



Climate Change and the Downstream Petroleum Industry in Australia

“While uncertainties remain in our understanding of climate science, we know enough to act now to put ourselves on a path to slow and, as the science justifies, stop and then reverse the growth of greenhouse gases.”

– G8 Statement, 2005 meeting at Gleneagles, Scotland

Access to energy is an essential part of life. It increases mobility, provides heat, light and power, improves living standards and spurs economic activity. However, with the use of energy comes a responsibility to use that energy in an efficient and sustainable way.

The downstream petroleum industry, as represented by the Australian Institute of Petroleum (AIP), is committed to producing progressively cleaner fuels and providing them to Australian customers reliably and at competitive, market determined prices.

The AIP:

- **recognises that climate change presents a significant risk to economies, societies and the environment.** Member companies support actions to advance climate science to improve understanding and therefore reduce the risks from future impacts.
- **advocates a broad-based approach to emissions abatement** recognising that there are many pathways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions over the short, medium and longer term. These include improved energy efficiency, development and deployment of new and innovative technologies, enhanced public awareness and supportive policy frameworks. Practical adaptation to the unavoidable impacts of climate change is also a critical part of an effective response.
- **supports a national approach to climate change policy in Australia** to ensure that the most effective and appropriate frameworks are put in place.
- **supports public reporting of greenhouse gas emissions** to provide clear understanding of trends in industry emission profiles.
- **expects policy decisions by governments to be based on sound scientific and economic analyses** that recognise the risks, costs and benefits to the downstream petroleum industry as well as to society. The future viability of Australian refineries will be dependent on maintaining the international competitiveness of Australian refined products.
- **encourages co-operative international actions by governments and industry** that recognise the global nature of climate change and contribute to sustainable longer term climate change mitigation.

Member companies support policy outcomes that effectively address climate change risks while minimising risks to business in order to deliver sustainable business value to Australia.