



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**  
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

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STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND BIODIVERSITY  
Dr Marisa Paterson MLA (Chair), Ms Jo Clay MLA (Deputy Chair), Mr Ed Cocks MLA

## Submission Cover Sheet

Inquiry into Environment Protection (Fossil Fuel Company Advertising)  
Amendment Bill 2024

**Submission Number: 13**

**Date Authorised for Publication: 26 March 2024**

I am writing in support of the [Environment Protection \(Fossil Fuel Company Advertising\) Amendment Bill 2024](#) banning fossil fuel advertising at ACT stadiums, and believe the proposed measures should be widened to include all ACT government infrastructure, corporate sponsorships and events.

The City of Yarra is an inner urban municipality with a rapidly growing population, many of whom live with multiple disadvantage and will experience the impacts of climate change directly. We have taken early and active steps to reduce our municipality's emissions, being the first certified carbon neutral council in Victoria in 2010 and with a goal of net zero for our community by 2030.

The impacts of climate change are already being felt in our municipality with excessive heat causing severe health impacts on the elderly and those in inadequate housing. Our green spaces, recreation and sporting fields struggle with heat and drought and our urban forest faces significant challenges into the future, reducing its ability to cool our city. Mitigating climate change is a high priority for our city and our citizens and ending fossil fuels is a key to that. Therefore we were the first council in Australia to declare support for the end to fossil fuel company advertising on council buildings and in 2023 confirmed that with policy.

In 2015, the ACT was one of the first, if not the first, jurisdiction in the world to prohibit fossil fuel advertising on light rail transport. However, it is still possible for fossil fuels to be promoted on light rail stops and other ACT infrastructure. In addition, fossil fuel companies can still sponsor major Territory events such as Floriade.

Here is a chance to again lead the world and extend a fossil fuel advertising ban across all ACT government-owned infrastructure and events.

Stopping fossil fuels begins with stopping fossil fuel ads. We cannot meet our net zero goals while allowing unregulated promotions of the companies undermining the energy transition. These advertised emissions should be included as part of your Scope 3 emissions accounting - as they increase demand for high emissions products.

Stopping fossil fuel advertising and sponsorships is supported by [Comms Declare](#) and its [Fossil Ad Ban](#) campaign, which has been voted for by 15 Australian councils, including the City of Yarra.

Restrictions on fossil fuel advertising have been backed by Doctors for the Environment and The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP). It is also an action suggested under the [Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty](#), that the ACT is signed up to, as is the City of Yarra.

Restrictions on fossil fuel sponsorship of sport are supported by FrontRunners and the Climate Council.

France has banned ads for all fossil fuel energies. A Bill has been introduced in Canada's parliament for a national tobacco-style fossil fuel advertising ban. Bans have also been enacted in dozens of cities and council areas across the globe.

I ask that the ACT government support this Bill and further cement its role as a leader in the energy transition by expanding it to all ACT government property and events.

Yours Sincerely

Cr Amanda Stone

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