



Future appliance regulations to support the gas transition

The ACT Government is currently seeking feedback and ideas on a regulatory approach that supports Canberrans transition to electric appliances.

Canberra is electrifying and transitioning away from the use of fossil fuel gas. While the goal is to phase out gas use in the ACT by 2045, it is possible that some sections of the gas network will start to shut down earlier from the mid-2030s onwards. This will not occur without appropriate notice, and the ACT Government will continue to support ACT consumers and priority households with their transition.

Gas consumption in the ACT has dropped 20% in the last two years. Average consumption per connection is also dropping and customer numbers are in decline from peak in 2021-22. Most residential consumers are expecting to make the switch to electric appliances when they break down.

We know that electrification is the cheapest path to net zero and delivers the greatest benefits to households and businesses. We also know that the ACT gas network will not be viable in the medium to long term. We are now considering if gas appliance regulation is needed to support the most equitable, efficient and least-cost pathway to transition away from fossil fuel gas use, ahead of the phased shut down of the network.

Why we are considering regulation

There are four key drivers for regulating gas appliances.

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Consumer protection: Regulation can protect consumers from unexpected and unnecessary costs during the energy transition. This can be by stopping gas appliances being bought that will need to be replaced again before they break, and preventing consumers being locked in to increasing running costs for gas appliances.	Supporting an equitable transition so that consumers are not left behind: Regulation can remove barriers that some of the community have in being able to transition to electric appliances. For example, people who live in rental properties or buildings with strata management (e.g. apartments or townhouses).	Regulatory certainty: Regulation can reduce the time, resources and risks businesses face in the gas transition, as it provides clear rules and timelines. This can also help to reduce network expenditure and costs that get passed on to consumers.	Emissions reduction: Further action will be needed to ensure that ACT's net zero emissions target and interim targets can be met into the future.

Share your views

We want to get your views on the possible regulatory options for gas appliances and the impacts of these changes on households and businesses.

Your feedback will help determine if and how regulation should be implemented, what should be covered and when. This is the first stage of consultation – broader community consultation will occur in coming years on a regulatory approach.

The discussion paper outlines more detail on where we are in the gas transition, and the steps we might take to ensure an equitable, efficient and least-cost pathway to the timely phase out of fossil fuel gas use in the ACT.

How to provide feedback

You can have your say by:

- completing an online survey
- sending a written submission to gastransition@act.gov.au

Consultation is open from Wednesday 5 August to Wednesday 16 September 2026.

Snapshot of gas use in the ACT

Types of gas users in the ACT



Residential

- Individual households
- Includes rentals and many multi-unit sites
- About 127,000 active customers
- About 11% of network connections have not used gas in last 12 months
- Approximately 98% of all gas network connections and 59% of gas consumption



Commercial

- Businesses and other medium sized customers
- Includes the service industry (restaurants, shops, banking and retail), and office buildings
- About 3,200 customers
- Approximately 24% of gas consumption



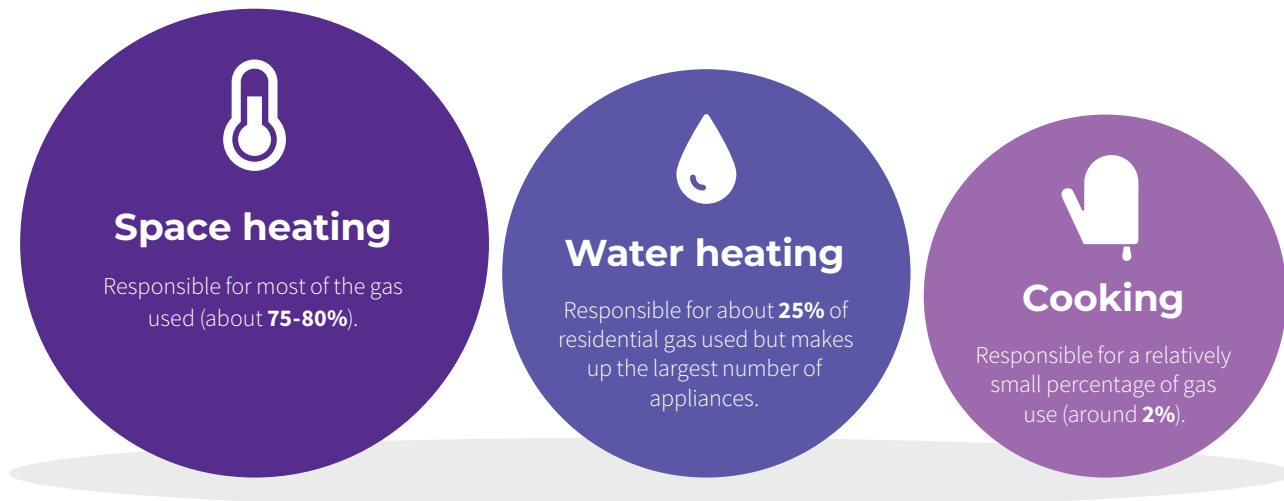
Industrial

- Large users of gas
- Includes universities, large hotels, government sites and manufacturing
- 44 customers
- Approximately 17% of gas consumption

Gas appliances and consumption across the ACT

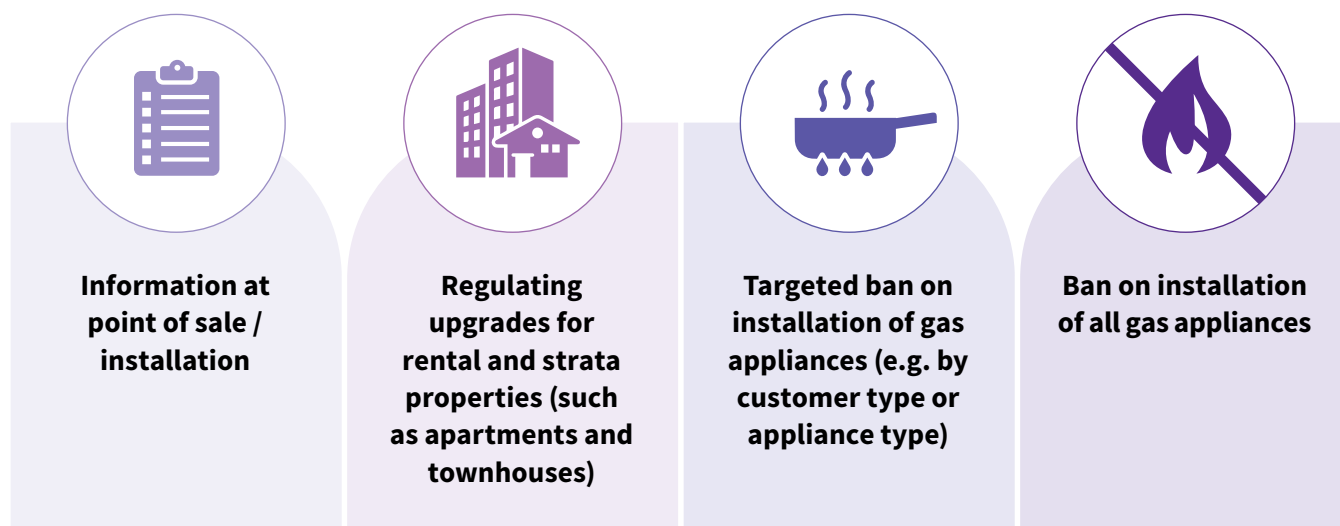
It is estimated that there are between 300,000-350,000 individual gas appliances across the ACT, with the majority being used for heating, hot water and cooking.

Gas uses across the ACT



What regulations could look like

There are many ways regulations could be implemented. These could be combined or phased in to best meet the needs of the ACT community. Some of the options are:



Find out more

To find out more and have your say, visit the [Everyday Climate Choices](#) website.