



WA Proposed Climate Legislation Scorecard

Principle for good legislation	WA proposed legislation	Score
Primary object of Act reflects Paris Agreement goal of 1.5°C	No objects Targets not required to be consistent with Paris Agreement and 1.5°C	0
Objects to facilitate a “just transition”	No objects No mention of “just transition” in relation to the legislation	0
Emissions targets set by reference to carbon budget consistent with 1.5°C This should include at least a 74 per cent reduction in emissions below 2005 levels by 2030 and net zero by 2035	No reference to carbon budgets No criteria specified for Minister’s decision on setting targets Target for net zero emissions set, but not until 2050 Targets start in 2035 (no 2030 target)	2
Clear mechanism for targets to be made more ambitious and prevent targets from being weakened	Requirement for Minister to be satisfied that each target constitutes a progression from previous target Provision for targets to be amended (which may include weakening a target) where Minister is satisfied that there are “exceptional circumstances”	4
Duty on Minister to ensure targets are met	Minister’s functions under the Act specified to include promoting action to meet targets but no duty to meet targets Requirement for publicly available annual climate change report No provision for enforcing targets, no penalties for not meeting targets Further functions can be prescribed in regulations, so a function to ensure targets are met could be added in future	2

Requirement for government decision-makers to consider climate change and act consistently with the Act	No duty on government-decision makers to consider climate change or act consistently with the Act Operations of government agencies and government trading enterprises will be covered by the government target	1
Right to a safe climate and a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment for Western Australians	No rights provided	0
Independent expert body to advise government and Parliament on implementation of the Act, also with functions to coordinate just transition planning in an environmental justice framework Advice and reporting from the body should be publicly available	No body created	0
Instruments under the Act should be notified in the Gazette, presented to Parliament and made publicly available	Targets, the adaptation strategy, and the annual climate change report will be publicly available Not specified whether sector adaptation plans will be publicly available	4
Regular State of the Climate Reporting	Annual climate change report which informs Parliament and WA community about progress on emissions reduction targets No broader reporting on climate change in WA	3