Australian Jet Zero Council

28 October 2024

Communiqué

This communiqué covers matters considered by the Australian Jet Zero Council on 28 October 2024

The Australian Jet Zero Council (Council) held its fourth meeting on 28 October 2024 in Canberra.

Council noted updates to the Terms of Reference for membership changes since the last meeting. Council welcomed new members and thanked members rotating out for their contribution:

- Brisbane Airport continues on as the rotating airport representative;
- Ampol has replaced bp as the rotating Major Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) Projects representative;
- Graincorp joins as the feedstock representative; and
- Jim Betts, Secretary, Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communication and the Arts has been appointed as Chair by the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government, the Hon Catherine King MP.

Council noted the update from the Australian Government, including:

- 2024–25 Budget announcements to support the development of a low carbon liquid fuel (LCLF) industry in Australia.
- The Aviation White Paper was released on 26 August 2024 and included initiatives to decarbonise aviation.
- Consultation on supply and demand side options to support an Australian LCLF industry. Government is considering the consultation feedback and appreciates the submissions provided by council members.
- The Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) announced updates to the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Scheme in July 2024 to include a market-based method for scope 1 reporting of renewable liquid fuels.
- The Department of Defence released its Future Energy Strategy and Net Zero Strategy on the 25 October.
- ARENA is progressing its Sustainable Aviation Fuel Funding Initiative, with the first investment
 announced on 27 September 2024 a \$9 million commitment with Jet Zero Australia to advance
 sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) production using the alcohol-to-jet production pathway in Townsville.

The Council discussed four items that Council members have been progressing in consultation with other stakeholders across the aviation sector and its supply chains under the Australian Jet Zero Council Workplan.

- Council discussed a national framework for voluntary consumption of SAF and noted how important it is to get this framework right to ensure it is robust.
- Council discussed Australian aviation fuel supply chain resilience and security and noted that the Jet Zero Council could likely engage more with the National Fuel Council on this work.
- Council discussed airport operations and decarbonising aviation and noted the previous engagement and consultation on this work item and proposed next steps for the near- and medium-term.
- Council discussed SAF accounting and noted the positive industry engagement that occurred during recent consultation on this work item.

Members also discussed priorities for the next 12 months. It was agreed the Jet Zero Council Secretariat would develop the next workplan with members. Members discussed the priorities and potential new topics for consideration for the next workplan and agreed to consider an updated workplan out of session.

Council also discussed what opportunities may be in the new workplan to collaborate with New Zealand. Members were supportive of collaboration with New Zealand organisations on regional issues as a part of the next workplan.

Council discussed that the next meeting would aim to be held by March or April 2025.