

**18 September 2025**

**Statement by Dr Sophie Scamps - Federal Member for Mackellar**

**Weak 2035 target fails future generations**

The Government's 2035 target of 62-70% isn't enough to keep Australians safe from the escalating risks outlined in the Climate Risk Assessment and falls short of unlocking the full economic opportunities of the clean energy transition.

By setting such a broad target range, the government is hedging its bets rather than committing to the level of ambition the climate crisis demands - and it's now up to the crossbench to ensure ambition lands at the top end of that band, where the science says it needs to be.

Given the combined emissions reduction targets of states and territories already total 66 - 71% by 2035, the federal government's target doesn't raise national ambition or show the leadership that is needed.

Australians deserve a strong and science-based 2035 target to protect the people and places we love, and to drive innovation and green industry opportunities. This is not that.

This range of 62-70 percent is a political balancing act: a way to appease fossil fuel vested interests while appearing to act on climate.

Climate Change is the most critical issue of our age and our actions as an influential, wealthy, and fossil fuel exporting nation will be judged for centuries to come.

Australia has everything to gain from leading the clean energy transition and everything to lose if we fail to act - the role of Independents in demanding science-based action is now more crucial than ever especially in the face of this ambivalence from the government and the policy void of the current Opposition.

*ENDS*

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