

30 November 2018



## Australia's National Greenhouse Gas Inventory – pollution levels still going up

The Federal Government has released its quarterly update of [the National Greenhouse Gas Inventory for the June 2018 quarter](#). It shows in the year to June 2018 Australia's emissions increased by 0.6 per cent (including land use, land use change and forestry).

Fugitive emissions from the production, processing, transport, storage, transmission and distribution of fossil fuels such as coal, crude oil and natural gas increased by 5.2 per cent over the year to June 2018, driven by a 14.2 per cent increase in natural gas production and 0.2 per cent increase in coal production.

There was a 2.8 per cent decrease in emissions from the electricity sector over the year to June. According to the Environment and Energy Department, reduced electricity emissions are a result of increased renewable energy generation in the National Electricity Market principally replacing a reduction in brown coal generation.

Stationary energy use emissions which includes emissions from direct combustion of fuels, predominantly in manufacturing, mining, residential and commercial sectors increased by 5 per cent. This was largely caused by an 18.4 per cent increase in LNG exports in the year to June 2018. Domestic gas sales increased by 5.7 per cent in the year to June 2018.

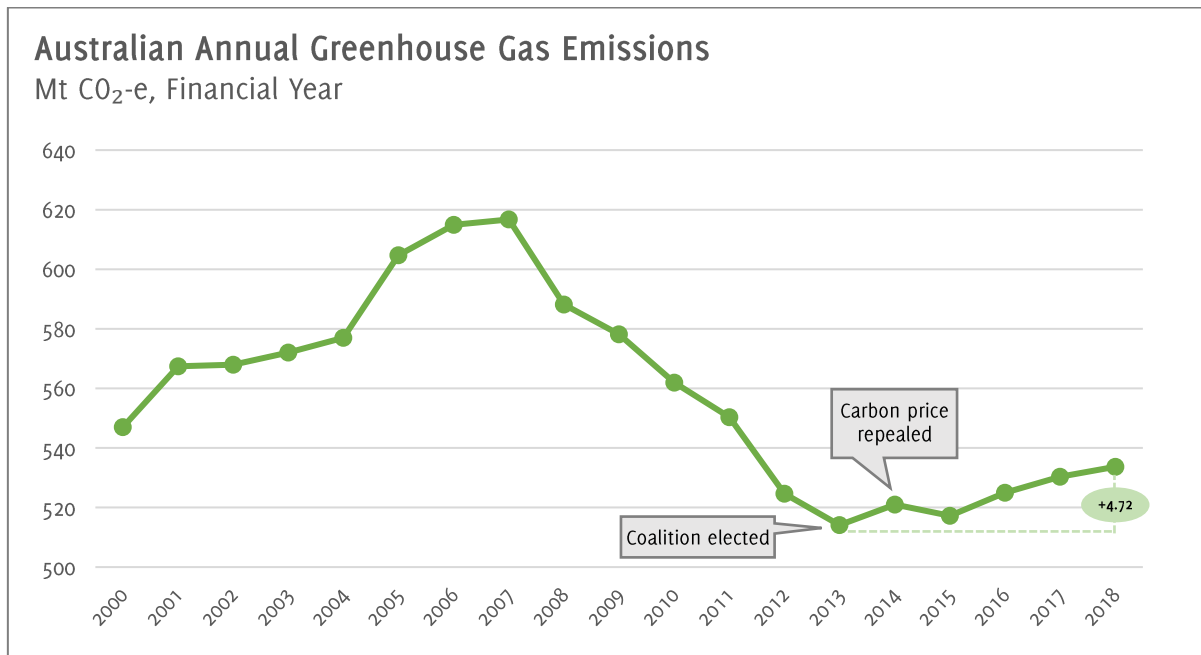
Transport sector emissions increased 2.6 per cent over the year to June 2018. The growth in transport was reflected in a 7.6 per cent annual growth in diesel consumption for the year to June 2018. According to the Department the past six years have seen a decrease in the consumption of petrol (including ethanol-blended) of 1.9 per cent and a strong increase in diesel consumption of 25.5 per cent.

### **Government's record**

Since coming to office in September 2013 the Coalition has made no progress in reducing Australia's overall emissions. In fact, there is an upward trend.

Since the Government repealed a price on pollution in June 2014, emissions have risen 5.1 per cent with Australia's emissions currently above 2012 levels.

*Figure 1 – Australian annual greenhouse gas emissions*



The Government has set Australia’s 2030 annual emission target at 441–435 (Mt CO<sub>2</sub>-e). Australia’s annual emissions for 2018 are at 533.7 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>-e, an increase of 4.7 per cent since June 2013.

*In response to the release of the latest greenhouse gas emissions data, Australian Conservation Foundation economist, Matt Rose, said:*

“Australia’s climate pollution is out of control with the latest data showing Australia’s annual emissions at their highest since 2011.

“Australia is smashing climate pollution records and doing it in a canter.

“Unfortunately, the Morrison Government has no policies to address this pollution blowout.

“As our Environment Minister heads to the UN climate negotiations in Poland, there’s no sign Australia will be able to meet our international commitments under the Paris Agreement, including the inadequate 2030 target for a 26-28 per cent cut in climate pollution against 2005 levels.

“Meanwhile, the Morrison Government supports Adani’s proposed coal mine, which will further add to the world’s warming problem and bring on more bleaching of the Great Barrier Reef, more heatwaves and will contribute to more bushfires like those in Queensland.

“Australia needs elected representatives who acknowledge global warming as a national crisis that demands immediate serious action,” he said.

**Media contact: Josh Meadows, 0439 342 992**