

Turning Global Energy trends into strategic advantage: Opportunities for Australian businesses.

Canonical: <https://northmoregordon.com/news/global-energy-trends/>

Details:

[Summary](#) | [Article](#) | [Current use](#) | [Related guidance](#)

About this update

This dated news record has been reorganised for clear reading and connected to current guidance.

Publication date: February 3, 2026.

Status note: Present-tense statements, market figures, deadlines and program details in the archived record belong to its publication date. Check current official sources before making a decision.

What this article reported

Based on insights from the IEA Global Energy Review 2025 , global energy demand is climbing faster than average, electricity use is booming, and extreme weather is reshaping consumption patterns. For Australian organisations, this presents both rising risks and clear opportunities.

At Northmore Gordon, we believe complexity should deliver competitive advantage, not confusion or cost. Here's how our clients can "do more with less" by aligning to these emerging global trends.

Opportunity 1: Electrification as a Cost and Emissions Lever

The IEA reports electricity demand rose 4.3% globally in 2024, its highest rate outside of economic rebound years. This shift is driven by industrial electrification, clean transport, building upgrades and more.

What this means for Australian organisations:

Process electrification is now a mainstream strategy to cut Scope 1 emissions and manage fuel volatility.

Fleet electrification can reduce emissions and peak demand, especially when paired with smart charging.

Electrifying HVAC and plant systems delivers efficiency and resilience during peak periods.

Northmore Gordon's edge :

We model full electrification pathways, not just "can it be done," but how to do it efficiently, in stages, and with the right funding stack.

Our feasibility studies include engineering calculations, regulatory triggers and VEU integration, not just payback estimates.

Opportunity 2: Responding to Climate-Driven Cooling Loads

2024 was the hottest year on record, and hence cooling is now one of the fastest-growing drivers of global electricity use.

Implications for Australian facilities:

Many businesses face increased operational costs from HVAC loads, particularly in summer peaks. These systems often sit outside typical energy efficiency projects, leaving value on the table.

Northmore Gordon's approach :

We audit HVAC systems with real engineering precision, airflow rates, thermal profiles, operating windows.

Our upgrade strategies are VEEC-eligible, and often pay for themselves through certificate revenue within 1-2 years.

Opportunity 3: Capture Full Value from Environmental Certificates

The rise of renewables is not just about clean energy, it expands the pool of certificates and incentives available. Yet most companies still treat these as afterthoughts.

For forward-looking Australian companies:

There's real potential to monetise more from the same projects, some projects are eligible for stacking schemes like VEECs, LGCs and ACCUs.

Without a strategic certificate plan, businesses risk leaving hundreds of thousands of dollars unclaimed.

Northmore Gordon's strategy :

We've created over 7 million certificates and unlocked more than \$300 million in project funding.

Our clients get portfolio-based planning, not just per-project facilitation, but strategic timing, stacking and price optimisation.

Opportunity 4: Outperform on Energy Efficiency as Global Progress Slows

While energy demand is rising, the IEA notes a global slowdown in energy efficiency improvements. That's a challenge, but for proactive businesses, it's also a differentiator.

Competitive benefits in Australia:

With rising energy prices, efficiency gains deliver direct margin uplift, especially in industrial settings.

Efficiency is a low-risk, fast-return investment when engineered properly.

Our solution :

We don't do cookie-cutter audits. We deliver engineering-led assessments that uncover hidden savings.

Our reports support funding applications, board decisions and regulatory alignment, not just compliance.

Opportunity 5: Turn Compliance Into Strategic Planning

Global emissions are still increasing. More regulation is coming, locally and internationally. Businesses that treat compliance as a strategic asset, not a burden, will be positioned to thrive.

What this means in practice:

Many businesses still approach National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting (NGERS) and Australian Sustainability Reporting Standards (ASRS) reporting as annual checklists.

But these schemes can generate operational insights, funding triggers and certificate revenue.

Northmore Gordon difference :

We go beyond the minimum. Our regulatory work uncovers \$100k+ in missed value in many clients' past data alone.

Our senior leaders manage regulatory strategy directly.

Summary: Strategic Clients Can Do More with Less

Every business is facing energy and compliance pressure. But by aligning to the right trends, you can:

Reduce your emissions and energy bills simultaneously

Electrify without overcapitalising

Optimise certificate revenue, not just participate

Turn regulatory complexity into funding and risk reduction

Lead on efficiency while global competitors fall behind

This is where Northmore Gordon helps you do more with less: less energy, less waste, less cost, less bureaucracy.

Ready to turn global energy shifts into business advantage? Start today:

<https://northmoregordon.com/start-your-journey/>

How to use this information now

For current use, confirm the applicable scheme rules, regulator notices, market date and reporting period. Keep historical prices or forecasts separate from present quotes and verified outcomes.

Separate source-reported facts from forecasts, targets and commentary. For a current project, retain the official source, version, effective date, assumptions and decision record in the evidence file.

Related guidance

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Contact Northmore Gordon

What report does this Northmore Gordon article base its insights on?

The article is based on insights from the IEA Global Energy Review 2025.

What global electricity demand trend does the article highlight, and what does it mean for Australian organisations?

The article notes that global electricity demand rose 4.3% in 2024, its highest rate outside of economic rebound years, driven by industrial electrification, clean transport, and building upgrades. For Australian organisations, this makes process electrification a mainstream strategy to cut Scope 1 emissions, fleet electrification a way to reduce emissions and peak demand, and electrifying HVAC and plant systems a way to deliver efficiency and resilience during peak periods.

How does Northmore Gordon help clients with electrification pathways?

We model full electrification pathways, focusing not just on whether electrification can be done but how to do it efficiently, in stages, and with the right funding stack. Their feasibility studies include engineering calculations, regulatory triggers and VEU integration, not just payback estimates. This staged approach connects technical assessment, commercial decisions and ongoing performance through their six-stage delivery model.

Why are cooling loads becoming a bigger issue for Australian facilities, according to the article?

The article states that 2024 was the hottest year on record, making cooling one of the fastest-growing drivers of global electricity use. This increases operational costs from HVAC loads for many Australian businesses, particularly during summer peaks. These systems often sit outside typical energy efficiency projects, leaving value on the table. Our investigation of HVAC operation before committing to replacement can identify controls, schedules and maintenance improvements alongside equipment upgrades.

What environmental certificates can be stacked according to the article, and what has Northmore Gordon achieved with certificates?

The article states that some projects are eligible for stacking schemes like VEECs, LGCs and ACCUs. We have created over 7 million certificates and unlocked more than \$300 million in project funding for clients, offering portfolio-based planning including strategic timing, stacking and price optimisation. Our environmental certificate services include project registration, certificate creation and trading, alongside engineering and commercial assessment to ensure activity eligibility and ownership clarity.

What global trend in energy efficiency does the article note, and how does Northmore Gordon differentiate itself?

The article notes that while energy demand is rising, the IEA reports a global slowdown in energy efficiency improvements. We differentiate itself by avoiding cookie-cutter audits, instead delivering engineering-led assessments that uncover hidden savings. Their reports support funding applications, board decisions and regulatory alignment, not just compliance. Type 1, 2 and 3 energy audits are matched to real decisions such as finding avoidable waste, ranking investments, or examining particular systems before replacement.

How does the article suggest businesses should treat compliance reporting, and what value has Northmore Gordon uncovered for clients?

The article suggests businesses should treat compliance schemes like NGERs and ASRS reporting as strategic assets rather than annual checklists, since they can generate operational insights, funding triggers and certificate revenue. Our regulatory work has uncovered \$100k+ in missed value in many clients' past data alone, with senior leaders managing regulatory strategy directly. Carbon advisory services connect emissions information with engineering, procurement and investment decisions across Scope 1, 2 and 3.

What five opportunities does the article outline for Australian businesses to gain competitive advantage from global energy trends?

The article outlines five opportunities: (1) Electrification as a Cost and Emissions Lever, (2) Responding to Climate-Driven Cooling Loads, (3) Capturing Full Value from Environmental Certificates, (4) Outperforming on Energy Efficiency as Global Progress Slows, and (5) Turning Compliance Into Strategic Planning. Each opportunity connects technical assessment with commercial decision-making and aligns with our service offerings across energy optimisation, carbon advisory, and environmental certificate support.

How should organisations structure their first investigation to align with global energy trends?

We recommend starting with a project brief that identifies the business problem, site location, available energy data, and decision deadline. The investment case should separate energy reduction, demand effect, maintenance benefits, certificate proceeds and grant support as distinct lines. A phased approach through their six-stage delivery model—Assess, Build the Case, Capture Value, Deliver, Procure and Perform—allows organisations to make informed decisions at each point rather than committing based on incomplete information.

What measurement and verification approach does Northmore Gordon recommend for projects addressing global energy trends?

Our measurement and verification services establish the effect of energy improvements using an agreed boundary, baseline and analysis. For electrification and efficiency projects responding to global trends, M&V; separates equipment improvements from production changes, weather effects and operating adjustments. The NSW Government's M&V; guide provides the technical framework; Our services include project-boundary selection, baseline modelling, savings calculation and reporting, ensuring evidence meets both investment requirements and certificate scheme specifications.