

Budget a welcome investment in WA's industrial future

Perth, 8 May 2026

The Superpower Institute welcomes significant announcements in WA's 2026-27 budget which will underpin development of new green industries. Western Australia is in a strong economic position and is future-proofing the State's economic future through measures including:

- An additional \$10 million, totalling \$85 million, supporting the development of the green iron and steel industry, the Green Iron and Steel Action Plan and confirmation of the NeoSmelt pilot project.
- \$1.4 billion Investment in transmission projects to both increase grid capacity and connect industrial centres, which have long been a bottleneck to the energy transition.
- State-wide investments in industrial land activation and increased funding to the Office of Coordinator General, to get WA projects moving.
- Continued support of manufacturing energy efficiency through the Made in WA program.
- \$16 million for the Minerals Research Institute of WA to implement and administer a clean energy and emissions research program.

Jessica Shaw, WA Program Director of the Superpower Institute said: *"The budget is wisely investing in the future economic strength of WA by focusing on energy investments that will support green industry, building a new diversified industrial foundation. This will help establish WA as a trusted supplier of stable, sovereign, clean energy, through products like green iron."*

Baethan Mullen, CEO of the Superpower Institute said: *“The Superpower Institute’s [research](#) shows that Australia could generate up to \$400 billion through annual exports of green iron – most of that generated in WA. This budget has doubled-down on that potential and is a key sign to the market that this opportunity is in WA’s future.”*

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About the Superpower Institute

The Superpower Institute’s purpose is to help Australia seize the immense economic opportunities of the post-carbon world. With unparalleled renewable energy resources and our ‘clever country’ scientific and engineering capabilities, Australia is perfectly positioned to be a green export superpower in the world of net zero emissions.

The Institute specialises in the policy settings and market incentives needed to make Australia an economic superpower and provides practical knowledge to governments and industry to realise this opportunity.

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