

Tuesday 30 November 2021

Emission Reductions Assurance Committee
Clean Energy Regulator
c/o Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Tourism

Via: <https://consult.industry.gov.au/biomethane-method-package/have-your-say>

Biomethane method package: proposed new method activity under the Emissions Reduction Fund

Energy Networks Australia (ENA) welcomes the opportunity to provide input during the consultation period on the Biomethane method package for the Emissions Reduction Fund.

ENA is the national industry body representing Australia's electricity transmission and distribution and gas distribution networks. Our members provide more than 16 million electricity and gas connections to almost every home and business across Australia.

To date, the focus of decarbonisation has been on the electricity sector, but gas networks are on their own decarbonisation journey. Customers tell us that they are seeking a clean energy future and are engaged in achieving emission reductions from gas use. New renewable fuels, such as hydrogen and biomethane, have the potential to become mainstream and complementary energy solutions that will use existing energy infrastructure. Our gas networks are leading the development of renewable gas projects and blending renewable hydrogen in the Adelaide and Sydney gas distribution networks, with further projects under development for Victoria, Western Australia and Queensland.

Energy Networks Australia is supportive of the package of proposed methods.

We understand that the Bioenergy Roadmap released earlier this month identified "*Encourage separation of organics at source, enabling higher steps in the waste hierarchy*" as a priority action for 2021-25. This waste stream is likely to become a viable large-scale source for biomethane production that can be delivered to customers via gas networks.

At this stage, the package does not cover source-separated organic wastes, and alternative waste treatment, which would exclude an important feedstock for biomethane production. Energy Networks Australia supports that these methods are reviewed in early 2022 to support the emerging biomethane industry.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact Dr Dennis R Van Puyvelde: dvanpuyvelde@energynetworks.com.au.

Yours sincerely,



Andrew Dillon
Chief Executive Officer