



Australian Government

Department of Climate Change, Energy,  
the Environment and Water

# HFC Life-cycle management in Australia

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# HFC LIFE-CYCLE MANAGEMENT IN AUSTRALIA

- Why reducing HFC emissions is important
- Australia's approach
- Government and industry partnership

# WHY HYDROFLUOROCARBON EMISSIONS ARE IMPORTANT

- HFC emissions are a small part of total greenhouse gas emissions
- But the fastest growing source of emissions
- Great near term opportunities to significantly reduce emissions
- Montreal Protocol will reduce production by 85%
- Opportunity to do more to reduce emissions by managing use

# THE OPPORTUNITY

- Four ways to reduce HFC emissions
  1. HFC phase-down
  2. Domestic action to reduce demand
  3. Managing emissions through equipment life
  4. Recovery and destruction

# THE AUSTRALIAN APPROACH

- HFC phase-down
- Started in 2018 a year ahead of the Montreal Protocol and 25% below the Montreal Protocol baseline.
- Smaller but more frequent reduction steps
  - More emission reduction and easier for industry to digest

# AUSTRALIAN STEPS BEYOND THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL

- Bans on manufacture and import of equipment
- Ban on use of disposable cylinders
- Offence to deliberately emit refrigerant

# AUSTRALIAN STEPS BEYOND THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL

- Licensing of businesses and technicians using HFC refrigerants
  - Skilled workforce trained to prevent leaks and properly repair when leaks occur
  - Follow Australian standards and codes of practice
  - And improves energy performance

# AUSTRALIAN STEPS BEYOND THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL

- Product stewardship requirement
  - Importers must be part of a product stewardship scheme
- One scheme, Refrigerant Reclaim Australia
  - Industry owned, funded and operated
  - Acknowledged around the world as best practice



# AUSTRALIAN STEPS BEYOND THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL

- Industry levy on imported refrigerants:
  - which funds a bounty on returned refrigerant and the cost of destroying waste refrigerant

# AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT – INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIP

- The cornerstone of Australia's approach
- Long term partnership
- Industry saw a need to change and wanted to be part of the change
- Many regulatory requirements started as voluntary industry initiatives
- Long term policy certainty and consistency

# AUSTRALIAN EXPERIENCE

- Approach has significantly reduced HFC emissions
  - And a skilled workforce has reduced energy related emissions
- Voluntary licensing and product stewardship work to a certain extent
  - But much larger benefit after both were supported by regulation
- Benefit to the environment, consumers and the economy

# HOW TO CONTACT US....

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