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**Statement on embedding equity, inclusion and community in Net Zero Economy Authority**

August 2024

Dear Prime Minister,

Our 48 organisations welcome the Federal Government’s commitment to establish the Net Zero Economy Authority to promote an orderly and positive transition to a net zero emissions economy. However, the Bill needs to be amended to ensure the Authority has a focus on equity and inclusion and ensure communities are supported and share in the benefits of the transition.

The broader community affected by the transition needs to know that they won’t be left behind and will also be supported alongside directly affected employees. This will be important to create social licence for the transition and reduce inequality.

We call on you to make the following small and simple amendments when the bill is debated in the Senate.

1. Amend objective a) to read “promote orderly, ***equitable, inclusive*** and positive economic ***and social*** transformation as the world decarbonises;”
2. Amend objective b) to read “ensure Australia’s regions, ***communities***, and workers are supported in relation to, and ***equitably*** benefit from, Australia’s transition to a net zero emissions economy;”
3. In addition to the existing requirement for two union, two industry and one regional representative, require at least one First Nations representative and one representative from community sector be appointed to the Board; and
4. Require the stakeholder group to include representation from the community sector, First Nations People, and people with lived experience of disadvantage.

These amendments will give the government and communities confidence that the Authority can ensure everyone benefits from the transition and no-one is left behind.

**Supported by:**

ACOSS

Australian Lawyers for Human Rights

ARRCC (Australian Religious Response to Climate Change)

Beyond Zero Emissions

Brotherhood of St Lawrence

Bushfires Survivors for Climate Action

Catholic Social Services Australia

Clean Energy Council

Climate Action Network Australia

Community Power Agency

Consumer Action Law Centre

Darebin Climate Action Now

Disability Advocacy Network Australia

Doctors for the Environment Australia

Electrify Canberra

Energy Efficiency Council

Energetic Communities

Federation of Ethnic Communities’ Councils of Australia

First Nations Clean Energy Network

Getup

Healthy Futures

Justice and Equity Centre

Mountains Community Resource Network

Northern Alliance for Greenhouse Action

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Parents for Climate

Peoples Climate Assembly

Psychology for a Safe Climate

Sacred Heart Mission Inc.

SACOSS

Save the Children and 54 Reasons

Settlement Services International

Social Ventures Australia

Sydney Community Forum

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