



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND BIODIVERSITY
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Submission Cover Sheet

Inquiry into Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Reduction (Natural Gas Transition) Amendment Bill 2022

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Climate Change and Biodiversity

Inquiry into Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Reduction (Natural Gas Transition) Amendment Bill 2022

Evoenergy

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Evoenergy welcomes the opportunity to make a submission in the Inquiry into Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Reduction (Natural Gas Transition) Amendment Bill 2022 (the Bill).

Evoenergy supports the ACT's target of achieving Net Zero 2045, recognising the pathway in the Bill presents complex challenges as well as opportunities, requiring careful planning and ongoing consultation.

About Evoenergy

Evoenergy owns and operates the electricity network in the ACT and gas network in the ACT, Queanbeyan, Jerrabomberra, Bungendore and Nowra.

As the local gas and electricity distributor, we own, maintain and operate 4,720 kilometres of gas mains supplying nearly 160,000 gas customers and 2,120 kilometres of electricity lines supplying over 204,000 electricity customers.

Role of Evoenergy

Evoenergy manages the distribution of gas and electricity to residents and businesses in the ACT and surrounding areas. Managing the network to provide safe and reliable energy involves:

- Maintenance on gas and electricity infrastructure
- Responding to outages and emergencies
- Inspecting trees located near network infrastructure in backyards, Namadgi National Park and nature reserves
- Network design, new connections, disconnections, and connection abolishments.

Proposed amendment

We've reviewed the Bill presented to the ACT Legislative Assembly and propose an adjustment to *Part 2A Natural Gas Connections* to ensure the regulation is feasible.

Here is example wording to incorporate Evoenergy into *Part 2A Natural Gas Connections, 13A Restriction on certain natural gas connections*:

(2) Before a regulation is made for this section, the Executive must seek, and have regard to, the advice of the chief planning executive **and the ACT electricity and gas distributor** about the proposed regulation.