



Frequently Asked Questions Carbon Credits and Other Legislation Amendment (Integrity and Transparency) Bill Consultation

Why is the government reforming the ACCU Scheme?

- The Australian Carbon Credit Unit (ACCU) Scheme plays an important role in Australia's net zero transition and mitigation efforts.
- Reviews of the Scheme by the Climate Change Authority (CCA), and independent experts, have found it is well designed and administered and is contributing to Australia's net zero transition. These reviews also identified opportunities for continuous improvement of the Scheme.
- The department is progressing reforms to further strengthen Scheme integrity and governance, and make a range of regulatory improvements to improve Scheme workability and effectiveness. The proposed amendments implement recommendations of these independent reviews and leverage insights from previous government consultation to deliver cohesive reform.
- These reforms are part of the government's commitment to continuous improvement of the Scheme, to ensure ongoing integrity and alignment with evolving best practice, and that the Scheme remains well-placed to deliver abatement to support the government's Net-Zero Plan.

How will submissions inform the proposed amendments?

- Stakeholder feedback on the exposure draft Bill will inform the version of the Bill for considered by the Parliament.
- The department will consider issues raised through submissions and use this information to refine the proposed Bill. Submissions may also inform the subsequent implementation of the amendments, if passed.
- The department may reach out to stakeholders to discuss feedback in submissions if required.

How will the amendments change the ACCU and NGER Schemes?

- The government proposes legislative amendments to the ACCU and NGER schemes to:
 - Strengthen consent requirements by recognising registered native title claimants as eligible interest holders and requiring up-front and staged consent for projects on land recognised as native title land, or subject to native title claims.
 - Enable the existing Emissions Reduction Assurance Committee to evolve into the new Carbon Abatement Integrity Committee (CAIC).
 - Clarify governance arrangements for proponent-led method development (PLMD).
 - Create new Ministerial powers to add an additional tool to manage critical integrity risks the Scheme, and as a result, the carbon market could face in the future.

OFFICIAL

- Encourage greater investment and participation in research and development into new emissions reduction opportunities for the Scheme.
- Enhance the Clean Energy Regulator's compliance and publication powers to ensure ongoing Scheme integrity and transparency.
- Simplify and streamline the Scheme administration.
- Enhance the transparency and administration of the NGER Scheme.

Where can I find out more information on the proposed amendments?

- Alongside the [exposure draft Bill](#), the government has published a:
 - [Consultation paper](#) which provides more detail on the rationale and implications of the amendments
 - [Bill Compilation](#) showing the CFI Act as it would appear if the amendments are passed by the Parliament.
- The department also delivered a series of webinars to provide stakeholders more information on the proposed reform package, and opportunity for questions. Recordings of these webinars will be published on the department's website.
 - Introductory webinar - Overview of the Bill
 - Deep-dive webinar 1: Carbon Abatement Integrity Committee (formerly the Emissions Reduction Assurance Committee) and Proponent-led method development amendments
 - Deep-dive webinar 2: Integrity Risk Method Declarations amendments
 - Deep-dive webinar 3: Native title holder consent changes
 - Deep-dive webinar 4: Integrity improvements & administrative changes (including newness exemption)
- The department's Have Your Say webpage includes links to other government websites which provide more background and information on the ACCU Scheme.

What if I can't make the webinars, will they be recorded?

- Yes, the webinars have been recorded and posted on the Have Your Say page.

Why were the Q&A portions of the webinars not included in the recordings?

- To protect the privacy of the individuals who asked questions, the Q&A portions of the webinars were not included in the posted recordings.
- If you have questions on the Bill that are not addressed by the materials available on the Have Your Say page, please email these to accuscheme@dcceew.gov.au. This inbox will be actively monitored by the team during the consultation period.

What is the timeframe for submissions?

- The proposed Bill is open to submissions from the 30 April – 22 May (closing at 5pm AEST).

Will late submissions be accepted?

- Unfortunately, given tight timeframes, late submissions will not be able to be considered. Late submissions and feedback may inform subsequent processes.



- Please let us know as soon as possible if you are having trouble submitting via the Have Your Say survey platform.

Can I email my submission?

- Emailed submissions will not be accepted. Instead, you will be redirected to submit your submissions via the Have Your Say survey. This will help to ensure consistent analysis across submissions.
- Please let us know as soon as possible if you are having trouble submitting via the Have Your Say survey platform.

Will my submission be published?

- The department will publish submissions unless you expressly ask us not to. This includes any personal and/or business information contained in it. Published submissions will be accessible online and by overseas recipients.
- Submissions marked as confidential may be disclosed on a confidential basis as authorised or required by law.

Will the government provide information on how each submission was considered?

- The department will not provide information on how each submission was considered. Outcomes of the consultation, including the final Bill if passed by Parliament, will be published on the Have Your Say website. This will provide stakeholders information on any changes made between the draft and final versions of the Bills.

Who can I contact regarding my submission?

- All queries on the proposed Bill and submission process should be directed to accuscheme@dcceew.gov.au. This inbox will be actively monitored by the team during the consultation period.

What are the timeframes for this process?

- Timing for parliamentary consideration of the Bill is a matter for government, in alignment with their legislation priorities.
- If passed, there will be a package of implementation work, such as consequential amendments to the scheme Rule, adjustments to CER's portal and updates to communications materials such as scheme guidance and websites.
- Please note that a Scheme Rule remake process is underway replace the Rule which is sunseting in 2027.
- This is being processed in parallel with the Bill work and changes to the primary Act will be flowed through to the Rule, after passage of the Bill.



Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Australia and their continuing connection to land and sea, waters, environment and community. We pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians of the lands we live and work on, their culture, and their Elders past and present.

© Commonwealth of Australia 2026

Unless otherwise noted, copyright (and any other intellectual property rights) in this publication is owned by the Commonwealth of Australia (referred to as the Commonwealth).

All material in this publication is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International Licence](#) except content supplied by third parties, logos and the Commonwealth Coat of Arms.

The Australian Government acting through the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water has exercised due care and skill in preparing and compiling the information and data in this publication. Notwithstanding, the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, its employees and advisers disclaim all liability, including liability for negligence and for any loss, damage, injury, expense or cost incurred by any person as a result of accessing, using or relying on any of the information or data in this publication to the maximum extent permitted by law.

