

REPEALING THE CARBON TAX

Landfill Facility Operators

The landfill industry, through the Australian Landfill Owners Association and the Australian Local Government Association, has developed a voluntary Waste Industry Protocol to ensure that the early collected carbon charges are returned for consumer and environmental benefit.

- Protocol for the handling of early collected carbon charges in the landfill sector

Abolition of the Carbon Tax

The carbon tax repeal legislation received the Royal Assent on Thursday, 17 July 2014 and the bills as part of this package are now law, with effect from 1 July 2014.

Abolishing the carbon tax will lower costs for Australian businesses and ease cost of living pressures for households.

What removing the carbon tax will mean for Australians

Repealing the carbon tax and the Clean Energy Package is designed to:

- Reduce the cost of living - modelling by the Australian Treasury suggests that removing the carbon tax in 2014-15 will leave average costs of living across all households around \$550 lower than they would otherwise be in 2014-15.
- Lower retail electricity by around 9 per cent and retail gas prices by around 7 per cent than they would otherwise be in 2014-15 with a \$25.40 carbon tax.
- Boost Australia's economic growth, increase jobs and enhance Australia's international competitiveness by removing an unnecessary tax, which hurts businesses and families.
- Reduce annual ongoing compliance costs for around 370 liable entities by almost \$90 million per annum.
- Remove over 1,000 pages of primary and subordinate legislation.

Ensuring lower prices are passed through

The Government is committed to ensuring that consumers benefit from the removal of the carbon tax. The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) will monitor and enforce reasonably expected price reductions across key sectors of the economy, particularly the electricity, gas and synthetic greenhouse gas sectors.

The ACCC will also have, for one year following the repeal of the carbon tax, new powers to take action against entities that engage in carbon tax-related price exploitation, or that make false or misleading claims about the effect of the carbon tax repeal on prices. These new provisions will complement the existing provisions of the Australian Consumer Law that prohibit misleading and deceptive conduct and false or misleading representations.

Industry assistance

Industry assistance provided under the Jobs & Competitiveness Program, the Energy Security Fund and the Steel Transformation Plan has continued in 2013-14 for the purpose of meeting carbon tax liabilities, but has now ceased.

Climate Change Authority and Clean Energy Finance

Corporation

The Climate Change Authority (Abolition) Bill 2013 and the Clean Energy Finance Corporation (Abolition) Bill 2014, were introduced into parliament as part of the broader Carbon Tax Repeal Legislative Package and each of which will proceed separately. Policy responsibility for the Clean Energy Finance Corporation remains with the Treasury.

Role of the Clean Energy Regulator

The Clean Energy Regulator will ensure that carbon tax liabilities are met in full.

Any enquiries regarding compliance and reporting arrangements for 2013-14 should continue to be directed to the Clean Energy Regulator.