



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

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

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To the Legislative Assembly, ACT.

From: Anne Gunn (and Peter Van Ness)

[REDACTED]

I am writing in support of the ****Environment Protection (Fossil Fuel Company Advertising) Amendment Bill 2024**** banning fossil fuel advertising at ACT stadiums.

I also believe the proposed measures should be widened to include all ACT government infrastructure, corporate sponsorships & events.

I played soccer for ten years at masters' level, and I built up a few strong opinions during that time — but now I still see players coming onto the pitch wearing the names and logos of objectionable organisations, which I know many of them will cringe to wear. (Melbourne City: Origin Energy; Melbourne Victory: AGL; Newcastle Jets: Newcastle Coal of course.) Supporters too, cringe to see them forced to wear these advertisements for companies which should be pariahs, using the players' bodies to gain social credit.

Because of a shortage of sports fields, women's soccer has been forced to play in the hotter off season, so we see players almost fainting with exhaustion as the hot weather gets hotter. Matches must be postponed or played later in the day; climate change means we all have to think a bit harder about how we operate.

From what I hear, the ACT very early on prohibited fossil fuel advertising on light rail trams. However, it is still possible for fossil fuels to be promoted on light rail stops & other ACT infrastructure. In addition, fossil fuel companies can still sponsor major Territory events such as Floriade.

******Please, can we take this chance to again lead the world & extend a fossil fuel advertising ban across all ACT government-owned infrastructure & 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 & sponsorships is supported by Comms Declare & its Fossil Ad Ban campaign, which has been voted for by 15 Australian councils, including City of Sydney. Restrictions on fossil fuel advertising have been backed by Doctors for the Environment & The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners.

It is also an action suggested under the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty, which the ACT is signed up to.

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

France has already 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 & council areas across the globe.

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

Yours Sincerely

Anne Gunn, with the support of her partner Peter Van Ness