

AGL Industry Association Membership Review

July 2025

REPORT FOR EXTERNAL PUBLICATION





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1. Introduction

In FY25, AGL was a member of 50 industry associations, which provide access to a broad range of benefits including knowledge sharing, networking, events, analysis, expert advice, training, and policy advocacy.

In deciding whether to join and/or maintain membership of an industry association, AGL will factor in the value of the membership in terms of its full range of benefits, and compatibility of policy alignment on core policy issues such as climate change and energy market structure.

In accordance with its Industry Associations Membership Policy and current Climate Transition Action Plan (CTAP), AGL makes an ongoing commitment to monitor the policy positions of the industry associations to which it is a member in regards to climate change and key areas which intersect with AGL values (AGL's climate policy positioning can be found [here](#), and AGL's values [here](#)). Where material differences are identified between our positions and that of the industry associations of which we are members, AGL will disclose these and engage with the industry association to better understand differences and promote greater alignment.

What we stand for

Our policy advocacy is broad and extensive and is focused on keeping customers front-of-mind as the energy system transitions, and pursuing outcomes that enable the economy and communities to thrive.

We are committed to positive policy advocacy regarding climate change and the energy transition, seeking to find practical solutions to address challenges and collaborating to deliver the right outcomes. We engage regularly, widely and transparently so that we are well informed of our stakeholders' needs, and so that government and regulators benefit from our deep energy expertise when setting policy and regulatory direction.

Both directly and through our industry associations, we are working to influence the right regulatory and market settings to accelerate the decarbonisation of Australia's energy markets so that AGL can deliver on our strategy and the pathways set out in our CTAP, and so that the energy sector as a whole can play its part in delivering on Australia's ambition for a net zero future.

Our climate position

Through our policy engagement, AGL advocates for greater action from governments to commit to progressive decarbonisation of the energy sector and implement policies that are consistent with the objectives of the Paris Agreement. As AGL articulates in its CTAP, we support broader policy action to limit warming to 1.5 degrees above pre-industrial levels, and will continue to work with relevant stakeholders to explore options and implications for accelerated decarbonisation pathways.

AGL supports the aims of the Paris agreement as stated in Article 2, and notes that action under the agreement must reflect equity and the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances' which is referenced in subclause 2 of Article 2.

While this represents AGL's commitment, we recognise that it is not always strategically imperative or relevant for the industry bodies and associations that we engage with to communicate strong Paris-aligned policy outcomes. AGL will continue to engage with industry associations in compliance with our Industry Association Membership Policy and will continue to advocate for strong policy action to progress Australia's decarbonisation agenda, both individually and through appropriate industry associations.

FY25 Industry Associations Review

This report summarises the review that AGL has conducted of each of AGL's industry association memberships in FY25, to determine alignment on policy between AGL and the association, and to understand whether the membership is being utilised effectively.

In assessing advocacy alignment of industry associations of which it is a member, AGL reviews public advocacy positions taken by an industry association as well as the specific objectives and activities they pursue. AGL considers the following criteria as part of its assessment, as well as other relevant issues on a case by case basis:

- Support for the Paris Agreement and science-based policy
- Setting a goal to reach Net Zero emissions by 2050, as well as interim targets
- Support for renewable and low carbon technologies
- Support for waste reduction and circular economy principles
- Support for a just transition, considering broader ESG factors such as workforce transition and social licence

For the purposes of this review, an **industry association** is as defined in AGL's Industry Association Membership Policy and refers to a body representing the interests of an industry, policy or issue and of which AGL may be a member (or may be considering becoming a member of). Some industry associations are sector specific and engage in policy advocacy functions; others are issues specific, technical, regional, or focused on the effective functioning of businesses in Australia. Only industry associations of which AGL is a member were considered; membership of professional associations by individual employees of AGL were not included in this review.

2. Methodology

This review was undertaken internally in early 2025 with input from across AGL. As part of this review, the following was undertaken:

- Recording of any organisation that meets AGL's definition of an industry association.
- Consideration of the appropriate internal relationship owner, and broader points of interaction with the association.
- Identification of membership cost, and assessment of the range of benefits and primary areas of value obtained from each industry association membership, identified according to the following criteria (included in the **Summary of Findings** below):
 - **P Policy & advocacy** – includes policy and advocacy related to climate, the energy transition, and ESG.
 - **I Information, advice, analysis & training** – includes information and data, research and analysis, best-practice benchmarking, expert advice and staff training.
 - **N Networking, relationships & marketing** – includes networking, relationship building, marketing of AGL's brand and reputation.
- Where an industry association's primary value is policy and advocacy (P), an evaluation of the following criteria was undertaken (included in the **Assessment of Policy & Values Alignment** below):
 - The value of that membership, including, but not limited to; reputation, knowledge-sharing, and networking; and
 - The industry association's positions related to the energy transition/ESG/climate, identifying any differences and opportunities for influence; and
 - The current method of engagement with each industry association and opportunities for improving the value gained from each membership.
- Based on the above, make a recommendation of whether to retain, upgrade/downgrade or cease membership with the organisation (only decisions regarding ceasing or suspending memberships are included in this report).
- Identify any new potential industry associations that we may want to become a member of and assess the merits of becoming a member based on that organisation's policy positions and potential value to AGL (not included in this report).

3. Executive Summary

AGL is a member of 50 industry associations, with interests across a range of areas such as climate, energy, tax, commerce and industry, diversity and inclusion, emerging technologies, engineering, and technical capability.

There was an overall increase of one industry membership reported in FY25, due to three new memberships being added to the list and two memberships being removed from FY24 to FY25.

Industry association memberships are utilised for a broad range of purposes across the organisation, including policy advocacy, knowledge sharing, networking, and data/analysis.

21 of the 50 industry association memberships have a primary area of value being for policy advocacy purposes, resulting in a further evaluation of the association's policy positioning.

Key findings

1. 48 of the 50 memberships were deemed as being effectively utilised, while 2 being partially or mostly utilised with opportunities identified for greater engagement and utilisation.
2. Of the 21 industry associations with a primary value of policy advocacy, there is broad alignment across climate and energy policy and on the need to decarbonise the economy over time.
3. While there was some divergence in views and policy positions identified in this review across industry associations, these divergences were not sufficiently material to consider suspending or ceasing membership. However, engagement with industry associations will seek to drive alignment between AGL's policy positions and those of associations of which it is a member.

4. Summary of Findings

Key: P Policy, advocacy I Information, training N Networking, relationships

Association & Annual Fees	Primary areas of value	Policy, values alignment	Effective Utilisation	Notes and recommendations
Australasian Investor Relations Association \$6,526	P I N	Broad policy and values alignment	Yes	Maintain membership
Australian Alliance for Energy Productivity \$16,500	P I N	Broad policy and values alignment	Yes	Maintain membership
Association for the Battery Recycling Industry \$1,100	P I N	Broad policy and values alignment	Yes	Maintain membership
Australian Breastfeeding Association \$880	I N	N/A – not a policy body	Yes	Maintain membership
Australian Disability Network \$14,520	I N	N/A – not a policy body	Yes	Maintain membership
Australian Energy Council \$572,167	P I N	Broad policy and values alignment	Yes	Maintain membership but take action to maximise value from the membership and address difference in climate ambition.
Australian Financial Markets Association \$40,150	P I N	Broad policy and values alignment	Yes	Maintain membership

AGL INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION REVIEW

Association & Annual Fees	Primary areas of value	Policy, values alignment	Effective Utilisation	Notes and recommendations
Australian Hotels Association WA \$21,080	I N	N/A – not a policy body	Yes	Maintain membership
Australian Industry Group \$31,281	P I N	Broad policy and values alignment	Yes	Maintain membership
Bioenergy Australia \$2,915	P I N	Broad policy and values alignment	Yes	Maintain membership
Business Council of Australia \$104,500	P I N	Broad policy and values alignment	Mostly	Maintain membership, but take action to ensure more proactive engagement on key policy issues. Also engage with BCA on areas of potential policy misalignment.
Business Hunter \$11,025	I N	N/A – not a policy body	Yes	Maintain membership
Business Port Stephens \$105	I N	N/A – not a policy body	Yes	Maintain membership
Business Singleton \$385	I N	N/A – not a policy body	Yes	Maintain membership
Carbon Market Institute \$10,725	P I N	Broad policy and values alignment	Yes	Maintain membership
Champions of Change Coalition \$61,820	I N	N/A – not a policy body	Yes	Maintain membership

AGL INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION REVIEW

Association & Annual Fees	Primary areas of value	Policy, values alignment	Effective Utilisation	Notes and recommendations
CIGRE (Conseil International des Grands Réseaux Électriques) \$6,150	I N	N/A – not a policy body	Yes	Maintain membership
Clean Energy Council \$27,225	P I N	Broad policy and values alignment	Yes	Maintain membership
Climate Leader's Coalition \$16,500	P I N	Broad policy and values alignment	Yes	Maintain membership
Combined Gippsland Essential Industries Group \$2,050	I N	N/A – not a policy body	Yes	Maintain membership
Committee for Economic Development of Australia \$24,970	P I N	Broad policy and values alignment	Yes	Maintain membership
Committee for Gippsland \$22,000	P I N	Broad policy and values alignment	Yes	Maintain membership
Committee for the Hunter \$16,500	I N	N/A – not a policy body	Yes	Maintain membership
Committee of Melbourne \$33,000	P I N	Broad policy and values alignment	Yes	Maintain membership but continue to engage on key policy issues, especially on the role of electrification and energy efficiency
Communications Alliance \$24,000	P I N	Broad policy and values alignment	Yes	Maintain membership

AGL INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION REVIEW

Association & Annual Fees	Primary areas of value	Policy, values alignment	Effective Utilisation	Notes and recommendations
Corporate Tax Association \$19,000	I N	N/A – not a policy body	Yes	Maintain membership
Diversity Council Australia \$11,599	I N	N/A – not a policy body	Yes	Maintain membership
Electric Vehicle Council of Australia \$21,450	P I N	Broad policy and values alignment	Yes	Maintain membership
Energy Efficiency Council \$31,790	P I N	Broad policy and values alignment	Yes	Maintain membership
Family Friendly Workplaces \$8,250	I N	N/A – not a policy body	Yes	Maintain membership
Gippsland Climate Change Network \$3,125	P I N	Broad policy and values alignment	Yes	Maintain membership
Gippsland Regional Executive Forum \$2,970	P I N	Broad policy and values alignment	Yes	Maintain membership
HunterNet \$7,900	I N	N/A – not a policy body	Yes	Maintain membership
Industry Partners Australia \$15,290	I	N/A – not a policy body	Yes	Maintain membership
International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) Australasia \$2,750	I N	N/A – not a policy body	Yes	Maintain membership

AGL INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION REVIEW

Association & Annual Fees	Primary areas of value	Policy, values alignment	Effective Utilisation	Notes and recommendations
Kinaway Chamber of Commerce \$16,500	I N	N/A – not a policy body	Yes	Maintain membership
Kwinana Industries Council \$36,849	I N	N/A – not a policy body	Yes	Maintain membership
Latrobe City Business Chamber \$5,500	I N	N/A – not a policy body	Yes	Maintain membership
Master Builders Association \$4,400	I N	N/A – not a policy body	Yes	Maintain membership
Muswellbrook Chamber of Commerce \$456	I N	N/A – not a policy body	Yes	Maintain membership
Parents at Work \$5,775	I N	N/A – not a policy body	Yes	Maintain membership
Pride in Diversity \$7,689	I N	N/A – not a policy body	Yes	Maintain membership
Queensland Renewable Energy Council* \$7,000	P I N	Broad policy and values alignment	Yes	Maintain membership
Rockingham Kwinana Chamber of Commerce and Industry \$5,500	N	N/A – not a policy body	Yes	Maintain membership
Scone Chamber of Commerce & Industry \$110	I N	N/A – not a policy body	Yes	Maintain membership

AGL INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION REVIEW

Association & Annual Fees	Primary areas of value	Policy, values alignment	Effective Utilisation	Notes and recommendations
Strategic Industry Research Foundation - Industrial Maintenance Roundtable \$23,100	I N	N/A – not a policy body	Yes	Maintain membership
Supply Nation \$16,500	I N	N/A – not a policy body	Yes	Maintain membership
The Association for Payroll Specialists \$1,045	I N	N/A – not a policy body	Yes	Maintain membership
UN Global Compact Network Australia \$27,720	P I N	Broad policy and values alignment	Partially	Increase engagement and reassess membership in 2025.
Weather Risk Management Association \$3,750USD	I N	N/A – not a policy body	Yes	Maintain membership

* This membership was inherited from FIRM Power as part of AGL's acquisition of FIRM Power in September 2024

5. Assessment of Policy and Values Alignment

5.1. Australasian Investor Relations Association

Annual fee: \$ 6,526

The Australian Investor Relations Association (AIRA) provides listed entities with a single voice in the public debate on corporate disclosure issues, and to improve the skills and professionalism of its members. The association's mission is to advance the awareness of, and best practice in, investor relations in Australasia in order to achieve better outcomes for all capital market stakeholders through enhanced engagement.

Policy and Values Alignment

AIRA advocates for better outcomes for capital market stakeholders to improve the relationship between listed entities and the investment community. Providing a collective view of listed entities, AIRA advocates on issues through the market cycle, including managing discrepancies in the way earnings consensus is handled in different organization, helping members to navigate the introduction of global regulations to handle perceived conflicts of interest, and assisting listed companies to handle sensitivities around capital raisings following the financial crisis of 2008.

More recently, AIRA has become more engaged in climate and sustainability matters, advocating on behalf of members on matters such as Climate-Related Financial Disclosures and the Sustainable Finance Strategy, and stating their support for the underlying goals underpinning these matters. In 2023, AIRA established an ESG & Sustainability committee in response to the growing emphasis placed on ESG and sustainability within listed entities.

No material divergence in policy positions or values was identified in this review.

Value of Membership

Membership of AIRA provides AGL with access to professional development, training and networking opportunities, as well as events, working groups and industry data. The data sharing is particularly of value to AGL, providing advice on best practice disclosure and communicating ESG values and transparency.

With the growing focus on capital markets and corporate disclosure, heightened shareholder activism, and the expanding role of investor relations in ESG issues, membership with a respected representative for investor relations such as AIRA will only become more important.

Recommendation

Maintain membership and current level of engagement.

5.2. Australian Alliance for Energy Productivity

Annual fee: \$16,500

The Australian Alliance for Energy Productivity (A2EP) is an independent, not-for-profit coalition of business and research leaders helping Australian businesses pursue a cleaner and more successful future by producing more with less energy.

Policy and Values Alignment

Together with its members and research partners, A2EP commissions high quality research projects and publications on a wide range of topics related to energy productivity, energy efficiency, demand management, and decentralised energy and integration, to inform and advocate for programs and policies to help end users achieve an orderly transition to a net zero-emissions future. Their work accelerates the uptake of existing and emerging technologies which have benefits for consumers, energy systems and the economy.

There is close alignment between A2EP and AGL on the importance of improving energy productivity to unlock lower carbon emissions, increased global competitiveness, increased grid reliability at lowest cost, and improved energy security, affordability and sustainability. There is also alignment on support for the orderly transition to a net zero economy.

No material divergence in policy positions or values was identified in this review.

Value of Membership

Membership provides AGL with training and networking opportunities for its staff, as well as sponsorship opportunities for events. AGL is able to engage on energy policy at national and state levels, with representation on the A2EP Board allowing AGL to influence policy at the highest level. Membership comes with access to policy briefings from high level energy stakeholders, and access to collaborative partnerships, and allows AGL participation in A2EP's energy research projects.

Energy efficiency and productivity are areas of interest as they relate to affordability and emissions reduction. AGL's relationship with A2EP has been pivotal in helping develop AGL's C&I electrification strategy, and there are further opportunities for AGL to both manage our fleet emissions and offer energy services to C&I and residential customers.

Recommendation

Maintain membership and current level of engagement.

5.3. Association for the Battery Recycling Industry

Annual fee: \$1,100

The Association for the Battery Recycling Industry (ABRI) is a not-for-profit association that promotes the responsible environmental management of batteries at end of life, including reusing, recycling and reducing hazards in landfills. ABRI is made up of battery manufacturers, recyclers, retailers, government bodies and environment groups involved in the full life cycle of a battery.

Policy and Values Alignment

ABRI is not an energy specific association; however, their role includes research, advocacy, education, and stakeholder engagement to promote safe and environmentally responsible recycling of all batteries at end of life. There is alignment in policy and values on promoting sustainability, responsible environmental stewardship, and safe workplaces. ABRI has a strong focus on low emissions and sustainably produced minerals feedstock for battery manufacturing, with a vision to facilitate a circular economy for batteries. ABRI also has a partnership with the Circular PV Alliance to drive recycling in the renewable energy sector, focusing on managing end of life solar PV.

No material divergence in policy positions or values was identified in this review.

Value of Membership

ABRI membership provides access to best practice end of life solutions and expert advisors, safety information and training, networking and information-sharing events, industry connections, and industry-specific information and education. Membership also assists AGL in monitoring regulatory changes and policy developments on product stewardship, as well as providing the opportunity to contribute to advocacy and harmonisation of emerging regulatory frameworks.

Given AGL's strategy around electrification, electric vehicles and battery storage, as well as the transition of its existing thermal sites, there is growing importance and opportunity for engagement with ABRI to assist with sourcing and developing products and managing their end of life.

Recommendation

Maintain membership but increase level of engagement.

5.4. Australian Energy Council

Annual fee: \$572,167

The Australian energy Council (AEC) is the peak industry body for electricity and downstream natural gas businesses operating in wholesale and retail energy markets. The AEC currently has 27 members, spanning merchant generators, first, second and third tier retailers, and integrated 'gentailers'.

Policy and Values Alignment

The AEC is committed to working towards a lower emissions future and delivering the energy transition for the benefit of consumers. AGL and the AEC have strong alignment on policy and market reform, with a focus on the need for reliable, sustainable, and affordable energy for businesses, homes and the wider community.

The AEC believes in a national approach to policy reform where possible and holds a technology-neutral view to energy market solutions. They are a strong advocate for the role of retailers in the energy transition, and the role that electrification will play in assisting sectors outside of energy to reduce their emissions. The AEC supports the need to deliver an orderly exit of coal plants so that reliability, affordability and security are not adversely impacted from these closures.

The AEC supports reaching net-zero by 2050. However, their support for a 55% emissions reduction target on 2005 levels by 2035 is at odds with AGL's support for stronger ambition. AGL supports the Paris Agreement and setting ambitious economy-wide emissions reductions targets consistent with a global 1.5 degrees ambition, or as close as can be practically and economically delivered.

Value of Membership

AEC members have access to a wide range of benefits and services, including networking opportunities, regular members briefings and industry events, guest speakers on topics of interest, and access to communications and reports providing key industry updates. The AEC's team of expert energy analysts, economists and public policy advocates provide valuable industry knowledge to members.

The AEC has well-established relationships with governments, opposition, and stakeholders across all jurisdictions, and assists in managing the key issues impacting member businesses and the energy sector. CEO Forums give senior AGL leaders multiple opportunities to engage directly with senior government figures in the energy space and other senior peers. The AEC offers a valuable platform for advocacy and relationship building with other key figures in the energy industry. The AEC are proactive in public debates to promote key strategies, inform consumers, defend the industry against unwarranted or incorrect criticism, and advocate for the industry generally. The AEC produces and publishes submissions and content on a wide spectrum of energy market reforms and policy developments impacting AGL's operations and strategy. AGL has the opportunity to provide input into these submissions, and can rely on these submissions where it lacks time or resourcing.

Recommendation

Maintain membership but take ongoing action to maximise value from the membership, and engage more closely to encourage more alignment with AGL in relation to stronger climate ambition.

5.5. Australian Financial Markets Association

Annual fee: \$40,150

The Australian Financial Markets Association (AFMA) is the leading industry association promoting efficiency, integrity and professionalism in Australia's financial markets.

Policy and Values Alignment

While AFMA is not a specific energy or climate advocacy body, AFMA does advocate on behalf of members on climate and energy-related issues. There is broad alignment in positions, particularly with regard to AFMA's advocacy for efficient and competitive financial markets, and the role for these markets in helping to reach Australia's emissions reduction targets. AFMA shares AGL's support for the government's emissions reduction targets.

No material divergence in policy positions or values was identified in this review.

Value of Membership

AFMA represents the interests of over 130 participants in Australia's financial markets and promotes high professional standards in the financial markets so they can continue to contribute to Australia's economic health.

AGL actively participates in AFMA's market committees and working groups, providing valuable opportunities to discuss and influence energy market-related issues and reform, as well as broader climate-related financial reporting and policy. AGL's Wholesale Risk Management Policy requires all dealers with delegations to be AFMA accredited and there are professional and education requirements to be met annually to maintain AFMA accreditation.

Recommendation

Maintain membership and current level of engagement.

5.6. Australian Industry Group

Annual fee: \$31,281

Australian Industry Group (Ai Group) is the peak national employer organisation representing traditional, innovative and emerging industry sectors, acting on behalf of businesses across Australia for 150 years. Ai Group provides advice, services, networks, and advocacy to help members and industries to thrive, and the community to prosper.

Policy and Values Alignment

Ai Group advocates on behalf of a wide range of sectors, on climate and energy issues, as well as broader issues that affect the economy such as cyber security, workplace relations, and investment stimulus. Ai Group are widely accepted as taking a sensible and balanced view which adds weight to its advocacy.

AGL and Ai Group are broadly aligned on climate policy, and support for ambitious emissions reduction targets. Ai Group advocates for a national energy policy and a long-term view of targets and trajectories. They are supportive of increased energy efficiency measures and support a move away from fossil fuels, although they note that gas has a role to play during the transition.

Ai Group is a founding member of the Climate Roundtable, which supports the Paris Agreement and in December 2019, updated its statement to support a 'well below 2C' limit with efforts to pursue 1.5C. Ai Group is supportive of net zero by 2050 and supported the legislation of Australia's emissions reduction targets.

No material divergence in policy positions or values was identified in this review.

Value of Membership

Ai Group is a well-connected business advocacy group, that ensures the views of business are presented to all levels of government. Membership provides access to industry experts and insights, advice on energy policy issues, and useful HR resources and advice. AGL also maintains its relationship with Tennant Reed who is a member of our customer council.

Ai Group has strong technical knowledge, undertaking valuable research and analysis. Membership particularly assists AGL to understand, engage and influence the commercial and industrial customer view. Participating in Ai Group's committees gives AGL access to valuable political insights and useful speakers and presenters.

Recommendation

Maintain membership and current level of engagement.

5.7. Bioenergy Australia

Annual fee: \$2,915

Bioenergy Australia is the peak body for Australia's bioenergy industry, empowering, sharing knowledge, and connecting Australian bioenergy producers, investors, researchers, and users to make Australia's bioeconomy world-class.

Policy and Values Alignment

Bioenergy Australia is overall supportive of climate action in Australia and supports an emissions reduction target of net zero by 2050. Bioenergy Australia regularly makes submissions on behalf of the Renewable Gas Alliance (RGA), Sustainable Aviation Fuel Alliance of Australia and New Zealand (SAFAANZ) and the Cleaner Fuels Alliance (CFA). They are very engaged in government consultations relating to renewable fuels, strongly advocating for bioenergy in Australia, which aligns with AGL's strategy and priorities with regards to the acquisition, and ongoing operation, of the Energy360 business.

Bioenergy Australia advocates for the role that bioenergy can play in meeting Australia's emissions reduction targets, through substitution of fossil gas, job creation, and minimisation of waste and environmental impacts.

No material divergence in policy positions or values was identified in this review.

Value of Membership

Membership allows AGL to actively participate in forums and working groups, which enables knowledge sharing across the bioenergy and biofuels industries, and important networking opportunities with key industry stakeholders and investors. Bioenergy Australia also provides AGL with important updates on the latest industry developments relating to policies, technologies, and projects, allowing members to be a part of the national conversation on bioenergy.

Recommendation

Maintain membership. Potential for more engagement at a working group level.

5.8. Business Council of Australia

Annual fee: \$104,500

The BCA represents Australia's largest employers, advocating for good policy on behalf of the business community and the Australians they employ.

Policy and Values Alignment

The BCA engages and advocates strongly on a wide range of issues of relevance to the broader business community.

On energy and climate policy, the BCA is broadly aligned with AGL, supporting a national goal of net zero by 2050 along with strong alignment in support for empowerment of Indigenous Australians through participation in the energy transition and recognition of a Voice to parliament, as well as diverse and inclusive workplaces. The BCA is also very supportive of a national approach to policymaking, rather than state-based, and the role of market-based mechanisms. They are supportive of renewable energy targets and accelerating energy efficiency and EVs.

The BCA is aligned with AGL's view on the role that gas has to play in the interim in terms of supporting the energy transition/reaching net zero targets. However, the BCA have shifted their positions on some issues in recent times, particularly around the need for more gas production and development, which has resulted in a potential misalignment between AGL and the BCA's policy positions. They are still supportive of "achieving a net-zero emissions economy by 2050 and advocate for a coordinated, national, and bipartisan energy and climate change policy framework, emphasizing secure and affordable energy, and a strong, internationally competitive economy". They also do not have a formal position on temperature aligned goals or interim targets.

The BCA also appears to support unlimited use of carbon offsetting, which is a view that AGL does not share.

No other material divergence in policy positions or values were identified as part of this review.

Value of Membership

BCA has a broad membership base which gives weight to issues impacting across multiple sectors and the economy more broadly. The BCA is well networked with government and industry stakeholders, which it uses as a platform to pursue policy advocacy and support its members. The BCA is a pro-business advocate on variety of economy-wide issues that affect large businesses including labour markets & employment, corporate obligations (such as reporting and disclosure duties) and red tape reduction, which are all of value and significance to AGL as a corporate entity but not areas we always have the bandwidth to engage with fully.

Membership also offers AGL the opportunity to engage and network with companies outside of the energy community, to access member only events and briefings and to participate in policy working groups across energy, climate and transport sectors. Damien Nicks is also a member of the Energy and Climate Committee.

Recommendation

Maintain membership but take action to ensure membership is being effectively utilised. This should include seeking to engage more frequently with BCA through active CEO engagement, better leveraging of BCA events and greater interaction between the policy team and the BCA, particularly regarding climate policy. The policy team will also seek to meet with the BCA to understand areas of potential policy alignment/misalignment and discuss ways we can engage more closely on these issues. AGL should also continue to engage with the BCA on carbon offsetting.

5.9. Carbon Market Institute

Annual fee: \$10,725

The Carbon Market Institute (CMI) is an independent, membership-based association working to accelerate the transition to net zero emissions through policy development and market-based solutions.

Policy and Values Alignment

CMI is nonpartisan, independent, member-based institute accelerating the transition to net zero emissions. Their vision is a prosperous, negative emission, nature positive world and it is their mission is to accelerate the use of market-based solutions and support best practice in decarbonisation to limit warming to 1.5C. investments.

CMI and AGL are largely aligned on policy positions. CMI is strongly supportive of ambitious climate action and the role of market-based approaches to emissions reduction. CMI has issued support for vehicle emissions standards and provisions for increasing energy efficiency across the energy sector. CMI, through Kerry Schott, appears to support the continued use of gas in supporting the energy transition. CMI has strongly advocated for increasing transparency and integrity of the carbon markets, both domestically and internationally.

CMI supports the Paris Agreement goal of limiting warming to 1.5°C and advocates for a national emissions reduction target of 70% by 2035.

No material divergence in policy positions or values was identified in this review.

Value of Membership

CMI is an important organisation in the conversation on decarbonisation. As the world moves towards net zero, carbon offsets will play an increasingly important role in offsetting residual emissions, with an increasing number of corporations making voluntary commitments. CMI membership provides AGL with deep knowledge and insights on climate policy and the carbon markets. AGL engages the CMI to understand opportunities and trends in the domestic and global carbon markets and in carbon accounting. Carbon markets and carbon project development offer potential growth areas for AGL.

CMI has been an official observer organisation at COP since 2015, taking a delegation of Corporate Members to the conference each year, and acts as a conduit to Australian businesses on international climate change and business developments and how they impact Australia.

This membership also provides discounted tickets to important events such as CMI's annual Australasian Emissions Reduction (AER) Summit, which provides important networking, knowledge-sharing and business opportunities for AGL.

Recommendation

Maintain membership and current level of engagement.

5.10. Clean Energy Council

Annual fee: \$27,225

The Clean Energy Council (CEC) is a not-for-profit, membership-based organisation that is the peak body and voice for the clean energy sector. CEC has a large membership base of 1077 members across professional services, consumer energy resources, and utility-scale energy.

Policy and Values Alignment

The CEC is a strong advocate for climate action and the role that electrification and renewables can play in reaching ambitious decarbonisation targets. The CEC advocates for strong emissions reductions through renewables, calling for a net zero grid by 2035. CEC's positioning on climate policy is very positive, supporting net zero by 2050.

The CEC has a broad remit, spanning wholesale markets, network planning and investment, large scale project development, and distributed energy resources. CEC's policy and advocacy work is focused on accelerating the take up of clean energy in Australia with their mission being to accelerate towards a clean energy future, laying the foundations for Australia to become a global clean energy super power. CEC also promotes raising industry standards and maintaining industry integrity, including through accreditation of solar installers across Australia, maintaining lists of approved modules, inverters and battery energy and storage programs.

The CEC and AGL are broadly aligned on energy transition position, including the important role that distributed energy resources have to play, supporting the workforce transition, the importance of gender balance, bringing consumers and the community along on the journey, and the need to resolve supply constraints in the rollout of renewable generation.

No material divergence in policy positions or values was identified in this review.

Value of Membership

The CEC is a highly engaged and trusted organisation with a strong reputation within the energy industry. This is important for influencing jurisdictional policy developments, of which AGL can be a part - the CEC actively seeks AGL's opinions on issues, which is an important means of counterbalancing contrary views amongst its membership base. CEC are an important partner on distributed energy resources and will be particularly important in supporting AGL's growth agenda regarding electrification and behind-the-meter activities.

CEC membership provides access to latest industry information, being part of key conversations within the sector, and contribution to advocacy work for the industry. Membership also provides networking opportunities and discounted access to events.

Recommendation

Maintain membership and current level of engagement.

5.11. Climate Leader's Coalition

Annual fee: \$16,500

The Climate Leaders Coalition (CLC) is a group of cross-sectoral Australian corporate CEOs supporting the Paris Agreement commitments and setting public decarbonisation targets. CLC is an initiative of the B-Team Australasia, a regional organisation that actively works with CEOs and leadership teams to enhance how they impact people and the planet.

Policy and Values Alignment

CLC supports the Paris Agreement & Australia's commitment to it, including the objective to keep global warming to well below 2 degrees above pre-industrial levels.

CLC is action oriented and provides an open forum for CEOs to share challenges of their decarbonisation journeys, providing information to enable CEOs not yet taking action to understand their options.

There is close alignment between CLC and AGL on the need for ambitious action on climate change, to forge a path to a low emissions future that benefits all Australians and the economy. There is alignment on a responsible and equitable transition and commitments to disclosure.

No material divergence in policy positions or values was identified in this review.

Value of Membership

Membership with CLC provides several benefits to AGL, including access to best practice advice on transition plans, emissions accounting methodologies and climate-related disclosures, alongside broader ESG issues including nature. CLC have climate-related working groups in place to developing best practice guides and blueprints on climate and related topics. The working group focus areas are redefined each year with input from member CEOs, and vary in terms of relevance to AGL. The CLC's current working groups have a focus on methane monitoring, zero emissions haulage, nature-based solutions, use cases for AI in climate and demand side management.

Given the focus on leadership, the CLC holds CEO forums where Damien Nicks is invited, as well as "Delegate" forums which representatives of the sustainability team attend. These forums often host a wide range of experts from organisations such as STBi and facilitate information sharing.

Recommendation

Maintain membership and current level of engagement.

5.12. Committee for Economic Development of Australia

Annual fee: \$24,970

CEDA is a non-profit membership-based think tank providing thought leadership and policy perspectives on the economic and social issues affecting Australia.

Policy and Values Alignment

CEDA is not an energy specific association, but aims to influence future economic, social and environmental policy to deliver better outcomes for Australia. CEDA undertakes extensive economic and social research on issues that matter for Australia's future and facilitates evidence-based and active discussion.

AGL and CEDA are aligned on supporting workers and communities through the energy transition; putting people at the centre of policy to harness the full benefits of emerging technology; workplace productivity through positive workplace engagement; delivering affordable and accessible critical services; and business transparency to enable collaboration and innovation to rebuild public trust in institutions. There is also alignment on the belief that building better relationships and trust between Indigenous Australians and the wider Australian public will contribute positively to Australia's economic and social prosperity. CEDA takes a pragmatic view to the energy transition: that decisions should be driven by the balance between emissions, affordability and reliability.

No material divergence in policy positions or values was identified in this review.

Value of Membership

Membership provides AGL with access to CEDA's member-only Trustee program of roundtables, opportunities for knowledge sharing, policy discussion, and access to a broad range of events. AGL actively participates in CEDA's networking events, and both attends and presents at events and boardroom briefings. Through membership, AGL also accesses high quality research, discussion and debate on broader economic issues relevant to AGL's operating environment.

CEDA's key strength is the breadth and depth of its membership, with more than 2600 senior leaders across the country making up CEDA's Trustee community. CEDA has a commitment to balanced discussion, allowing members to contribute to targeted policy discussion and research.

Recommendation

Maintain membership and current level of engagement.

5.13. Committee for Gippsland

Annual fee: \$22,000

The Committee for Gippsland (C4G) is a member-led advocacy group providing a representative voice to government. The C4G brings together groups representing all sectors of business, industry and community views to collaborate on regional priorities to benefit Gippsland communities.

Policy and Values Alignment

While C4G is not an energy and climate advocacy body, it does represent the interests of a region that is particularly impacted by the energy sector transitioning away from thermal generation to renewable generation. The group advocates in the interests of the region on issues related to renewable energy build-out, circular economy, workforce transition, and social licence. C4G has a focus on re-education programs, new economic investment and maintaining social infrastructure to help Gippsland transition away from coal.

No material divergence in policy positions or values was identified in this review.

Value of Membership

Membership provides AGL with opportunities for regional networking and advocacy, as well as access to roundtable discussions with industry, community and political leaders.

C4G aims to positively influence government policy and allows AGL the opportunity to help inform and lead the region's agenda. This includes AGL being invited to participate in discussions with government ministers and contribute to submissions to government, as well as participating in the C4G's wider strategic plan and priorities for the region.

C4G have been great advocates for AGL particularly around our work on transition. AGL receives regular member updates and takes part in workshops and events held in Gippsland on critical and relevant topics to Gippsland businesses and communities. AGL is also involved in the Committee's Gippsland Community Leadership Program and offers two diversity scholarships for this program to the community.

Recommendation

Maintain membership and current level of engagement.

5.14. Committee of Melbourne

Annual fee: \$33,000

The Committee of Melbourne (formerly the Melbourne Chamber of Commerce) is an independent, professional body for medium to large organisations, bringing together Victoria's most influential and iconic companies, business leaders, influencers and government representatives at local, state and federal level to affect policy, exchange ideas and lead Victorian business into the future. The Committee of Melbourne (COM) is part of the Victorian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, which is in turn a part of the Australian Chamber.

Policy and Values Alignment

While Committee of Melbourne is not an energy specific association, they do engage and advocate across a broad range of policy areas such as energy, industrial relations, regional development, and tax and regulatory reform, through the Victorian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Victorian Chamber).

The Victorian Chamber advocates strongly on the need for affordable energy in Victoria to ensure that businesses remain competitive and to promote Victoria's economic prosperity. They have supported subsidies to assist businesses during the energy transition, and investment in diversified energy sources that encourages competition, to drive down the costs of energy and ensure long-term certainty in the market.

The Victorian Chamber has previously publicly supported and called for the Victorian Government to set an emissions reduction target in line with Victoria's equitable share of the global emissions reduction challenge set by the objectives of the Paris agreement (to keep warming well below two degrees and pursue efforts to keep warming to 1.5 degrees), and the achievement of net zero emissions by 2050. They also supported a fair transition for workers and industries, households, and communities, and a coordinated nationwide approach to the energy transition. The Chamber has also supported the Victorian Government's commitment of 95 per cent renewables target by 2035.

There is alignment between AGL on the importance of economic growth in regional Victoria, developing a skilled workforce, and support for a nationwide approach to decarbonising the economy to meet Australia's emission reduction targets. However, the Chamber has also been a very vocal advocate for the role of gas, stating that it is a "pivotal" part of the Victorian economy, and calling for additional supplies. AGL has and will continue to advocate for the role of electrification and energy efficiency in freeing up gas supplies for hard-to-abate industries, and to reduce the need for additional gas supplies.

Value of Membership

Membership provides access to corporate networking and keynote speaker events, briefings, roundtables, and forums. Through membership, AGL gains exposure to influential business and political leaders, and a voice at the table to influence Victoria's future by helping to shape Victoria Chamber's policy and advocacy. Members are kept informed of business changes and trends, provided with access to professional development and workplace consulting services, and receive access to discounted pricing to training and events.

Recommendation

Maintain membership but meet with the Committee of Melbourne to discuss our potential misalignment around the role of gas, electrification and energy efficiency in the energy transition.

5.15. Communications Alliance

Annual fee: \$24,000

The Communications Alliance (CA) are an industry association and are the peak telco body providing a unified 'telco voice' to government, regulators, and other bodies. The CA was formed to provide a unified voice for the Australian communications industry and to lead it into the next generation of converging networks, technologies and services.

CA offers a forum for the industry to make coherent and constructive contributions to policy development and debate. By providing leadership on new trends and directions, CA fulfils a vital unifying role on behalf of the industry and its members, particularly in areas of competition, innovation and industry development with its prime mission being to create a co-operative stakeholder environment that allows the industry to take the lead on initiatives which grow the Australian communications industry, enhance the connectivity of all Australians and foster the highest standards of business behaviour.

Policy and Values Alignment

The CA is not an energy specific association. Rather, its advocacy is focused on the Australian communications industry. The CA regularly makes submissions on policy proposals from the ACMA and the ACCC and influences government on telecommunications matters.

No material divergence in policy positions or values was identified in this review.

Value of Membership

CA is the key industry association in the communications sector and is very active in the regulatory reform space. Members benefit from having the opportunity to make a meaningful contribution to the future direction of the industry and to participate in governing its operation.

AGL participates in various member forums that: enable AGL to have early awareness of upcoming rule changes; provide an opportunity to input into the CA submission and help guide policy direction; help AGL understand what policy areas the ACMA / ACCC are focussing on; provide access to representatives from the ACCC / ACMA to better understand policy development and provide the opportunity to discuss regulatory and policy developments with other members from the telecommunications industry.

AGL relies quite heavily on the CA to do a lot of the heavy lifting on regulatory reform work and submissions due to our limited resources internally. There is also strong compliance benefits associated with being a member.

Recommendation

Maintain membership and current level of engagement.

5.16. Electric Vehicle Council of Australia

Annual fee: \$21,450

The Electric Vehicle Council (EVC) is the national body representing the electric vehicle industry in Australia. Representing members from across the value chain of the electric vehicle sector, the EVC is a trusted advisor and advocate to governments and decision makers across Australia.

Policy and Values Alignment

The EVC's mission is to drive investment and awareness to accelerate the electrification of transport, for a more sustainable and prosperous Australia. The EVC is generally aligned with AGL on views around the role of EVs and rapid electrification in achieving Australia's decarbonisation goals while providing economic opportunities. The EVC advocates for the importance of EV orchestration and retail energy products to incentivise EV charging in the home at time of excess generation, to support the energy system and to deliver lower costs to customers. EVC also advocates for coordination with all aspects of the EV supply chain.

The EVC has strongly advocated for decarbonisation of the transport sector as part of Australia's action on climate change, and appears to support the Paris Agreement, pushing for alignment of the road transport sector with the Paris Agreement, and supporting achievement of Australia's climate targets including the target of net-zero emissions by 2050.

No material divergence in policy positions or values was identified in this review.

Value of Membership

Membership provides access to EV experts and energy ministers, and the opportunity to network and interact with motor industry stakeholders to influence policy. The EVC's work is particularly aimed at increasing certainty for investment through policy, knowledge sharing, and education.

Through membership, AGL can lean on the EVC's advocacy. The EVC advocates for the role of the retailer; supporting AGL in developing products that incentivise customers to reduce demand on the grid, avoiding heavy handed restrictions for EV chargers.

Recommendation

Maintain membership and look for ways to increase our current level of engagement.

5.17. Energy Efficiency Council

Annual fee: \$31,790

The Energy Efficiency Council (EEC) is a not-for-profit membership association that represents Australia's energy management sector to drive policy on efficiency, electrification and demand flexibility; ensure we have the skilled workforce to deliver Australia's energy transition; and support businesses and households to rapidly decarbonise.

Policy and Values Alignment

There is close alignment between AGL and the EEC on advocating for energy efficiency, demand response and electrification in achieving Australia's emission reduction targets. Both organisations are aligned on the important role for energy demand reduction in supporting reliability and the transition to a decarbonised generation fleet while keeping energy bills affordable. Both organisations are also aligned in advocacy of the importance of the transition of the workforce.

The EEC supports the Paris Agreement and advocates for a greater role for demand side participation in meeting decarbonisation goals. However, the organisation has limited advocacy beyond energy efficiency, demand response and electrification.

No material divergence in policy positions or values was identified in this review.

Value of Membership

The EEC is a useful association for energy efficiency policy developments and industry knowledge. The EEC works with members and partners to drive ambitious energy efficiency policy by advocating with all levels of government, supporting business decision making and growth, and contributing to industry standards and professional development. Membership allows AGL to participate in policy discussions and contribute to the EEC's submissions, helping to drive forward improvements in energy efficiency and energy performance to assist in meeting Australia's decarbonisation goals. AGL has obligations under many jurisdictional energy efficiency schemes and so the EEC's advocacy in this space can be particularly useful and relevant. AGL has representation on the EEC board which provides more opportunity for influence in policy interactions.

Membership also provides AGL with access to events, workshops, and training courses. The EEC has multiple working groups which AGL has been involved in to varying degrees, with the opportunity for greater involvement and engagement. The organisation provides opportunities for AGL's brand in terms of stakeholder awareness of both residential and C&I electrification, and also provides access to a talent pipeline of interns and graduates. Energy efficiency and productivity are areas of interest for AGL as they relate to affordability and emissions reduction for both our fleet and offering of products and services to customers.

Recommendation

Maintain membership and current level of engagement.

5.18. Gippsland Climate Change Network

Annual fee: \$3,125

The Gippsland Climate Change Network (GCCN) is a not-for-profit Incorporated Association and registered charity focused on connecting and collaborating with local communities, businesses, and government organisations around climate change awareness and solutions.

Policy and Values Alignment

GCCN provides a voice for Gippsland on climate change related matters and has advocated for community-based renewable energy hubs. GCCN has a vision for the Gippsland region to be carbon neutral by 2040 with thriving communities, new industries, a resilient economy, healthy habitats, and sustainably managed resources. GCCN advocates on matters related to the energy transition, promoting the need to move to renewable energy, and focusing on the UN Sustainable Development Goals of 'climate action' and 'affordable and clean energy'. GCCN is also committed to working respectfully with Indigenous Australians in delivering climate positive initiatives.

AGL and GCCN share alignment in support for Australia's commitments under the Paris agreement, investment in renewable energy, and working with indigenous Australians through the energy transition.

No material divergence in policy positions or values was identified in this review.

Value of Membership

Membership provides AGL with opportunities for industry-based networking, knowledge sharing and advocacy. GCCN informs its members on climate change, renewable energy, and sustainability-related matters, providing education, consultation and facilitation.

Recommendation

Maintain membership and current level of engagement.

5.19. Gippsland Regional Executive Forum

Annual fee: \$2,970

The Gippsland Regional Executive Forum (GREF) is one of 3 self-funded regional executive forums in Victoria that aims to provide effective business networks, and undertake professional development and advocacy in respect to regional investment facilitation and policy/regulatory frameworks. Champions of the Bush, through GREF, is made up of 50 members committed to sustainable regional development and to continuously promoting and championing Gippsland.

Policy and Values Alignment

While GREF is not an energy specific body, there is alignment on promoting greater investment in renewable energy and biofuels, which supports jobs and investment in rural environments. They also advocate for overcoming issues on workforce matters in regional areas. GREF does not publicly disclose a stance on the Paris Agreement however they advocate for greater investment in renewable energy and biofuel production.

No material divergence in policy positions or values was identified in this review.

Value of Membership

Membership provides AGL with regional networking, knowledge sharing and advocacy.

GREF is made up of Gippsland industry and business leaders, providing access to special events and opportunities to connect with important stakeholders such as state and local government members. AGL Loy Yang often presents projects or work to the forum to encourage stakeholder advocacy.

Recommendation

Maintain membership and current level of engagement.

5.20. Queensland Renewable Energy Council

Annual fee: \$7,000

Queensland Renewable Energy Council (QREC) is a not-for-profit industry body that represents solar, wind, pumped hydro, electricity transmission, battery storage and hydrogen proponents, operators and their suppliers. QREC works with industry, communities and all levels of government to deliver a thriving new energy sector for Queensland.

Policy and Values Alignment

QREC advocates for robust but streamlined approval processes and pathways for the renewable energy industry. QREC works on behalf of members to address elements of approval processes that may inhibit new projects, cause unreasonable delays or result in uncertainty for industry and communities and advocates for reasonable and responsible regulatory outcomes that assess projects on their merits and balance social, cultural, economic and environmental values. QREC has also developed a Queensland Renewable Energy Developer & Investor Toolkit, which aims to provide developers and investors with a comprehensive guide to leading practice in landholder, First Nations and community engagement.

No material divergence in policy positions or values was identified in this review.

Value of Membership

AGL inherited its membership to QREC as part of its acquisition of FIRM Power. QREC is the principle renewable energy advocacy organisation in Qld. All major industry proponents, government-owned corporations, consultants, various law firms and financial institutions are members.

QREC has significant influence and has established effective partnerships with other industry associations, to increase acceptance of renewable energy development. This includes the Queensland Farmers Federation, AgForce and the gas industry. QREC also has strong links within State government and, subsequently, an ability to influence policy.

Beyond direct participation, full membership provides for preferential access to industry events (often for free). QREC also organises training and briefings for industry members that is not available to other parties. Members are often apprised of policy changes, important events and forthcoming decisions prior to these being made public.

Recommendation

Maintain membership and current level of engagement.

5.21. UN Global Compact Network Australia

Annual fee: \$27,720

The United Nations Global Compact is the largest corporate sustainability initiative that aims to transform businesses and raise ambitions towards achievement of societal goals, covering principles such as human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption. The UN Global Compact Network Australia (UNGCNA) is the Australian, business-led network of the UN Global Compact.

Policy and Values Alignment

The UNGCNA engages with government around policy, and in 2015 announced a significant partnership with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade aimed at engaging the private sector in sustainable development. AGL and UNGCNA are closely aligned on support for the Paris Agreement, and in the role of businesses to meet the emissions reduction commitments and in driving the transition to a low carbon economy. There is also alignment in support for human rights, transparent reporting and disclosure, a consolidated approach to the transition, and ensuring a 'just transition' in regards to decarbonising the economy.

No material divergence in policy positions or values was identified in this review.

Value of Membership

Membership with UNGCNA enabled AGL to become signatories to the UNGC's human rights principles and provided AGL access to useful resources in the development of its Human Rights and Modern Slavery policies. However, since AGL established its own human rights policy, value from the membership has diminished. AGL receives some value from a modern slavery perspective with UNGCNA offering training, education and networking opportunities.

Aligning AGL's sustainability approach with a UN backed framework drives credibility and reputational benefits for best practice sustainability reporting. Members receive access to UN Global Compact participants representing nearly every industry in over 160 countries. There are also a range of tools and resources, as well as forums, workshops and dialogues for members.

Recommendation

Maintain membership, increase engagement and review in 2026.