

B. Legislative context

Frameworks

Energy entities prepare their financial statements in accordance with the following legislative frameworks and reporting deadlines.

Figure B1
Legislative frameworks for the energy sector

Entity type	Entity	Legislative framework	Legislated deadline
Government owned corporations	• CleanCo Queensland Limited	• <i>Government Owned Corporations Act 1993</i>	31 August 2020
	• CS Energy Limited	• <i>Corporations Act 2001</i>	
	• Energy Queensland Limited	• Corporations Regulations 2001	
	• Queensland Electricity Transmission Corporation Limited (trading as Powerlink Queensland)		
	• Stanwell Corporation Limited		
Controlled entities	• Ergon Energy Queensland Pty Ltd	• <i>Corporations Act 2001</i>	31 October 2020
		• Corporations Regulation 2001	

Source: Compiled by Queensland Audit Office.

Accountability requirements

The *Government Owned Corporations Act 1993* establishes four key principles for government owned corporations:

- clarity of objectives
- management autonomy and authority
- strict accountability for performance
- competitive neutrality (meaning they should not have a competitive advantage over the private sector because they are owned by the government).



Queensland state government financial statements

Each year, Queensland state public sector entities must table their audited financial statements in parliament.

These financial statements are used by a broad range of parties including parliamentarians, taxpayers, employees, and users of government services. For these statements to be useful, the information reported must be relevant and accurate.

The Auditor-General's audit opinion on these entities' financial statements assures users that the statements are accurate and in accordance with relevant legislative requirements.

We express an *unmodified opinion* when the financial statements are prepared in accordance with the relevant legislative requirements and Australian accounting standards. We *modify* our audit opinion when financial statements do not comply with the relevant legislative requirements and Australian accounting standards and are not accurate and reliable.

