

# Energy Transition Dialogues

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### Australia facing questions on Hydrogen storage, pricing, ESG

The Australian government is investing \$1.4bn to build its Hydrogen industry and is among the countries which have reasonably high investments, with key partnerships in place. We are still a long way from where we need to be, but some progress is better than none.

Australia's electrolyzers level is at present 1.25 megawatts, and we need to reach to one gigawatt by 2030. How we can make this evolutionary jump is not yet clear. Getting an industry to scale and then become commercial will need cumulative efforts and more comprehensive cross-border pricing mechanisms, collectively and globally. We could possibly reach our targets with piecemeal different carbon approaches from jurisdiction to jurisdiction.

One of my main concerns is Hydrogen storage, which has not received as much attention as its production. Other concerns that call for strong engagement with the community are land and water resources. The latter is a common question that comes up about green hydrogen – where will the water come from and what volumes will be needed for production? We need to consider solutions such as desalination and not assume that we will have access to fresh water. The sooner the industry can clarify their positions, the sooner we can move forward and better demonstrate Hydrogen's promise, responsibly and transparently. ■

*\*Paraphrased Comments*

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