



Bioenergy Australia (Forum) Pty Ltd  
ABN 14 155 856 821

## **Bioenergy Australia: Inquiry into Future Made in Australia (Guarantee of Origin) Bill 2024**

This submission is on behalf of Bioenergy Australia the national industry association committed to accelerating Australia's bio economy. Our mission is to foster the bioenergy sector to generate jobs, secure investment, maximise the value of local resources, minimise waste and environmental impact, and develop and promote national bioenergy expertise into international markets. As part of this mission, we focus on accelerating the development and deployment of Low Carbon Liquid Fuels and Renewable Gas in Australia.

Australia's Bioenergy Roadmap (ARENA, November 2021) outlines how, by the start of the next decade, Australia's bioenergy sector could contribute around \$10 billion in extra GDP per annum and 26,200 new jobs, reduce emissions by about 9 per cent, divert an extra 6 per cent of waste from landfill, and enhance fuel security.<sup>1</sup> Now is the time to capitalise on these opportunities, and we are delighted to see low carbon liquid fuels (LCLF) and biomethane identified as priority products to be included in **Future Made in Australia (Guarantee of Origin) Bill 2024** and related bills.

Bioenergy Australia supports the Future Made in Australia (Guarantee of Origin) Bill 2024 and welcomes the Australian Government's plan to fast-track its implementation. However, we stress the need for urgency in expanding the Scheme to cover LCLF and biomethane. These products offer vital decarbonisation, economic, and energy security benefits, and their inclusion in the Guarantee of Origin (GO) Scheme will significantly accelerate their growth and adoption within the domestic market.

Prioritising the inclusion of these products within the GO Scheme is supported by their immediate compatibility with existing technology, along with the rising demand from hard-to-abate sectors that have limited emissions abatement alternatives.

### **Low Carbon Liquid Fuels**

We welcome the Government's recognition of LCLF as a priority industry within the Future Made in Australia's National Interest Framework. As highlighted in the Framework, these fuels will be critical for reducing emissions in hard to abate sectors, where performance requirements are high and few alternative emissions abatement options are likely to become available.

Given the long-lasting nature of the technology used in hard-to-abate sectors—such as transport, shipping, mining, agriculture, and construction—Australian industries will continue to depend on liquid fuels. With liquid fuels accounting for 45 percent of the nation's total energy use, decarbonising Australia's economy will require the urgent development and deployment of LCLF.<sup>2</sup> Due to their

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<sup>1</sup> [ARENA, 'Australia's Bioenergy Roadmap' \(2021\)](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Transitioning Australia's Liquid Fuel Sector: The Role of Renewable Fuels Report \(2023\)](#)



compatibility with existing technology, assets, and refuelling infrastructure, LCLF can be quickly adopted and rapidly scaled, provided they are included in supportive policies, such as the GO Scheme. We strongly encourage the Australian Government to fast-track the inclusion of LCLF in the GO Scheme as a critical step towards unlocking the significant decarbonisation opportunities these fuels offer.

### **Biomethane**

Biomethane is a renewable and carbon-neutral drop-in replacement for natural gas that can aid in the decarbonisation of Australia's gas network and our hard-to-abate industrial processes. It is compatible with existing gas infrastructure, consumer appliances, and industrial facilities without the need for significant investment in upgrading.

Biomethane is available now and can be injected directly into the gas network, providing an immediate solution for decarbonising our gas usage. Its readiness is further supported by the GreenPower Renewable Gas Certification Scheme, which is already issuing renewable gas certificates, enabling commercial and industrial gas customers to commercial and industrial gas customers to match their gas use with renewable gas certificates.<sup>3</sup> This scheme not only acts as an essential tool that can form the basis for renewable gas certification in Australia but also highlights that biomethane is a ready product, primed for inclusion in the GO scheme.

Given its immediate readiness and availability, we strongly encourage the Australian Government to fast-track the inclusion of biomethane in the GO Scheme.

Prioritising the inclusion of LCLF and biomethane in the GO Scheme is a significant step in advancing Australia's net zero ambitions. This move will not only attract critical investment for project development and expansion, incentivise the use of these emissions-reducing products, and reinforce customer confidence in the value of these products, but also showcase the Australian Government's commitment to achieving its emissions reduction objectives.

We welcome the Australia Government's commitment to the inclusion of LCLF and biomethane within the GO Scheme and look forward to further consultations.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this submission. Please send any comments or queries to myself at

Sincerely,

Shahana McKenzie  
CEO Bioenergy Australia

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<sup>3</sup> [GreenPower 'Renewable Gas Certification: Fact Sheet' \(2022\)](#)