

## Energy

WACOSS welcomes the significant investment in the clean energy transition, grid infrastructure and industrial decarbonisation. However, the WA Government must do more to ensure that people on low or fixed incomes, renters and people living in regional WA are able to gain access to, and afford, renewable energy. The green energy transition will only be just if the benefits flow equitably to all Western Australians.

<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Clean Energy Fund</b> (BP3, P4) (BP3, P66)
<b>Investment</b>	\$1.4 billion for the creation of a Clean Energy Fund.
<b>Description</b>	Delivering the Clean Energy Link transmission projects required to connect new renewable generation and storage facilities, which will result in a massive grid expansion and deliver enough energy to power around one million homes, enabling industry to access cheaper, cleaner energy.
<b>Implications</b>	<i>We welcome this investment in clean energy and call on the government to ensure that the benefits of energy decarbonisation and infrastructure investment flow to those on low incomes, renters and those living in regional areas.</i>

<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Western Power Network Expansion</b> (BP1, P14) (BP2, V2, P758)
<b>Investment</b>	\$973 million allocated in 2026-27.
<b>Description</b>	Western Power network expansion to connect residential and industrial customers, maintain existing assets and support the clean energy transition
<b>Implications</b>	<i>We welcome this investment in the network. However, since network expansion costs are passed on to customers through network tariffs, targeted support is required for low-income households and other vulnerable consumers.</i>

<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Made in WA Energy Affordability Investment Program</b> (BP2, V1, P183) (BP2, V1, P185) (BP3, P4) (BP3, P118)
<b>Investment</b>	\$156 million over three years.
<b>Description</b>	Low-interest loans to invest in energy-efficient infrastructure and advanced manufacturing equipment, improving energy affordability and

	competitiveness while supporting delivery of the Made in WA and Diversify WA Plans.
<b>Implications</b>	<i>Investment in industrial energy efficiency is welcome. However, a fair energy transition requires targeted investment in energy efficiency initiatives for renters and people on low income.</i>

<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Decommissioning Albany's gas distribution system</b> <i>(BP2, V1, P183) (BP3, P118)</i>
<b>Investment</b>	\$10.8 million over two years.
<b>Description</b>	The Department of Energy and Economic Diversification will spend \$1.8 million over 2025-26 to 2026-27 to support customers impacted by the closure of the Albany Gas Distribution System to transition to alternative energy sources. The Department of Housing and Works will spend \$9 million to transition social housing properties to alternative energy sources.
<b>Implications</b>	<i>We welcome this investment. It is important to support social housing tenants through significant transitions.</i>

<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Kalgoorlie Vanadium Battery Energy Storage System</b> <i>(BP2, V1, P184) (BP2, V1, P189) (BP3, P222)</i>
<b>Investment</b>	\$150 million for three years.
<b>Description</b>	Grants will support grid reliability in the Eastern Goldfields and help drive long duration energy storage development in WA ahead of coal-fired station closures in Collie (2027) and Muja D (2029).
<b>Implications</b>	<i>We welcome this investment and call on the WA Government to ensure that the benefits of decarbonisation and grid expansion are shared equitably among people on low incomes and those living in the regions</i>