3 March 2023

**Consultation on key elements of Canberra’s transition off fossil fuel gas**

**Canberrans will be able to provide their feedback on proposals to prevent new gas network connections in the ACT as part of the Government’s plan to transition off fossil fuels.**

The transition away from gas is part of the ACT’s efforts to become a net zero emissions city by 2045. Fossil fuel gas currently accounts for more than 20% of the Territory’s greenhouse gas emissions.

The regulation to prevent new gas network connections is an important step in our work to make sure Canberra is a thriving net zero emissions city by 2045 and is a significant change for the ACT community.

An Issues Paper is now available on YourSay Conversations and the ACT Government is seeking community views to better understand the impacts of a change like this on all members of our community.

Community feedback will support the development of the regulation, which will commence in the second half of 2023. For more information on the consultation, visit <https://yoursayconversations.act.gov.au/pathway-to-electrification>

**Quotes attributable to Chief Minister and Minister for Climate Action** **Andrew Barr:**

“The ACT took a nation leading step in announcing our intention to electrify our city and transition off fossil fuel gas over the next two decades. The government is committed to managing the transition in a way that supports Canberrans with the shift to a more sustainable future.

“The cost of gas is more than likely to grow in the coming decades. All-electric buildings are not only a better choice for the environment, but they’re also better for future building users, and will save people money on energy costs.

“We want to continue to hear from Canberrans on this transition project. The pathway towards a net zero emissions city is a long-term project, and the Government will continue to do what we can to support Canberrans to make the everyday climate choice that will make a difference.

**Quotes attributable to Minister for Energy and Emissions Reduction Shane Rattenbury:**

“Right now, more Canberrans than ever are electrifying their homes, which is great for our environment and for homeowners who are saving on energy costs. At the same time, approximately 80% of all new homes in the ACT are still connecting to gas – homes that will need to be electrified by 2045.

“The proposed regulation is an important step in readying our city for an all-electric future and I look forward to hearing community ideas on how we achieve the best outcome for Canberra households, businesses, and industry.

“There are already a variety of supports available for Canberrans looking to electrify their homes and businesses. This includes zero-interest loans as part of the Sustainable Household Scheme, rebates for low-income households to switch from gas to electric heating through the Home Energy Support Program, and rebates for small to medium businesses through the Sustainable Business Program.”

**Statement ends**

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