

AHC INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE: SCOPE AND PRIORITIES

Purpose

To produce and deliver strategy, advice and research to support the growth of hydrogen infrastructure across Australia with a strategic focus on coordinated use, hubs and connecting people.

Scope

1. Assist with policy to support financing sources and government co-investment opportunities to support infrastructure roll out.
2. Undertake research and analysis to support hydrogen infrastructure and mobility deployment and growth (either through AHC or by an external party).
3. Point of contact for external parties (such as Councils) seeking partners or support for new infrastructure rollouts.
4. Engage with external groups as required for advocacy/education purposes in relation to hydrogen infrastructure projects.
5. Provision of advice and guidance on hydrogen infrastructure projects to members as appropriate.
6. Provide appropriate advice to other AHC committees for broader policy and communications.

Administrative aspects

- Current chair: Fiona Simon, AHC
- Meeting frequency: Quarterly
- Format: 3x teleconference; 1x in person p.a.
- Membership: All members + Chair
- Agenda setting: Chair (with Secretariat support)
- Minute taking: Secretariat
- Meeting scheduling: Secretariat
- Member reporting: Chair (at each Member Meeting)

2020 focus areas

Focus areas for 2020 are shown in the table below. These are addressed by working groups, with work undertaken throughout the year under the direction of a working group chair, who is in turn accountable to the Committee chair.

Other important work for the year includes:

- Working with relevant stakeholders on policy and information sharing to enable hydrogen hubs and infrastructure development, including supporting NERA's cluster project.
- Contributing to the government's inaugural National Hydrogen Infrastructure Assessment.
- Providing practical input to the PAC energy working group (WG2) to consider options for energy market reforms.

#	Item	Detail
WG4	Funding infrastructure	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify infrastructure investment to get to scale and advocate for funding/investment options. 2. Map out jurisdictional funding arrangements for larger projects to advocate for coordination and potentially as repository for members. 3. Map out funding application processes for hub projects in order to advocate for harmonisation. 4. Input to PAC on necessary government funding both for, and potentially post, ARENA. <p><i>In hibernation for rest of 2020 – work is occurring separately</i></p>
WG5	Supporting FCEVs	Develop preferences for refuelling station network options to advocate to governments on stations, fleet contracts and station access.
WG6	Information sharing – lessons learned	Scope out lessons learned document/project and assess value to members of proceeding.
		<i>In hibernation for rest of 2020 – work is occurring separately</i>

National Hydrogen Strategy agreements: IC coverage and priorities

#	Topic	Topic heading	Agreement (federal and state/territory governments)
9	Infrastructure	Hubs and sector coupling	3.5 Agree to consider each governments' respective planning and funding timelines, and to the extent possible, harmonise funding application processes for hub projects.
10	Infrastructure	Assessing our hydrogen infrastructure needs	3.6 Agree to complete an inaugural National Hydrogen Infrastructure Assessment by 2022 led and coordinated by the Commonwealth Government. The assessment will consider hydrogen supply chain needs such as electricity and gas networks, water supply networks, refuelling stations, roads, rail and ports, while taking into account local community concerns and priorities.
13	Information	Supporting research, pilots, trials and demonstrations along the supply chain	3.9 Support improved knowledge sharing from hydrogen-related projects, to help remove some of the information barriers the hydrogen industry faces and improve community awareness and rate of scale-up.
14	Funding	Supporting research, pilots, trials and demonstrations along the supply chain	3.10 Agree to consider options to facilitate larger hydrogen projects through coordinating respective funding arrangements.
22	Transport	Initial steps towards using hydrogen for transport	3.18 Support refuelling stations on major freight and passenger road corridors, to support greater range for hydrogen vehicles.
24	Transport	Initial steps towards using hydrogen for transport	3.20 Agree to consider opportunities for new vehicle technologies, including hydrogen vehicles, in government fleets and large government contracts.
25	Transport	Initial steps towards using hydrogen for transport	3.21 Support consortium based approaches to building refuelling infrastructure, with industry contributing to associated costs to promote long-term commercial viability.
26	Transport	Initial steps towards using hydrogen for transport	3.22 Agree to promote open access to any government supported refuelling infrastructure, wherever practical.

#	Topic	Topic heading	Agreement (federal and state/territory governments)
23	Transport	Initial steps towards using hydrogen for transport	3.19 Agree to include fuel infrastructure priorities in the proposed National Hydrogen Infrastructure Assessment so Ministers can periodically reconsider the need for action and calibrate relevant support mechanisms.
33	Regulatory reform	Integrating hydrogen into energy markets	4.7 Agree to a future review, drawing on experience from pilot projects, trials and demonstrations, to consider options for energy market reforms to improve the integration of hydrogen into energy markets and to deliver additional benefits from hydrogen to consumers.
34	Regulatory reform	Integrating hydrogen into energy markets	4.8 Agree the review in 4.8 will be completed by 2024.
11	Infrastructure	Assessing our hydrogen infrastructure needs	3.7 Agree to review and update the Hydrogen Infrastructure Assessment at least every five years, to highlight priorities for future infrastructure needs for competitive hydrogen supply chains.