Investing in cheaper, cleaner energy and the net zero transformation inquiry

Questionnaire response 17

Name: ATN Universities

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1. Reduce the cost of meeting carbon targets

1. What could be done to improve the cost-effectiveness and alignment of policies to reduce emissions across the industrial, electricity and transport sectors?

ATN universities support an integrated approach to emissions reduction that brings together innovation, workforce capability and cross-sector collaboration. Key to this is stronger alignment between research, industry and government in delivering the transition.

Priority areas include:
• Strengthening collaboration between industry and universities to support the development and deployment of low-emissions and net zero technologies. Government-backed partnership models e.g. Trailblazers or Cooperative Research Centres can help scale applied research and ensure solutions are tested in real-world industrial and regional contexts.
• Targeted investment in workforce training to support the shift to clean industries. Green skills should be embedded across education and training systems, with a focus on enabling transitions from emissions-intensive sectors. Universities are well placed to deliver this through work-integrated learning, relevant curriculum, and rapid-delivery credentials.
• National coordination across research, infrastructure and skills strategies to ensure innovation efforts are not siloed and are aligned with both emissions goals and long-term economic development. This includes support for clean energy precincts, advanced manufacturing and the digital transformation of energy and transport systems.
• Stable, long-term policy settings that provide certainty for investment, planning and delivery across education, research and industry.

2. Are there gaps in the emissions-reduction policies in the industrial, electricity and transport sectors which should be addressed?

The participant did not respond to this question.

3. Are there any duplicative emissions-reduction policies in the industrial, electricity and transport sectors which could be streamlined?

The participant did not respond to this question.

2. Speed up approvals for new energy infrastructure

1. Are planning and approvals processes for large energy infrastructure taking too long? If so, what causes the most delay?

The participant did not respond to this question.

2. How can planning and approvals processes be sped up without unduly compromising regulatory standards?

   The participant did not respond to this question.

3. Should clean energy projects be treated differently to other projects for the purpose of environmental and other approvals? If so, how?

   The participant did not respond to this question.

4. What can be done to build local community support for new energy infrastructure projects?

   The participant did not respond to this question.

5. Please outline any evidence showing the productivity benefits of faster approvals for energy projects.

   The participant did not respond to this question.

3. Encourage adaptation by addressing barriers to private investment

1. What are the barriers and enablers impacting decisions by owner-occupiers, landlords and developers about how housing is built and updated over time so that it is resilient to the effects of climate change?

   The participant did not respond to this question.

2. What information do people need to make decisions about where to live, how to build and how to upgrade their homes to appropriately factor in climate change?

   The participant did not respond to this question.

3. What are the most cost-effective retrofitting options for improving the resilience of Australia's existing housing stock? What are their costs and benefits?

   The participant did not respond to this question.

4. What role might minimum standards play in ensuring the resilience of Australia's housing stock?

   The participant did not respond to this question.

5. The impacts of climate change are being factored into the regulation of where and how houses are built in different ways around Australia. What does leading practice look like? Where is there room for improvement? Are there lessons we can learn from other countries?

   The participant did not respond to this question.