

From: s 47F(1)
To: julie.collins.mp@aph.gov.au
Subject: STRICTLY EMBARGOED - Energy Sovereignty for Regional Australia Policy Roadmap – Launching 12pm AEDT Today
Date: Tuesday, 9 June 2026 10:40:51 AM
Attachments: [Minister The Hon Julie Collins MP from Farmers for Climate Action - Strictly Embargoed Report and Media Release.pdf](#)
[Media Release - Protect Farm Diesel Rebate and Fund Electric Farm Machinery.pdf](#)
[Energy Sovereignty for Regional Australia - Farmers for Climate Action June 2026.pdf](#)

Dear Minister Collins,

On behalf of Farmers for Climate Action CEO, Verity Morgan-Schmidt, and following our recent invitation, I am writing to provide you with an advanced, embargoed copy of Farmers for Climate Action's new report, Energy Sovereignty for Regional Australia: Protecting Farmers, Powering the Future, alongside our official media release.

Both documents are attached for your reference and are strictly embargoed until 12:00pm AEDT today, Tuesday 9 June 2026, coinciding with our formal public launch.

As global diesel volatility continues to squeeze regional margins, this independent report, authored by Professor Ray Wills, outlines a practical pathway to shift regional Australia away from exposure to international fuel shocks and toward locally produced, lower-cost energy.

The roadmap outlines a sensible, balanced approach to policy reform that explicitly protects agriculture. It recommends:

- Protecting the farm diesel rebate, and guaranteeing that farm businesses and directly related agricultural industries keep their vital tax-free diesel.
- A fair cap for heavy industry, including amending legislation to cap Fuel Tax Credit Scheme (FTCS) claims at \$50 million per claimant per year for the nation's biggest users.
- Recycling the savings, and reinvesting the revenue raised into regional grid upgrades, local storage, and targeted support for on-farm electrification and sustainable biofuels.

Our recent independent focus group research indicates a powerful consensus on the ground for this approach. When presented with the rationale, the participating mid-to-large enterprise farmers endorsed a fair cap on massive corporate claims to ensure the long-term financial sustainability of the rebate for family farms.

We are sharing these materials with you ahead of the midday launch to ensure you and your office are fully briefed on our findings. We remain very keen to host you or a representative from your office for a formal 30-minute briefing post-launch to discuss how these settings can support your work in guiding the sector through these structural energy challenges. Please let us know if your office has availability in the coming days or weeks.

Thank you again for your ongoing engagement and leadership.

Yours sincerely,

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Senior Manager Policy & Programs

Farmers for Climate Action

P: s 47F(1) | **W:** farmersforclimateaction.org.au

Farmers, agricultural leaders and regional Australians working towards strong, opportunity-rich climate policies for farming communities.

Join us [here](#). Find us on [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [X](#). Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to support our work [here](#).

We at Farmers for Climate Action live and work on First Nations land. We acknowledge Traditional Custodians all over this land, and pay respect to Elders past and present.