

For industry and  
operators

# Fact sheet

[transport.nsw.gov.au](https://transport.nsw.gov.au)

September 2025



## Net zero and circular economy guidelines for transport operations

Supports Transport's targets of 65% reduction in Transport's operational emissions by 2030 (vs 2018–19 baseline) and net zero in Transport's operational and fleet emissions by 2035.

25 priority interventions modelled across buses, rail, ferries, roads, maritime, vehicle fleets, depots, and facilities.

Developed with input from over 120 stakeholders across 4 government agencies and multiple Transport divisions.

Provides a flexible, evidence-based framework adaptable by public and private operators.

Supports business cases, procurement decisions, tender responses, and investment strategies.

Embeds circular economy principles: fleet retrofitting, battery reuse, material exchange, and waste reduction.

Aligns with NSW climate targets: 50% emissions reduction by 2030, 70% by 2035, and Net Zero by 2050.



[transport.nsw.gov.au/net-zero-pathways](https://transport.nsw.gov.au/net-zero-pathways)

OFFICIAL

## What they are

- A practical, evidence-based roadmap to help decarbonise transport operations and embed circular economy principles.
- Developed jointly by Transport for NSW and the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, with input from over 120 stakeholders across 4 agencies and industry partners.

## Who can use them

- While developed for Transport for NSW operations, the Guidelines are transferable.
- Public and private operators, suppliers, contractors, and delivery partners can apply the same processes to:
  - Inform business cases and investment planning.
  - Strengthen tender responses.
  - Align with growing government, investor and community expectations on emissions and resource efficiency.

## What they cover

- 25 priority interventions across buses, trains, ferries, maritime, roads fleet vehicles and facilities.
- Pathways modelled under 3 transition scenarios and compared with a business-as-usual base case (which includes currently funded interventions), to balance feasibility, costs and emissions impact.
- Circular economy strategies including fleet retrofitting, reuse of batteries, recycled materials, and materials exchange programs.

## Why it matters for industry

- Early insight: Provides data, modelling and evaluation to inform your decarbonisation pathway and investments.
- Cost efficiency: Reduces exposure to long-term carbon, energy, and resource risks.
- Market alignment: Helps prepare for future procurement requirements and align with state and federal decarbonisation commitments.
- Competitive advantage: Strengthens your market position with investors, communities, and customers demanding low-emissions, sustainable operations.

## Alignment

- Supports NSW's economy-wide emissions reduction targets: 50% by 2030, 70% by 2035, and net zero by 2050.
- Supports Transport in achieving its emission reduction targets outlined in the Net Zero and Climate Change Policy, specifically 65% reduction in Transport's operational emissions by 2030 (compared to 2018-19), and Net Zero in Transport's operational and fleet emissions by 2035.
- Positions the transport sector as a leader in driving sustainable, low-carbon and circular-economy-aligned solutions.

The Net zero and circular economy guideline for transport operations is a collaboration across NSW Government. The partner agencies are Transport for NSW and the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water.