QUEENSLAND CONSERVATION COUNCIL

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Summary of Renewable Energy in Queensland in 2025

Renewable energy grew significantly in Queensland in 2025, bringing down prices and emissions. Highlights of 2025 related to renewable energy include:

- Growth of 10% to reach 33% of all electricity generated in Queensland from renewable sources
- Fifteen new generation and storage projects, totalling 4.5 GW of capacity came online
- Generation from gas and coal dropped to the lowest level in more than two decades
- Emissions were also at their lowest level since 2000 despite demand growth
- Wholesale prices dropped to below 2020 levels

However, the future of renewable energy growth in Queensland is under threat from the State LNP Government. While committed projects will continue to come online throughout 2026, investment in the new projects needed to stabilise prices, replace ageing, unreliable coal fired power stations and reduce reliance on expensive gas has fallen off a cliff.

Renewable Energy Grows by 10%

Renewable energy jumped by more than 10% from 2024 to 2025, making up over 33% of electricity generated in Queensland.

Rooftop solar and large-scale solar continued to grow strongly. Rooftop solar is now nudging 15% of Queensland's electricity needs. But the biggest growth came in wind energy, with wind output in 2025 1.5 times higher than in 2024.

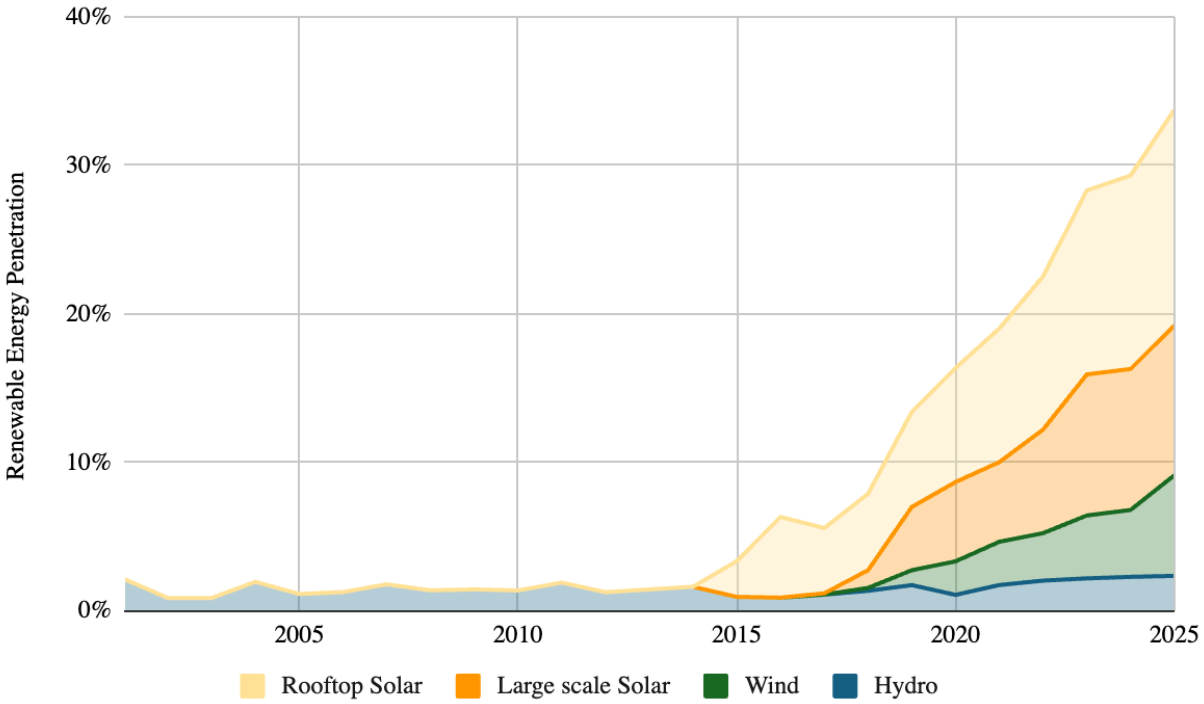


Figure 1: Renewable Energy since 2000 in Queensland[1]

There was also a huge jump in batteries, with energy provided by batteries increasing by more than three fold between 2024 and 2025.

Fifteen new projects came online

Nearly 3 GW of renewable energy was connected to the grid and started generating in 2025[2]. This includes the Wambo, Clarke Creek and MacIntyre wind farms, as well as Aldoga and Kingaroy solar farms.

Renewable energy will continue to grow in 2026, with the Boulder Creek and Lotus Creek wind farms under construction, and the Gunsynd, Munna Creek and Broadsound solar farms connected late in 2025.

[1] Data from *Open Electricity: Energy*
[2] Data from *Open Electricity: Facilities*

Seven large-scale batteries were also connected to the grid in 2025, making up 1625 MW / 3255 MWh capacity available to store cheap renewable energy for peak times. There are a further at least six battery projects which have reached financial close or started construction[3].

Fossil fuels at their lowest generation in more than two decades

Combined generation from Queensland's coal and gas fired power stations was lower in 2025 than it has been since 2001.

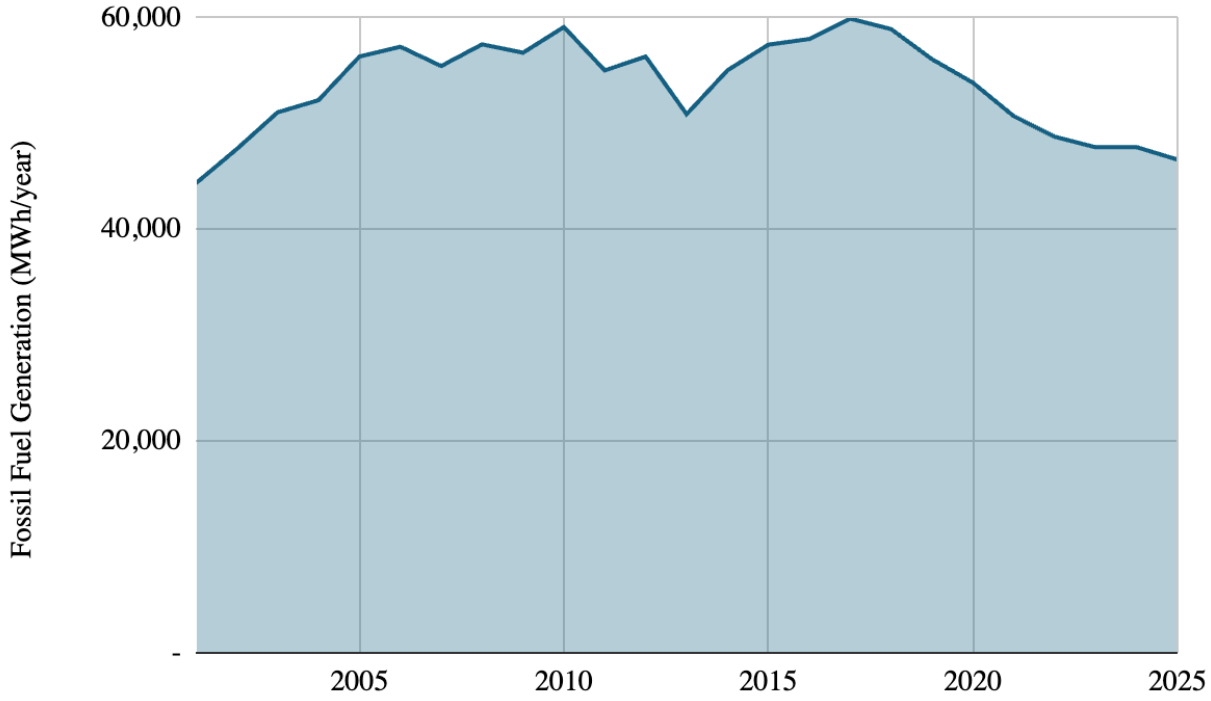


Figure 2: Fossil Fuel Generation since 2001 in Queensland[4]

Queensland's gas fleet operated with a capacity factor of less than 14%, meaning that, for every kW of gas generation in Queensland, it operated less often the equivalent kW of large-scale solar.

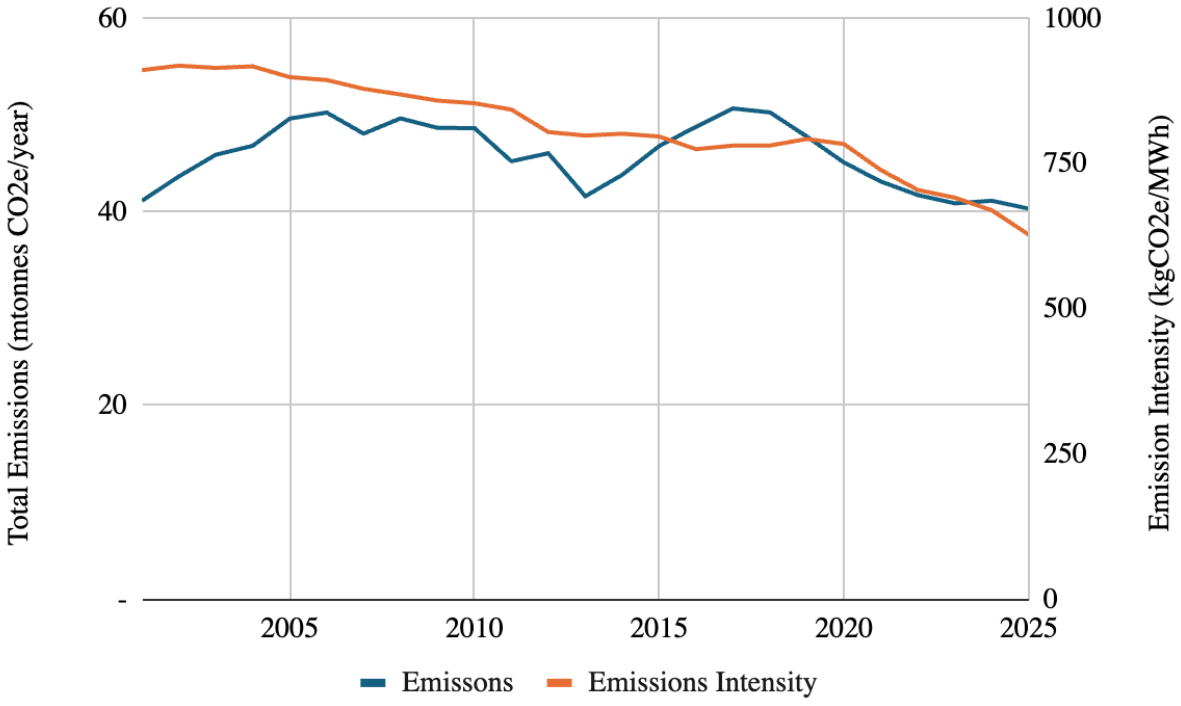
[3] Clean Energy Council (2025) *Quarterly Investment Reports*
[4] Data from *Open Electricity: Energy* Generation from Coal, Gas (OCGT and CCGT) and Distillate

Gas has been declining since Gladstone's LNG terminal opened, as gas companies preferentially export Queensland gas for higher prices and this pushes up electricity prices here. However, the significant reduction between 2024 and 2025 has been driven largely by more wind and batteries coming into the system.

Coal generation was the lowest in a decade, since several units at Tarong were mothballed for low demand in 2014-15. As well as being displaced by renewable energy, coal fired power stations are increasingly unreliable, with nearly 25% of Queensland's coal capacity being offline on average over 2025,[5] due to planned maintenance, as well as hundreds of unplanned outages. From October 2024 to October 2025, Queensland's coal fired power stations suffered 131 outages.

Emissions lower than in 2000

Correspondingly, emissions from Queensland's electricity sector are below 2000 levels, despite energy consumption being around 30% higher than at the turn of the century.



[5] https://reliability-watch-dev.webflow.io/availability

Figure 3: Total Emissions and Emissions Intensity since 2000[6]

Price relief followed more renewable energy

Wholesale prices in 2025 were 25% less than in 2024, and the lowest recorded since 2020[7]. While international gas and coal prices have eased, the reduced reliance on gas, due to more wind, solar and batteries, has also helped break the high prices.

Forecast is not rosy

The growth in renewable energy, and associated drop in emissions and prices, will continue in 2026 due to projects already committed. However, new investment in projects has dropped starkly since the LNP Government's election in October 2024. Recent figures from the Clean Energy Council show that only four projects have reached financial close or started construction in the first year of the LNP Government compared to fifteen in the final year of the Labor Government, under the Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan.

The Queensland LNP have repealed the renewable energy target, significantly scaled back ambition in their Energy Roadmap, and introduced new requirements in planning approvals. This means that the price relieving renewable energy projects are likely to face a harder time to get built. At the same time, the Queensland LNP have fast tracked gas expansions, despite the rapidly falling requirement for gas in the electricity market.

[6] Data from *Open Electricity: Energy*
[7] Data from *Open Electricity: Energy*