

CLAUSE NOTES
Climate Change (State Action) Amendment Bill

A Bill for an Act to amend the *Climate Change (State Action) Act 2008*

- Clause 1** **Short Title**
- Provides the title of the amendment Act: *Climate Change (State Action) Amendment Act 2021*.
- Clause 2** **Commencement**
- Provides that the *Climate Change (State Action) Amendment Act 2021* will commence on the day on which it receives Royal Assent.
- Clause 3** **Principal Act**
- Provides title of the principal Act: *Climate Change (State Action) Act 2008*
- Clause 4** **Section 3 amended (Interpretation)**
- This clause amends definitions in the principal Act by adding a definition for adaptation measures; climate change; anthropogenic emissions; anthropogenic removals; Greenhouse Gas Inventory; and updating the title of Tasmania's emissions reduction target.
- Clause 5** **Section 4 substituted**
- This clause substitutes the existing ten objects of the Act with five new objects.
- The new objects are arranged into the following five themes:
1. emissions reduction target and reporting;
 2. emissions reduction;
 3. climate change adaptation;
 4. complementarity with climate change programs of other jurisdictions; and
 5. consultation

Clause 6

Part 2, Division 1 substituted

This clause substitutes the existing Division 1 of Part 2 of the principal Act with a new Division: *Division 1 – Target and action planning*. The purpose of this substitution is to establish:

- Tasmania's new emissions reduction target;
- a requirement for a climate change action plan to be prepared, and tabled in Parliament;
- a requirement for a statewide climate change risk assessment to be prepared, and tabled in Parliament;
- a requirement for sector-based emissions reduction and resilience plans to be prepared, and tabled in Parliament;
- a requirement for an annual greenhouse gas report for Tasmania to be prepared, and tabled in Parliament; and
- a requirement for an annual climate change activity statement for Tasmania to be prepared, and tabled in Parliament.

5. Tasmania's emissions reduction target

The purpose of this section is to establish a new emissions reduction target for Tasmania of net zero emissions, or lower, from 30 June 2030.

This section includes a definition of net zero emissions.

5A. Climate change action plan

The purpose of this section is to establish a legislative framework for the preparation of a climate change action plan.

It prescribes the frequency with which a climate change action plan must be prepared.

It prescribes the actions that the climate change action plan must include, and the matters the Minister is to take into account in developing a climate change action plan.

It prescribes that a climate change action plan must be prepared in formats that ensure easy accessibility to a wide range of audiences, including children and young people.

It prescribes a requirement for a climate change action plan to be tabled in Parliament.

5B. Statewide climate change risk assessment

The purpose of this section is to establish a legislative framework for the preparation of a statewide climate change risk assessment.

It prescribes the frequency with which a statewide climate change risk assessment must be prepared.

It prescribes the matters the Minister is to take into account in developing a statewide climate change risk assessment.

It prescribes a requirement for a statewide climate change risk assessment to be tabled in Parliament.

5C. Sector-based transition planning

The purpose of this section is to establish a legislative framework for the preparation of sector-based emissions reduction and resilience plans.

It prescribes the sectors for which emissions reduction and resilience plans will be developed.

It prescribes the aims that must be supported by the emissions reduction and resilience plans.

It prescribes the frequency with which emissions reduction and resilience plans must be updated.

It prescribes a requirement for emissions reduction and resilience plans to be tabled in Parliament.

5D. Greenhouse gas report

The purpose of this section is to establish a legislative framework for the preparation of an annual greenhouse gas report for Tasmania.

It prescribes the elements that a greenhouse gas report is to include.

It prescribes a requirement for a greenhouse gas report to be tabled in Parliament.

5E. Climate change activity statement

The purpose of this section is to establish a legislative framework for the preparation of an annual climate change activity statement for Tasmania.

It prescribes the elements that a climate change activity statement is to include.

It prescribes a requirement for a climate change activity statement to be tabled in Parliament.

Clause 7 Section 7 amended (Greenhouse gas emission regulations)

This Clause amends Section 7 of the Principal Act which sets out the parameters for the *Climate Change (Greenhouse Gas) Regulations 2012*.

The reason for this amendment is the change in the type of emissions reduction target from a target to reduce emissions by a designated quantity as measured from a baseline year, to a target of net zero emissions from a designated year.

Clause 8 Section 18 amended (Review of Act)

This Clause amends the parameters of the Review of the Act to expand and clarify the consultation requirements for future independent reviews of the Act.

The reason for this amendment is responding to consultation feedback on the draft Bill.

This clause also removes the requirement for the first review of the Act.

Clause 9 Principal Regulations

Provides the title of the principal regulations: *Climate Change (Greenhouse Gas) Regulations 2012*.

Clause 10 Regulation 3 amended (Interpretation)

This clause amends definitions in the principal Regulations by omitting a definition for *baseline figure*.

The reason for this amendment is the change in the type of emissions reduction target from a target to reduce emissions by a designated quantity as measured from a baseline year, to a target of net zero emissions from a designated year.

Clause 11 Regulations 4, 5 and 6 substituted

This clause substitutes regulations regarding the measurement of greenhouse gas emissions.

The reason for this amendment is the change in the type of emissions reduction target from a target to reduce emissions by a designated quantity as measured from a baseline year, to a target of net zero emissions from a designated year.

Clause 12 Repeal of Act

This Clause establishes that the *Climate Change (State Action) Amendment Act 2021* is repealed on the first anniversary of the day on which it commences.