

Victoria's Fair Fuel Plan

Gas Energy Australia (GEA) represents Australia's liquid gas supply chains including Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) and associated gases. Our members span from producers to retailers and everything in between. The LPG industry safely and securely supplies 43PJpa of energy to industrial, commercial and residential consumers nationwide, including around 30% of all regional Australian households¹.

GEA welcomes the opportunity to provide a submission to the Victorian Governments Fair Fuel Plan (FFP).

GEA supports Option 1 for fuel transparency for Autogas, which mandates that all fuel retailers in Victoria report real-time fuel prices under the Australian Consumer Law and Fair Trading Act 2012. This option ensures consistent, accurate, and timely price information for consumers, empowering them to make informed choices when purchasing Autogas. By requiring mandatory reporting, Option 1 promotes market transparency, enhances competition among fuel retailers, and addresses current information gaps in LPG pricing.

General Feedback

Inclusion of LPG in Price Transparency

Autogas must be recognised as a fuel type under reporting requirements to ensure consumers can compare its prices alongside other fuels. Currently, many fuel price apps and websites provide limited or delayed information on LPG compared to petrol and diesel, making it harder for consumers to assess their options. Mandatory price reporting for Autogas would improve the availability and timeliness of data, increasing transparency and enabling more informed purchasing decisions. Greater visibility of LPG prices would also promote competition among retailers, strengthening both consumer choice and the overall efficiency of the fuel market.

Energy Security

Autogas provides a secure and reliable fuel supply during electricity outages or network failures, ensuring continuity of essential transport, especially in rural and remote areas. Its ability to be quickly delivered and deployed makes it a critical energy source in

¹ DCCEE, 2024, Australian Energy Update 2024, <https://www.energy.gov.au/publications/australian-energy-update-2024>
Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2014, Environmental Issues: Energy Use and Conservation, <https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/4602.0.55.001Main+Features1Mar%202014?OpenDocument>

emergencies, supporting transport resilience when the electricity grid is disrupted by natural disasters or technical faults. In addition to enhancing energy security, Autogas contributes to decarbonisation goals by producing lower greenhouse gas emissions than conventional petrol and diesel fuels.

Renewable forms of LPG

Autogas offers a clear pathway to decarbonisation through the use of renewable forms of LPG, enabling rural communities to strengthen both energy security and emissions reduction simultaneously. This aligns with Australia's technology-agnostic approach to decarbonisation by providing practical, lower-emission alternatives. Renewable LPG also presents an opportunity to complement traditional fuels and electric vehicles, offering a balanced and flexible solution across diverse transport and energy needs.

Why the Decline in Autogas

At the start of 2010, Autogas was a thriving fuel in Australia and represented the highest volume use of LPG nationwide. However, since then, its use has significantly declined due to a range of factors, including shifting policy settings, reduced vehicle availability, and lack of support for infrastructure and innovation.

GEA poses the following questions to the Victorian Government:

- What are the key factors that the Victorian Government has identified as driving the observed decline in Autogas usage within the state?
- In light of this downward trend, how does the Government plan to address the challenges faced by the Autogas industry?
- Furthermore, what specific policies or initiatives are being considered or implemented to support the continued viability and growth of Autogas, ensuring that it remains a meaningful component of Victoria's broader renewable energy

Autogas has the potential to play a meaningful role in Victoria's energy mix by giving Victorians a real choice beyond traditional fuels like petrol and diesel. Supporting the use of Autogas ensures access to a reliable, lower-emission alternative that meets the diverse transport and energy needs of communities across the state.

Thank you for considering our submission. We look forward to continued discussions on this important matter.

To discuss any of the above feedback further, please contact me on +61 422 057 856 or via jmccollum@gasenergyaus.au.

Yours sincerely,



JORDAN MCCOLLUM
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Gas Energy Australia

The Role of LPG in Australia's Energy Landscape

Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) plays a vital role in Australia's energy security and net zero transition. As a versatile energy source with drop-in renewable alternatives, LPG provides essential energy services to millions of Australians, particularly in regional and remote areas where it serves approximately 30% of households. The LPG industry safely and securely supplies 43 petajoules of energy annually across industrial, commercial, and residential applications nationwide.

LPG stands out as a cleaner alternative to many traditional fuels, producing 14% fewer greenhouse gas emissions than diesel. The industry is actively embracing Australia's transition to net zero through the pursuit of renewable forms of LPG. These include bioLPG (a co-product of Sustainable Aviation Fuel) and renewable LPG (rLPG). These alternatives produce near-zero scope 1 emissions while utilizing existing infrastructure and appliances.

One of LPG's most significant advantages is its superior energy storage capabilities in cheap, transportable LPG bottles and tanks. This is key in regional areas where mains power may be unreliable or unavailable. A standard residential LPG tank installation provides energy storage equivalent to more than 42 Tesla Powerwall 3 home battery systems at around one tenth of the cost. This storage capacity, combined with LPG's portability, makes it an invaluable resource for energy security and emergency resilience.

The LPG industry is uniquely positioned to support Australia's energy transition without requiring government funding or subsidies. As the nation moves toward net zero emissions, renewable forms of LPG complement renewable electricity, offering a practical decarbonisation pathway for applications where electrification may not be feasible or cost-effective. By recognizing and supporting the development of renewable forms of LPG, Australia can ensure a diverse and resilient energy mix that retains energy security while achieving its climate goals.