

Please direct all responses/queries to:
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26 April 2024

Senate Finance and Public Administration Committees
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Via email: fpa.sen@aph.gov.au

Dear Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee

RE: Net Zero Economy Authority and the Net Zero Economy Authority (Transitional Provisions) Bill 2024 [Provisions]

Woodside welcomes the opportunity to provide a submission to the Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee on the Net Zero Economy Authority and the Net Zero Economy Authority (Transitional Provisions) Bill 2024.

We are a global energy company founded in Australia and headquartered in Perth, Western Australia. We established the liquefied natural gas (LNG) industry in Australia 35 years ago and today supply a growing base of customers. We have reliably delivered gas to homes and businesses in Australia for decades, supporting the development of local industry and driving economic prosperity.

Woodside's climate strategy is integrated throughout our company strategy: our aspiration to thrive through the energy transition with a low cost, lower carbon, profitable, resilient and diversified portfolio.¹

Our climate strategy contains two key elements:

- reducing our net equity Scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions; and
- investing in products and services for the energy transition.

Reducing our net equity Scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions is supported by three levers: avoiding emissions in design, reducing emissions in operations, and offsetting the remainder with carbon credits.

Investing in products and services is also supported by three levers: assessing investments for their resilience to the energy transition; diversifying our products and services; and supporting our customers and suppliers to reduce their emissions.

These levers are underpinned by our work to promote global measurement and reporting – including our own publication of transparent disclosures.

Woodside believes that the transition to net zero will need a whole of government approach and the capability to remove duplication and resolve potentially conflicting departmental as well as Commonwealth, State and Territorial policy positions as the economy makes this transition. Accordingly, a well-designed Net Zero Economic Authority can play an important role in addressing these critical objectives.

As Australia is an emissions-intensive economy, the transition to net zero will have implications for our economy, workforce and communities, particularly in mining and industrial regions. It is why we continue to advocate for the Government to pursue policy settings that enable large-scale, lowest-cost abatement opportunities and focus on initiatives that will support our key trading partners to meet their energy security

¹ For Woodside, a lower carbon portfolio is one from which the net equity Scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions, which includes the use of offsets, are being reduced towards targets, and into which new energy products and lower carbon services are planned to be introduced as a complement to existing and new investments in oil and gas. Our Climate Policy sets out the principles that we believe will assist us achieve this aim.

and climate ambitions. To do this will require fair, robust and transparent emissions reduction policies that encourage businesses to invest, innovate and adopt the technologies needed to achieve decarbonisation at scale.

While the Bill creates the Authority, whose mandate, function and powers aim to enable Australia's transition to net zero emissions is orderly and positive, we believe its success will be judged by its ability to implement technology neutral policies that accelerate emissions reduction in Australia and amongst our trading partners while also supporting economic growth and ensuring energy security. We acknowledge that the energy transition will have implications for business and communities across the country, and in order for the transition to be a just one, the scale of change will require commitment, collaboration and consensus between governments, industry, investors and communities.

We look forward to working with the Authority once it is established and operational.

Yours sincerely

Tony Cudmore
Executive Vice President – Strategy and Climate