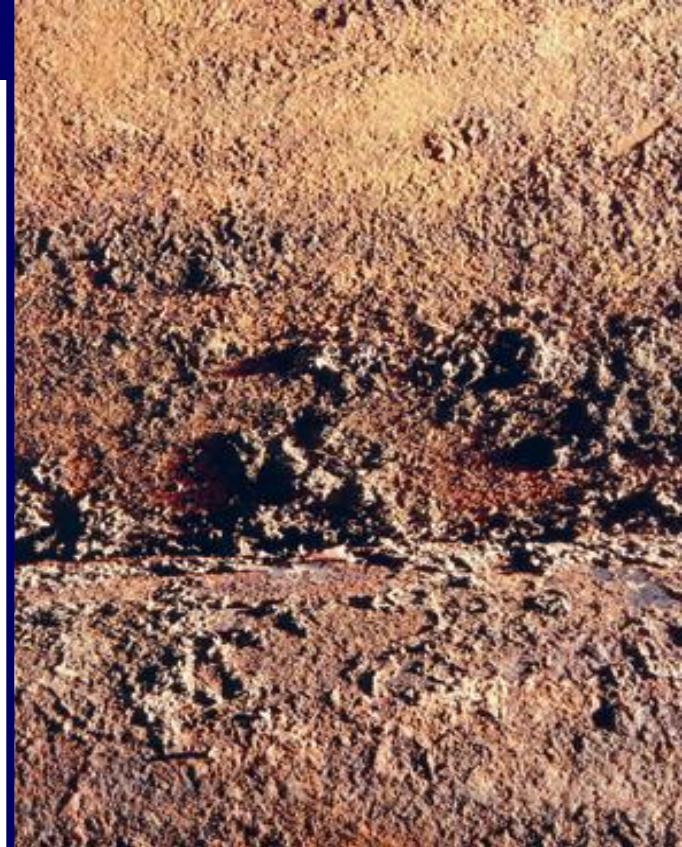




AUSTRALIAN
Greenhouse
Office





Australia's Action to Reduce Emissions of SF₆ and Other High Global Warming Potential Gases

San Diego, California, 21 November 2002

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Australian Greenhouse Office





THE COMMONWEALTH'S APPROACH TO CLIMATE CHANGE

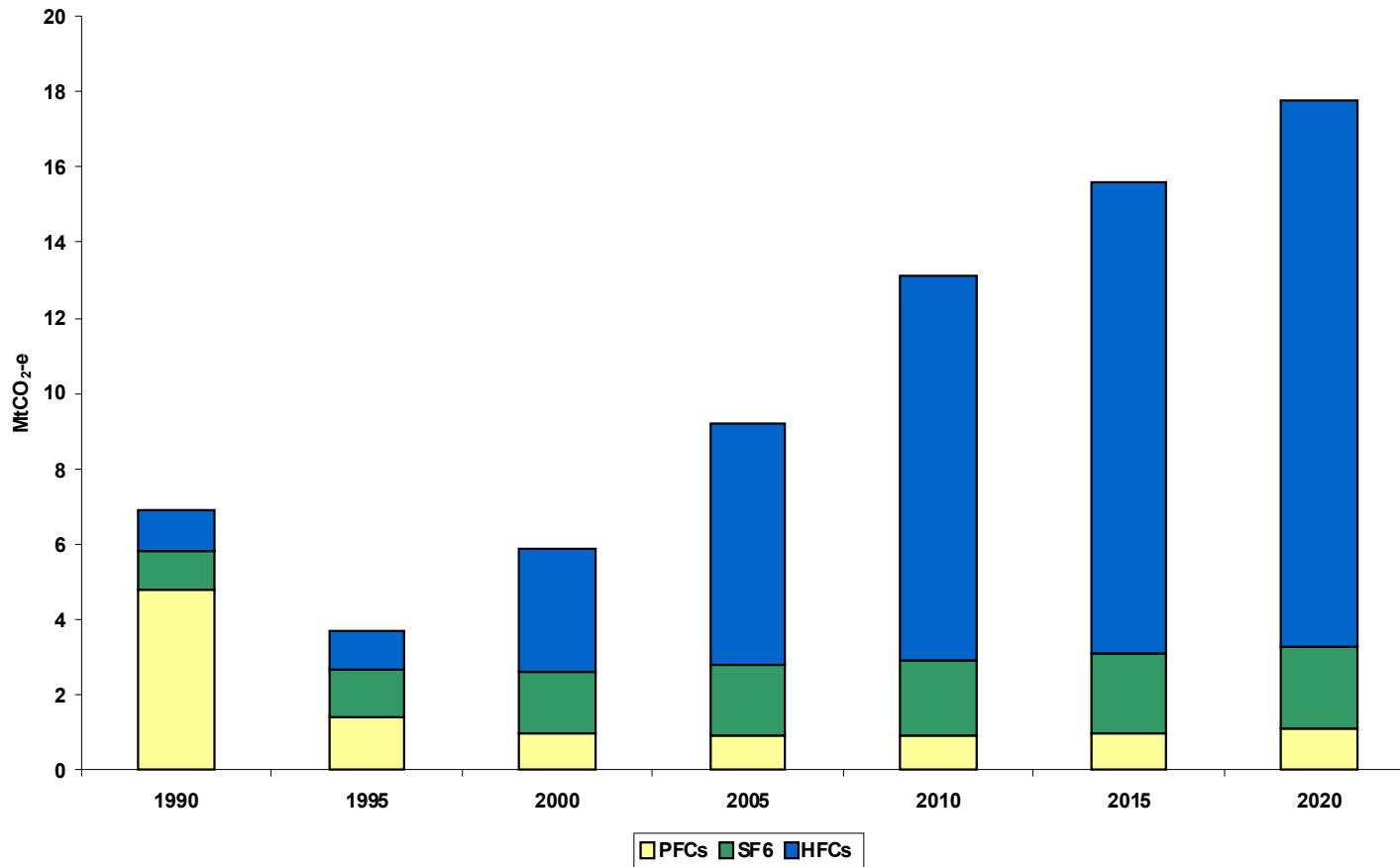
- The Commonwealth Government recognises the importance of climate change as a major global issue, and is committed to playing an effective part in international efforts to respond to the environmental threat it poses.



Australia's approach to Climate Change & the Kyoto Protocol

- The Government has decided not to ratify the Protocol until it is in Australia's national interest to do so, but Australia will strive for an effective global response.
- Australia will position itself to maintain a strong and internationally competitive economy with a lower emissions signature
- Australia's emissions are projected to be at 111% of 1990 levels by 2010, putting Australia within striking distance of 108% of 1990 levels agreed upon at Kyoto.

Australia's projected SGG emissions (without new measures)





Commonwealth action on SGGs (I)

The National Greenhouse Strategy (1998) Measure 7.2:

- Governments will work with industry to develop environmental management strategies for each of the synthetic gases included in the Kyoto Protocol – HFCs, PFCs and SF₆.
- Management strategies have been adopted to match the different circumstances of industry sectors.



Commonwealth approach to the management of SGGs

- Government has agreed overarching policy principles for managing synthetic greenhouse gas.
- Approaches are tailored on an industry-by-industry basis.



Australian use of SF₆ – The electricity supply industry

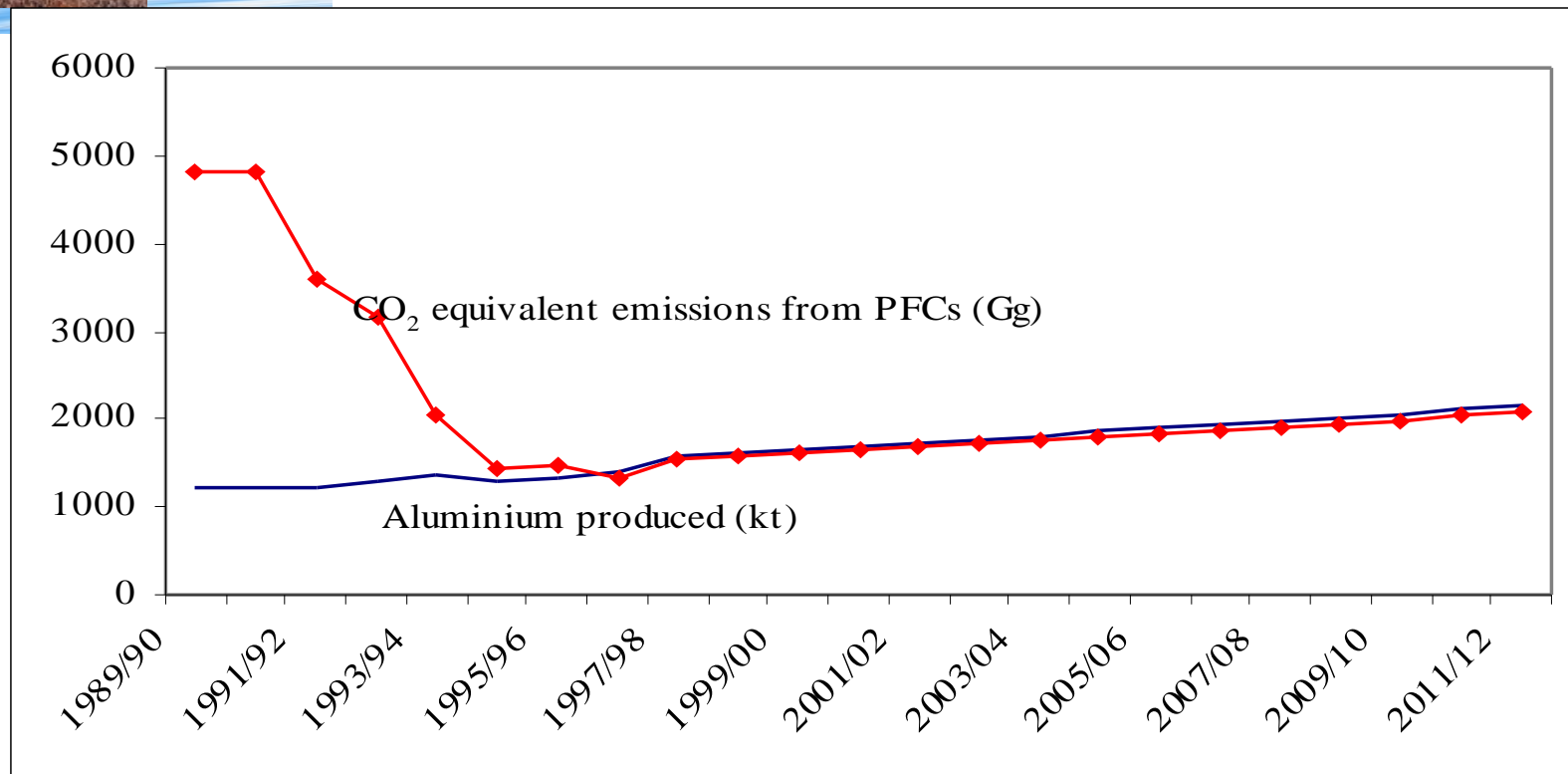
- SF₆ emissions from switchgear are not currently included in Australia's inventory (2000).
- Australian industry is currently trialling an SF₆ reporting template.
- Over 95% of Australia's electricity transmission/distribution companies are participating in the SF₆ reporting template trial.



The Australian Aluminium industry(I)

- In 2001 Australia was the 5th largest aluminum producer (7%) and 3rd largest aluminium exporter (10%).
- Combined, alumina/aluminium for 2001 was Australia's 2nd largest export commodity in dollar terms.
- Alumina/aluminium production is predicted by industry to increase by between 25-58% and 20-80% respectively by 2010.


Projected CO₂-e emissions of PFCs from aluminium smelting.





The Australian Aluminium industry (II)

- Through cooperative efforts with the Government and the adoption of improved processes, the Australian aluminium industry has reduced emissions of PFCs from 1990 levels by approximately 73% per tonne.
- Currently approximately 0.9 tonnes of CO₂-e of PFCs are emitted for each tonne of Aluminium produced, down from 3.9 tonnes of CO₂-e in 1990.



Australian use of SF₆ – The Magnesium industry

Australia's Magnesium industry is still in its infancy, but is set to grow

- 1 demonstration magnesium plant
- A few firms produce magnesium alloy die-castings
- Research into light metal casting technology, including the use of alternative cover gases to SF₆



Other Australian Efforts to address SGG emissions

- Support of industry based initiatives through the Greenhouse Gas Abatement Program
- Considering extension of the Ozone Protection Act to establish a single comprehensive national regulatory framework for ODS and SGG.
- Research into the use of alternatives to SGGs by the Montreal Protocol Industries



The Australian Greenhouse Office
is the lead
Commonwealth agency
on greenhouse matters



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