



FUTURE BATTERY INDUSTRY STRATEGY

Frequently Asked Questions



What is the *Future Battery Industry Strategy*?

The State Government has a vision for the Western Australian future battery industry: to be world leading, sustainable and value-adding and to provide local jobs, contribute to skill development, support economic diversification and benefit regional communities. The *Future Battery Industry Strategy* provides a framework to enact this vision.

The government strategy is based on a list of practical actions under four action themes: investment attraction, project facilitation, research and development and battery technology uptake. These actions are derived from industry feedback in the form of a stakeholder reference group and an industry consortium. The strategy was developed by an intergovernmental working group under the guidance of a Ministerial Taskforce, chaired by the Hon Bill Johnston MLA; Minister for Mines and Petroleum; Energy.

An implementation intergovernmental working group led by the Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation is responsible for delivering the strategy actions. Strategy actions include refocused activities already undertaken by government agencies and new strategy-specific activities. Implementation has already started to ensure that Western Australia capitalises on the time-critical opportunity created by accelerating growth in the global battery market.

Why does Western Australia need a *Future Battery Industry Strategy*?

The Western Australian Government has identified the growth of the future battery industry as an important source of economic development, diversification, jobs and skills.

Western Australia is well-placed to seize the opportunities arising from global growth in battery demand. The State has substantial reserves of battery minerals, world-class processing and manufacturing capacity, industry-leading ethical and sustainable production standards, and globally recognised technical expertise and research capability.

Western Australia needs the *Future Battery Industry Strategy* to ensure it reaps the full benefits of these unique competitive advantages and moves into further processing, manufacturing battery components and assembling battery energy storage systems.

The strategy is necessary to ensure that all stakeholders work together toward a common vision for the development of Western Australia's future battery industry, in line with the State Government's broader economic and environmental agenda.

How will the *Future Battery Industry Strategy* help develop the future battery industry in Western Australia?

The *Future Battery Industry Strategy* will help attract investments to the State to diversify its production of battery minerals and expand the scale and diversity of its battery material processing activities. These investments will contribute to develop the State's production infrastructure, workforce and technology in the field of future batteries.

Diversifying the type of battery minerals extracted and processed in the State will allow Western Australia to move up the battery supply chain toward more added value manufacturing. This in turn will help Western Australia promote itself as an attractive destination for more downstream processing and manufacturing activities.

By helping the State achieve a critical mass and diversity in the domestic production of battery materials, the strategy will set the platform for further investment in the manufacturing of battery components, such as cathodes, and ultimately batteries.

The *Future Battery Industry Strategy* will also drive research and technology uptake in Western Australia, which will encourage further economic activities at the consumer end of the battery value chain, such as the assembly and installation of battery-based energy storage systems or the recycling of batteries, battery components and materials.

The development of battery related activities and the adoption of battery technologies in Western Australia will spur domestic investment in research and development, which will make the State more competitive and more innovative in technologies that are key to the worldwide transition to low emissions economy.

How will stakeholders be involved in the implementation of the *Future Battery Industry Strategy*?

The Western Australian Government will continue to consult with industry, community and research stakeholders throughout implementation of the *Future Battery Industry Strategy*.

The industry reference group that supported the development of the strategy will remain throughout the implementation phase with a revised composition and function to reflect the scope of the strategy activities. Feedback from this group is important to improve the effectiveness and flexibility of the strategy throughout implementation in the face of changing market conditions.

The implementation intergovernmental working group has established a dedicated website for the *Future Battery Industry Strategy* to facilitate communication to external stakeholders and coordination of their input. The strategy website provides information about government's activities, offers regular industry updates and reports progress on the implementation of the strategy. It also provides a contact point for proponents looking for government assistance for their project.

The Western Australian Government's working group will maintain communication with relevant Commonwealth agencies to facilitate coordination where appropriate. In particular, Austrade will play a role in the State's investment attraction strategy.

Industry and research institutions are also expected to partake directly into several strategy actions, such as the establishment of the Future Battery Industries Cooperative Research Centre and various investment attraction missions and events.

How can I find out more?

Email enquires about the Future Battery Industry Strategy or register interest in receiving updates as the implementation progresses:

energymaterials@jtsi.wa.gov.au

