

Energy

This Budget invests significantly in industrial projects working towards decarbonisation of the energy industry and our economy. These are significant steps in the right direction. As part of this process, WACOSS also calls for the development of a roadmap, including supports, to transition all households away from gas and to electricity.

Initiative	Strategic Industries Fund (BP3, P23, P108)
Investment	\$500 million over four years
Description	Package to deliver common-user and other enabling infrastructure at Strategic Infrastructure Areas, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$125 million to open up new industrial land at Latitude 32 in Kwinana • \$20 million to develop general industrial land in Karratha and in the Peel region • \$20 million to unlock land in the Goldfields and South West • \$145 million for DevelopmentWA to acquire and develop land • \$21 million for the Government to establish a new program management office
Implications	The Government says this Fund will make available industrial land for renewable hydrogen, critical minerals processing and other industries. It is not clear what initiatives will be carried out once the industrial land is readied. It is important for Traditional Owners to be engaged in any land development and use.

Initiative	Continuation of Remote Communities Program Horizon Power (BP2, V2, P797)
Investment	\$68.3 million over four years
Description	Investment by Horizon Power to improve reliability of critical infrastructure in remote communities such as power and water.
Implications	This is a welcome investment and will provide an important connection for remote communities to receive the same reliability of water and power as regional and metropolitan areas. See also the <i>Regional Investment Factsheet</i> .

Initiative	Social Housing Energy Performance Initiative Co-Investment (BP2, V2, P504 & BP3, P112)
Investment	\$25.2 million over three years

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Description	Energy improvements and efficiencies to social housing in the Kimberley. Investment in matched funding with the Commonwealth Government.
Implications	This is a necessary investment to improve the conditions and efficiencies to social homes. This will hopefully see the reduction of cost of living pressures such as air conditioning or heating for households doing it tough by making homes more climate appropriate. See also the <i>Regional Investment Factsheet</i> .

Initiative	Powering WA (BP2, V1, P234)
Investment	\$9 million over four years
Description	PowerWA is an entity, created in 2023 to coordinate the activity needed to delivery the electricity infrastructure required to decarbonise the South West Interconnected System which is WA's main electricity grid.
Implications	Transitioning electricity generation, storage and transmission to renewable resources is needed to reduce carbon emissions and mitigate climate change.

Initiative	Wind Turbine Manufacturing (BP2, V1, P205)
Investment	\$8.3 million over four years, commencing 2023-24
Description	Investment to develop a local wind turbine manufacturing industry.
Implications	Wind is an important renewable energy source.

Initiative	Decarbonisation Synergy (BP2, V2, P780, P781)
Investment	\$1.2 billion over one year
Description	Synergy investment in progressing existing battery storage and wind projects
Implications	Decarbonisation of energy sources is essential to reducing carbon emissions and mitigating climate change.

Initiative	Standalone Power Systems (BP3, P164, P202)
Investment	\$18.4 million over two years
Description	Funding to install the next 50 Standalone Power Systems in the Goldfields-Esperance and Midwest regions. This was an election commitment.
Implications	Standalone Power Systems offer improved reliability for remote and regional communities.

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Initiative	Decarbonising the South West Interconnected System (BP3, P24)
Investment	\$324 million over four years
Description	Funding to undertake planning and procure long lead items for transmission network infrastructure in the South West Interconnected System
Implications	Decarbonisation efforts are welcome.