



This fact sheet provides an overview of AEMO's 2024 Gas Statement of Opportunities, which forecasts the adequacy of gas supplies in central and eastern Australia from now to 2043.

About AEMO

As Australia's independent system and market operator and system planner, the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO)'s purpose is to ensure secure, reliable, and affordable energy and enable the energy transition for the benefit of all Australians.

We do this by operating Australia's electricity and gas systems and markets of today, including the National Electricity Market (NEM) and the east coast gas system, an interconnected gas grid connecting all states and territories except for Western Australia.

What is the GSOO?



Published annually, AEMO's Gas Statement of Opportunities (GSOO) forecasts the adequacy of gas supply in the east coast gas system to meet households and business' changing energy needs over the next 20 years.



It is one of several publications that AEMO produces that helps governments, industry and the community to make informed decisions about investments in future energy markets.



The GSOO is developed in consultation with members of the gas industry, and incorporates demand forecasts for residential, commercial, and industrial energy sectors and LNG exports.

Visit [AEMO's website](#) for:

GSOO 2024 Report

GSOO 2024 Media Release

GSOO 2024 General information

Key takeaways

- AEMO's 2024 GSOO continues to forecast risks of gas adequacy gaps in southern states from 2028, as production in the south continues to decline faster than demand.
- New investment is urgently needed if gas supply from 2028 is to keep up with demand from homes and businesses, and for gas-powered electricity generation.
- Potential small seasonal supply gaps are forecast from 2026, ahead of annual supply gaps that will require new sources of supply from 2028.
- Risks of shortfalls are also forecast from 2025 on some days under extreme winter conditions for southern states if high heating demand coincides with high demand for gas-powered electricity generation.
- In northern Australia, more investment in currently uncertain supply will be required from 2026 to meet LNG export and domestic supply requirements.
- As Australia transitions to a net zero emissions future, gas will continue to be used by Australian households, businesses and industry, and support the reliability and security of the electricity sector.
- While household and business gas consumption levels are forecast to decline over the period to 2043, this is anticipated to be outpaced by reductions in domestic gas supply.
- Various options are being considered by the gas industry, including new supply, transportation and storage projects. A combination of solutions is likely required to supply and deliver enough gas to where it is needed in the longer term.



What's driving the 20-year outlook?



Declining gas production from Bass Strait gas fields.



Uncertainty in the speed of the energy transition, affecting forecasting of future needs.



Retirements in coal generation, affecting the utilisation of gas-powered electricity generation (GPG) as the electricity system incorporates higher levels of renewable energy. GPG may increase from the early 2030s and peak demand may experience significant growth, particularly in winter.



Government-led emissions reductions targets and policy changes (including by ACT and Victorian governments) driving increased electrification, or fuel-switching from gas to electricity.



Growth in uptake of consumer energy resources (like solar PV, batteries and electric vehicles) by households and businesses, impacting forecasts of GPG required to support the electricity sector.



Ongoing requirements to deliver on LNG export contracts, requiring increases in gas production.

How AEMO forecasts supply adequacy

Production and supply forecasts are provided to AEMO from gas producers and project proponents, including development lead times. Key project updates from 2023 include:

Completed since 2023 GSOO

- Victoria's Western Outer Ring Main
- East Coast Grid Expansion Stage 1
- Upgrade to Iona Gas Plant (underground storage)

Committed projects on track for completion

- East Coast Grid Expansion Stage 2 by 2024

Changes to supply outlook

- Gippsland production forecasts are higher until mid-2024.
- Supply from Blacktip in NT has significantly reduced.

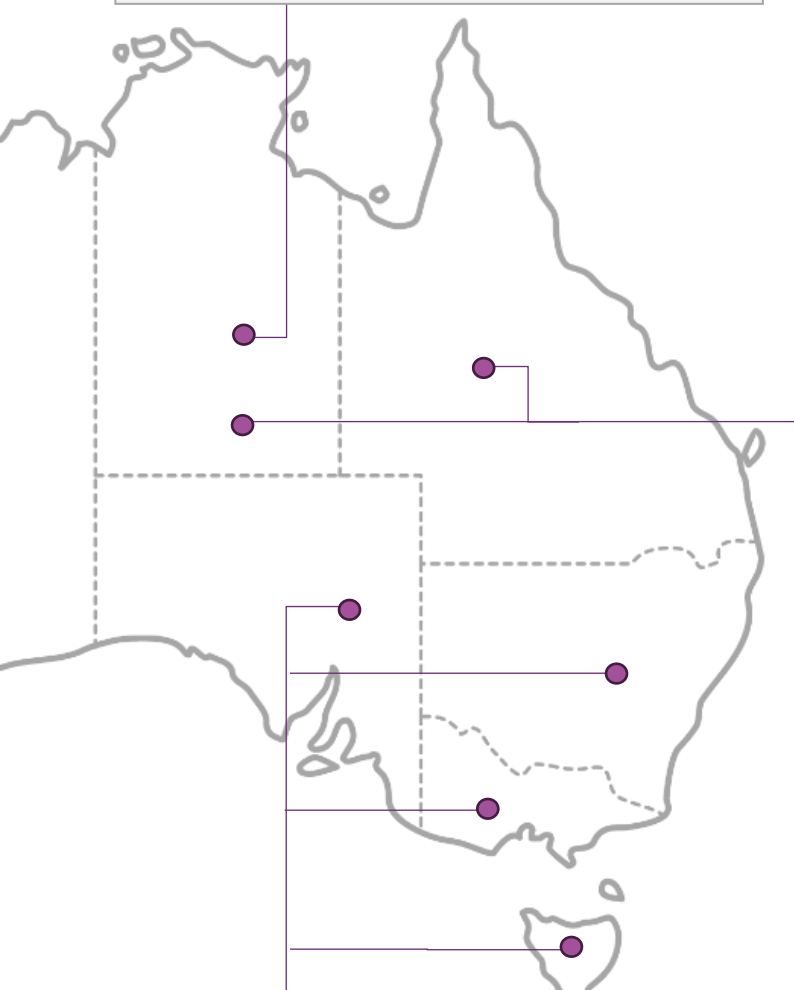
Some committed and anticipated supply projects have experienced delays.



Supply forecast for the east coast gas system

Northern Territory

The NT presently relies on interim emergency gas arrangements and may need to continue to rely on these arrangements, or make alternative arrangements, in future.



* Definitions



Existing or committed
Already operational or about to commence



Anticipated
justified commercially, awaiting approval and reasonably expected to proceed



Uncertain
at early development or facing challenges in terms of commercial viability or approval

Gap or shortfall?

A forecasted 'gap' refers to inadequate supply over a longer period, such as a season or a year. A 'shortfall' means an insufficiency on a given day.

Northern regions (NT, QLD)

- Northern gas producers provide critical supply for domestic users, with LNG producers controlling around 70% of total proven or probable reserves in central and eastern Australia.
- Development of anticipated* supplies in northern regions will only maintain sufficient supply until 2026. After that, currently uncertain* supply developments will then be required to satisfy domestic demand and LNG export requirements.
- It remains critical that LNG producers make supply available during winter in all years of the outlook period to mitigate the risk of southern supply shortfalls.

Southern regions (VIC, SA, NSW, TAS, ACT)

- A gap in gas supply for southern states is forecast from 2028, as southern production declines. Urgent new investment is needed if gas supply from 2028 is to keep up with demand.
- Southern production is expected to reduce significantly from 2026 and again in 2028 as legacy fields deplete, causing challenging conditions and a greater reliance on storage, and on gas supplied from northern regions.
- Southern regions are also forecast to be at risk of shortfalls on some days from 2025 under extreme peak demand conditions. Careful management of gas storages in such extreme conditions may be needed. Reducing the demand for GPG (through demand response or alternative fuels) may mitigate shortfall risks. From 2026, potential small seasonal supply gaps are forecast in each winter.