

The Transport Panel submitted the following comments to DEUS on 28 December 2004.

These comments are made on behalf of the Transport Panels of the Sydney Division and the Northern NSW Division of Engineers Australia in response to the Energy Green Paper released in early December 2004 by the NSW Department of Energy, Utilities and Sustainability (DEUS). (The views expressed are those of the Panels and not necessarily of the Divisions).

We have to point out that the Energy Green Paper is not about energy, it is about electricity - a particular form of energy carrier. Transport is also a major consumer of energy, and little of it is in the form of electricity. Estimates from ABARE suggest that the transport sector accounted for 44% of final energy use in NSW in 2001/02, and that this proportion will be the same in 2019/20 - by which time total transport final energy consumption in this State will have risen by 37%.

Petroleum products provide most transport energy today. For your information we attach a draft review of the future of oil, nationally, for transport. This was produced (by me - text and graphics are separated for convenience) for our National Committee on Transport. Over the period 2001/02 to 2019/20, ABARE expect our national reliance on imported liquid fuels (crude oil or refined petroleum products) to increase from 17% currently to around 46%. The attached review makes it clear that, if this amount of oil can be obtained at all in 2019/2020, it will be much more expensive than it is today.

We ask for clarification as to which NSW Minister (Energy, Transport, Planning or Roads) is responsible for energy supply for transport in NSW and we would like to see both supply and demand issues for transport energy addressed in a separate Green Paper if the scope of the present one cannot be expanded to match its title.

We hope for a constructive response on this important issue. The appropriate contact, should you wish to take these points further, is myself.

Yours faithfully

David Kilsby

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To which DEUS replied on 5 January 2005

Dear Mr Kilsby

Thank you for your response (below) to the Energy Directions Green Paper.

The matters you have raised will be carefully considered as the NSW Government works towards the release of an Energy Directions Statement White Paper.

The Minister for Energy and Utilities, the Hon. Frank Sartor MP, is the Minister primarily responsible for the matters raised in your submission.

Yours sincerely
Jonathan Wills for
Energy Directions