and choice and supporting the continued provision of the safe, reliable and affordable supply of energy for Queensland. The members of the Council, representing senior members of Government, Government Owned energy businesses and Unions are invested in supporting Queensland's ongoing success and working together to identify and create opportunities to support energy workers and their communities.

The Council remains committed to providing information as Government's policy settings are developed through its analysis of the energy system and identification of an optimal pathway. In the interim, the generating businesses continue to deliver on their five-year plans with certainty in relation to delivering an effective maintenance program that ensures the safe and long-term reliability of generation.

Subcommittee Update

The subcommittee provided an update on its ongoing work since the last Council meeting to guide the implementation of transition support for workers.

This presentation included further work on identifying appropriate issue resolution procedures that provide confidence there is a clear pathway for escalating matters related to individual transition planning for affected

energy workers. The emphasis remains on resolving matters early and locally, however the Council also wants to ensure an enforceable, external review mechanism is available if needed.

Renewable Energy Jobs Advocate

The Energy Industry Council welcomes Aaron Johnstone as the Renewable Energy Jobs Advocate. Aaron has shared key issues with the Council including labour constraints, concerns from local communities as well as opportunities to develop industrial capabilities and increase First Nations business' involvement.

Aaron is developing a work plan that is underpinned by values that include listening, collaboration and developing a systematic approach to issues.

Worker Engagement

Between July and November, Evidn has met with over 400 stakeholders. Many of these sessions were held at site including Stanwell power station, Tarong power station, Callide and Kogan Creek as well as Stanwell and CS Energy Brisbane offices.

These engagements continue to have an independent focus on listening to workers to understand their needs, priorities and concerns. Engagement opportunities have been strongly taken up demonstrating that workers are engaged and are looking for information for themselves as well as for their communities.

Next Meeting

The next EIC meeting will be scheduled early in 2025.

Membership

EIC members are:

Unions	Electrical Trades Union Australian Manufacturing Workers' Union Mining and Energy Union Queensland Professionals Australia The Services Union
Publicly Owned Energy Businesses	CleanCo Queensland CS Energy Energy Queensland Powerlink Queensland Stanwell Corporation
Government	Queensland Treasury