RACE for 2030

RELIABLE
AFFORDABLE
CLEAN
ENERGY

E3 Opportunity Assessment:
Developing the future energy workforce
Report at a glance

Final Report
RACE for Everyone Program
Research Theme E3: Developing the future energy workforce
Project Code: 20.E3.A.0080

October 2021

Project Team

Jay Rutovitz - Institute for Sustainable Futures, UTS
Chris Briggs - Institute for Sustainable Futures, UTS
Sarah Niklas - Institute for Sustainable Futures, UTS
Alison Atherton - Institute for Sustainable Futures, UTS
Franziska Mey - Institute for Sustainable Futures, UTS
Dirk Visser - Monash University
Annette Bos - Monash University
Scott Ferraro - Monash University
Farzaneh Mahmoudi - Monash University
Samantha Sharpe - Institute for Sustainable Futures, UTS
Scott Dwyer - Institute for Sustainable Futures, UTS
Darren Sharp - Monash University
Genevieve Mortimer - Climate-KIC Australia
Holly Taylor - Energy Efficiency Council
Kate Jennings - Energy Efficiency Council
David Pointing - Australian Power Institute

Acknowledgements
The authors would like to thank the many stakeholders involved in the development of this report. In particular, interviewees and the Industry Reference Group members who have given so generously of their time.1Whilst their input is very much appreciated, any views expressed here are the responsibility of the authors alone.

What is RACE for 2030?
The Reliable Affordable Clean Energy for 2030 Cooperative Research Centre is a 10-year, $350 million Australian research collaboration involving industry, research, government and other stakeholders. Its mission is to drive innovation for a secure, affordable, clean energy future.

Project Partners

Report at a glance

Theme E3: Developing the future energy workforce

What is the report?

This opportunity assessment describes a pathway to understanding the present and future energy workforce in Australia. It considers opportunities to address the clean energy transition through the development of a workforce that underpins the sector, and the innovation pathways that can be strengthened to support growth. In doing this, the report establishes a strong foundation for helping us to understand:

- the expected and potential workforce growth needed for a clean energy transition
- the occupations and skills that are going to be required
- how to deliver the training needed to support the development of those skills
- how innovation pathways can be strengthened to support Australia's energy transition.

Why is it important?

The energy workforce is a critical enabler of the clean energy transition. Developing the future energy workforce is also crucial to realising the RACE for 2030 vision of a customer-centred clean energy system, and to the successful translation of RACE for 2030 research outcomes into industry impact.

What did we do?

We addressed several fundamental questions about Australia's energy sector, including how to measure the workforce, how training and skills can be fit for the future, and how to the strengthen Australia's innovation pathways. The work is separated into three work packages addressing: market size, workforce and employment; new skills development; and innovation pathways.

What difference will it make?

Our findings and recommendations include priority research projects for developing the future energy workforce for the duration of the RACE for 2030 research program, including consideration of relevant barriers and solutions.

What next?

The three work packages developed a roadmap with defined pathways to support the future energy sector envisioned by RACE for 2030.

RACE for 2030

RELIABLE
AFFORDABLE
CLEAN
ENERGY

www.racefor2030.com.au

Australian Government
Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources

AusIndustry
Cooperative Research Centres Program