

CCUS: A Net Zero Opportunity For Australia

 **"Reaching net zero will be virtually impossible without carbon capture, utilisation and storage" | International Energy Agency¹**

Carbon capture, utilisation and storage (CCUS) is critical to reaching net zero in Australia.² CCUS can reduce emissions in hard-to-abate industries including cement, steel, chemicals and

fertiliser production and produce low-carbon hydrogen. It can also remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere through Direct Air Capture (DACC).³

 **25+ year proven track record of safe, secure CCUS operations.**

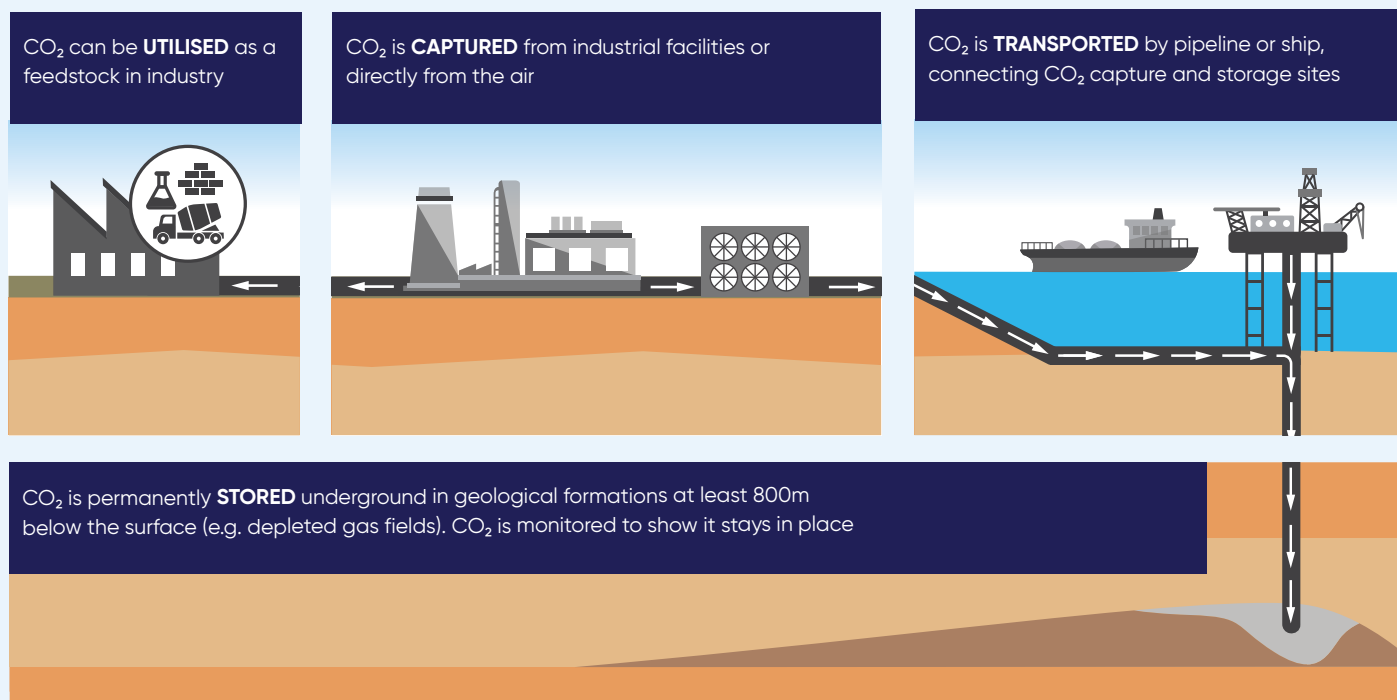
50 large-scale CCUS projects operate globally today, with the capacity to capture 51 million tonnes (Mt) of CO₂ per year⁴ – equivalent to over 10% of Australia's total greenhouse gas emissions.⁴ The Sleipner CCUS project in Norway has been safely and permanently

storing up to 1 Mt of CO₂ per year since 1996.⁵ The importance of CCUS is recognised by the Australian Government,⁶ Geoscience Australia⁷ and the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation.⁸

 **How does CCUS work?**

CCUS involves the capture of CO₂ from industry or directly from the air. CO₂ is transported, via pipeline or ship, to where it can be safely and permanently stored

in a suitable geological formation, at least 800m below the ground. Some captured CO₂ can be used by industry, including in chemical and cement production.



Sources:

¹IEA, [Energy Technology Perspectives 2020 – Special report on CCUS](#), 2020

²Net Zero Australia, [Modelling Summary Report](#), 2023

³IEA, [Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage](#), website (accessed July 2025)

⁴Global CCS Institute, [Global Status of CCS Report](#), 2024

⁵Equinor, [Sleipner area](#), website (accessed July 2025)

⁶Department of Industry, Science and Resources, [Future Gas Strategy](#), 2024

⁷Geoscience Australia, [Carbon Capture and Storage \(CCS\)](#), website (accessed July 2025)

⁸CSIRO, [Capturing global attention: Carbon capture, utilisation and storage](#), website (accessed July 2025)

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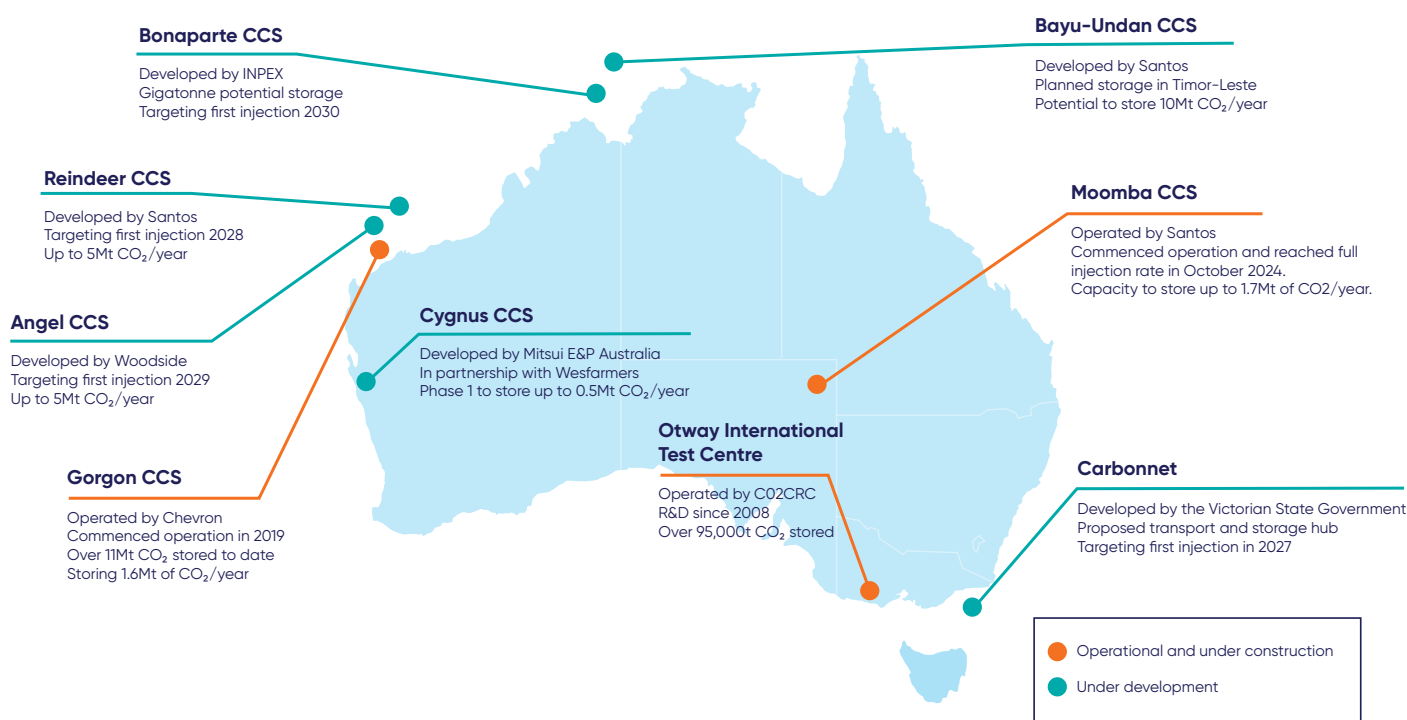
Australia is a global leader in CCUS, hosting two of the largest CO₂ storage projects in the world.

Chevron's Gorgon CCS project in Western Australia and Santos and Beach Energy's Moomba CCS project in South Australia are two of the largest climate-focused CCUS projects operating in the world today.⁹

The Chevron Gorgon CCS project is storing 1.6 Mt of CO₂ per year today. It has stored over 11 Mt of CO₂ since 2019⁹ – equivalent to taking more than 3 million

petrol cars off Australia's roads for a year.

The Moomba CCS project commenced operation in October 2024, with the capacity to store up to 1.7 Mt of CO₂ per year – the equivalent of more than a tenth of South Australia's annual emissions.¹⁰ Australia has several other CCUS projects that aim to start operation by 2030.



The development of CCUS can foster Australian industry and manufacturing, attract investment, and support communities.

Net Zero Zones¹¹ that combine CCUS, renewable energy, low-carbon hydrogen, and natural gas, can fast-track emissions reductions, power regional manufacturing and industry and act as a magnet for investment – supporting communities and creating regional jobs.

Australia can help our trading partners decarbonise by transporting CO₂ from the region for permanent storage in Australia, at the same time creating a new multi-billion industry.¹²

Sources:

⁹ Chevron, [gorgon carbon capture and storage](#), website (accessed July 2025)

¹⁰ Santos, [Moomba Carbon Capture and Storage](#), website (accessed July 2025)

¹¹ Australian Energy Producers, [A review of Net Zero Energy and Industrial Zones](#), 2023

¹² Chiang, S. [Can Australia become APAC's CCS hub of choice?](#), Australian Energy Producers Journal, 2024