

Media Release

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EPA GUIDELINE THREATENS JOBS AND EMISSIONS REDUCTION

A new Assessment Guideline for greenhouse gas emissions unveiled by the Western Australian Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) is inconsistent with Australia's Paris climate goals and threatens WA jobs, Woodside CEO Peter Coleman said.

"The EPA has not consulted with industry proponents who might be directly affected, which amounts to policy on the run in a complex and important area.

"Australia has struggled to formulate stable climate policy for over a decade and the EPA has added to the uncertainty, which threatens already difficult investment decisions.

"The EPA's proposal significantly oversteps Australia's Paris emissions reduction targets and sets a standard that is beyond the current capacity of WA's offset industry to safely and sustainably deliver.

"National action on climate change is essential, but this imposition of an immediate 'net zero' emissions target for WA projects comes 30 years ahead of the Climate Change Authority's recommendation to achieve that outcome in 2050.

"Not only will this proposal put at risk new jobs, investment and domestic gas supplies, it positions WA at a competitive disadvantage in the global LNG marketplace.

"The State Government should reject this approach and commit to tackling this important policy area in a way that complements our national emissions reduction targets and recognises WA's aspirations not only for the environment but for a sustainable economic future," he said.

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