



CEO STATEMENT ON BUSINESS AND CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE PARIS NEGOTIATIONS

Climate change is a significant business issue and we take it seriously. Today, AGL, BHP Billiton, GE, Mirvac, Santos, Unilever, Wesfarmers and Westpac Group published a statement from our CEOs supporting the Australian government in securing an effective outcome from the Paris climate change negotiations in December.

We support Australia's bipartisan commitment to limit global warming to less than two degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, alongside other nations within an international agreement. Australia can play its fair part in these global efforts. Early global agreement on the steps to achieve this goal will allow for a responsible transition to decarbonised and sustainable economic development.

Businesses, governments and the community all have a role to play and a responsibility to contribute to solutions. We want to play our part.

The statement signed by our CEOs is attached. For media enquiries please see contacts below.

BACKGROUND

We represent a diverse group of companies from the energy, resources, retail, infrastructure, technology, consumer goods, property, services, banking and finance sectors. Together we employ over 620,000 people across 175 countries. Between us we provide products and services to the majority of Australians. We also emit around 12 per cent of Australia's national greenhouse gas emissions.

For more information on the companies' climate change policies and the actions they are individually taking see below.

Company	Climate change position	Media contacts	
AGL	http://www.agl.com.au/about-agl/what-we-stand-for/sustainability/environment-and-climate-change	Kathryn Lamond Media Manager M: 0424 465 464 T: 02 9921 2170 E: klamond@agl.com.au	
BHP Billiton	http://www.bhpbilliton.com/society/climate-change	Paul Hitchins Media Relations Specialist M: 0419 315 001 T: (03) 9609 2592 E: Paul.Hitchins@bhpbilliton.com	
GE	http://www.ge.com/about-us/ecomagination	Joanne Woo Director, External Communications, Brand and Public Affairs M: 0409 330 731 T: (03) 8576 7039 E: joanne.woo@ge.com	
Mirvac	www.mirvac.com/change	Marie Festa Group Executive, Culture and Reputation T: (02) 9080 8956 E: Marie.festa@mirvac.com	
Santos	https://www.santos.com/library/Santos_climate_change_policy.pdf	Rob Malinauskas Manager, Media Relations M: 0438 862 132 T: (08) 8116 5918 E: Robert.Malinauskas@santos.com	
Unilever	https://www.unilever.com/sustainable-living/	Emma Peacock Head of Sustainable Business and Communications T: (02) 9869 6100 E: emma.peacock@unilever.com	
Wesfarmers	http://sustainability.wesfarmers.com.au/	Alan Carpenter Executive General Manager, Corporate Affairs T: (08) 9327 4267 E: ACarpenter@wesfarmers.com.au	Kate Chaney Sustainability Manager, Corporate Affairs T: (08) 9327 4205 E: KChaney@wesfarmers.com.au
Westpac Group	http://www.westpac.com.au/docs/pdf/aw/sustainability-community/WestpacCCEPositionStatement2014.pdf	Andrew Tubb Senior Manager, Media, Corporate Affairs and Sustainability M: 0411 014 771 T: (02) 8254 3118 E: atubb@westpac.com.au	



Climate change is affecting our businesses and the communities in which we operate. We recognise that we have a role to play and we want to play our part.

We represent a diverse group of companies from the energy, resources, retail, infrastructure, technology, consumer goods, property, services, banking and finance sectors. Together we employ over 620,000 people across 175 countries. Between us we provide products and services to the majority of Australians. We also emit around 12 per cent of Australia's national greenhouse gas emissions.

We have come together because we acknowledge that climate change will continue to have serious implications for our customers, the community and the economy. These are risks we need to manage. Investing in Australia's response to climate change will deliver significant economic, social and environmental benefits for us all.

We support the Australian government's commitment to limit global warming to less than two degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, alongside other nations within an international agreement. Australia needs to play its fair part in global action. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change concludes that to achieve this goal we must achieve zero net emissions of greenhouse gases before the end of the century.

We support the bipartisan objective that international negotiations in Paris deliver a positive outcome to put the world on the path to limiting global temperatures to less than two degrees Celsius.

We all acknowledge that achieving this will be challenging for Australia and all countries. But agreeing on a goal and a pathway to achieving this is critical and should not be delayed. The longer we wait, the harder it will be and the more it will cost us.

Australia is a significant exporter of energy and also has plentiful clean energy resources. We are a leader in technology and innovation. We are also vulnerable to climate impacts and we have a strategic interest in managing climate change. As businesses, we support the decoupling of economic and emissions growth. We all recognise the need for a responsible transition to decarbonised, sustainable economic development.

Our companies are reducing our emissions, investing in technology and innovation, preparing for physical impacts and working across industry and the community to build a strong global response to climate change. For business, this is about good Board governance, prudent risk management and positioning competitively for the future.

We will continue to invest in an effective business response. We remain committed to working with other companies, investors, community stakeholders and governments to support a successful outcome in Paris. We pledge to continue to support the ongoing development and implementation of effective international frameworks and effective domestic policy responses.

Andrew Vesey
Managing Director and CEO,
AGL

Andrew Mackenzie
CEO,
BHP Billiton

Geoff Culbert
President and Chief Executive,
GE Australia, New Zealand and
Papua New Guinea

Susan Lloyd-Hurwitz
CEO and Managing Director,
Mirvac

David Knox
Managing Director and CEO,
Santos

Clive Stiff
Chairman and CEO,
Unilever

Richard Goyder
Managing Director,
Wesfarmers

Brian Hartzler
Managing Director and CEO,
Westpac Group