



Australian Government

**Department of the Environment and Heritage
Australian Greenhouse Office**

Australia's approach to high global warming potential gases

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Australia's approach to climate change

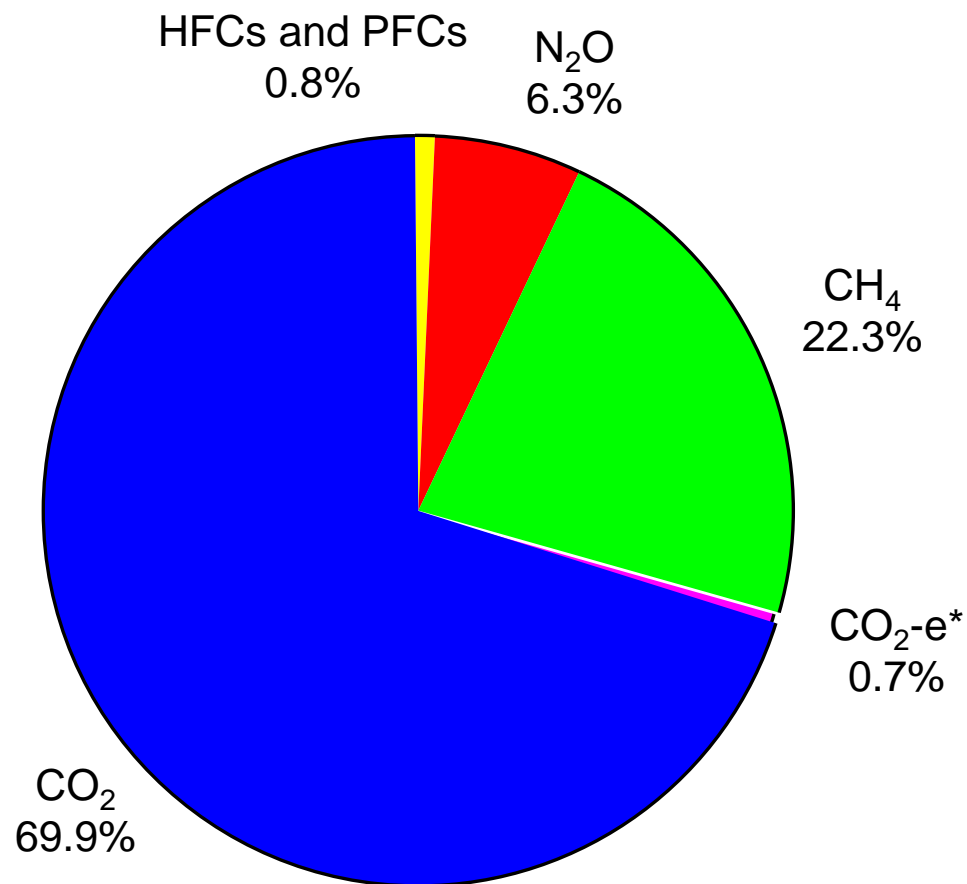
- The Australian Government recognises the importance of climate change as a major global issue, and is committed to playing an effective part in international efforts to respond to the environmental threat it poses.



Australia's approach to climate change & the Kyoto Protocol

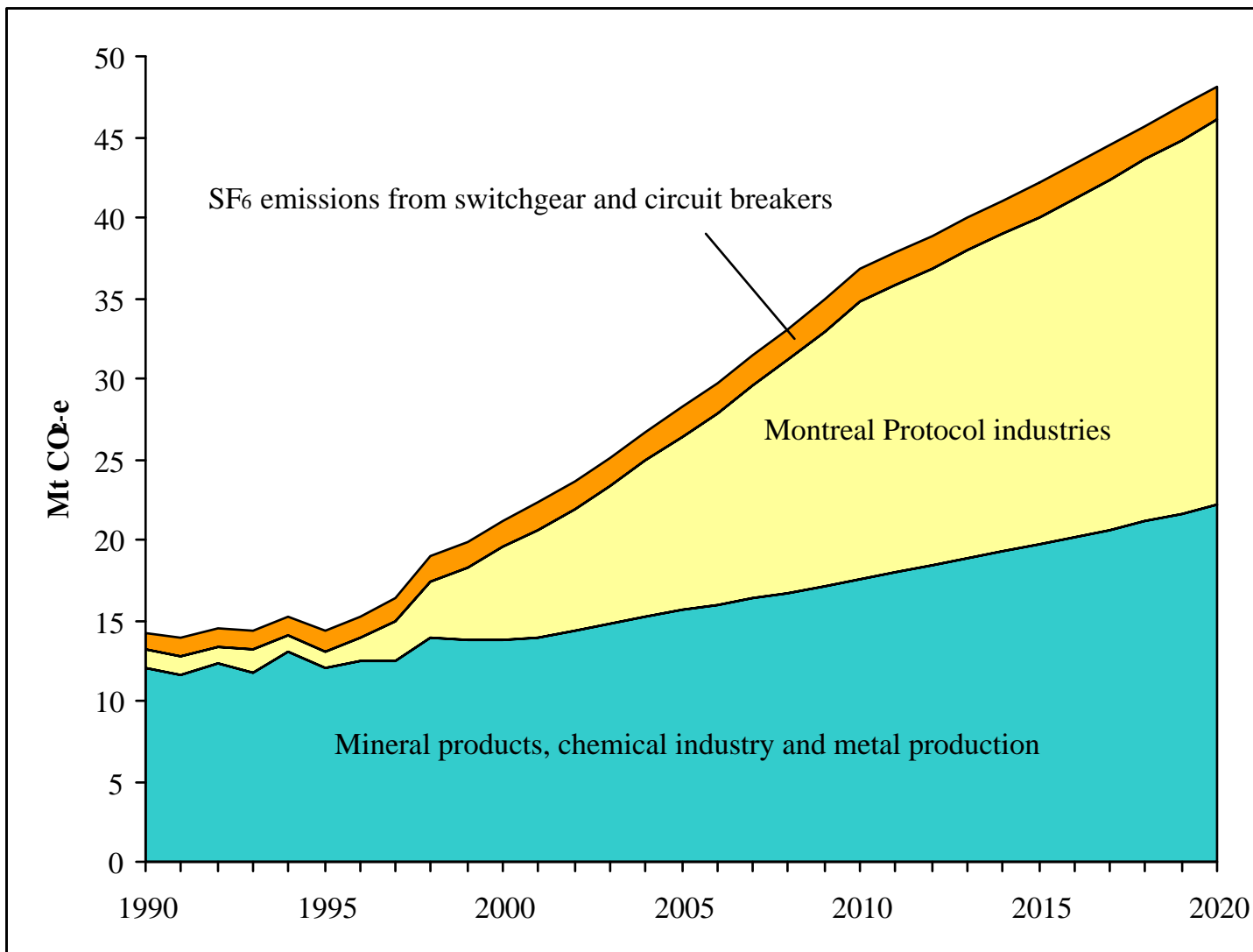
- The Government has decided not to ratify the Protocol until it is in Australia's interest to do so, but Australia will strive for an effective global response
- Australia will position itself to maintain a strong and internationally competitive economy with a lower emissions signature
- Australia's emissions are projected to be 110% of 1990 levels in 2010, requiring an additional 13 Mt CO₂-e savings per year to reach the 108% target agreed at Kyoto

Australia's emissions - 2002



* Includes confidential N₂O and CO₂ emissions from nitric acid, ammonia and magnesia production and soda ash production and use.


Industrial processes emissions





Policy approach on an industry basis

- Implementation of the *Ozone Protection and Synthetic Greenhouse Gas Management Act 1989*
- Extension of voluntary arrangements with the non-Montreal Protocol industries



Ozone Protection and Synthetic Greenhouse Gas Management Act 1989

- Synthetic greenhouse gases incorporated into the import, export and manufacturing licence system currently in place for ozone depleting substances
- Nationally consistent end use controls on purchase, sale, handling and disposal of synthetic greenhouse gases



Supply controls on synthetic greenhouse gases

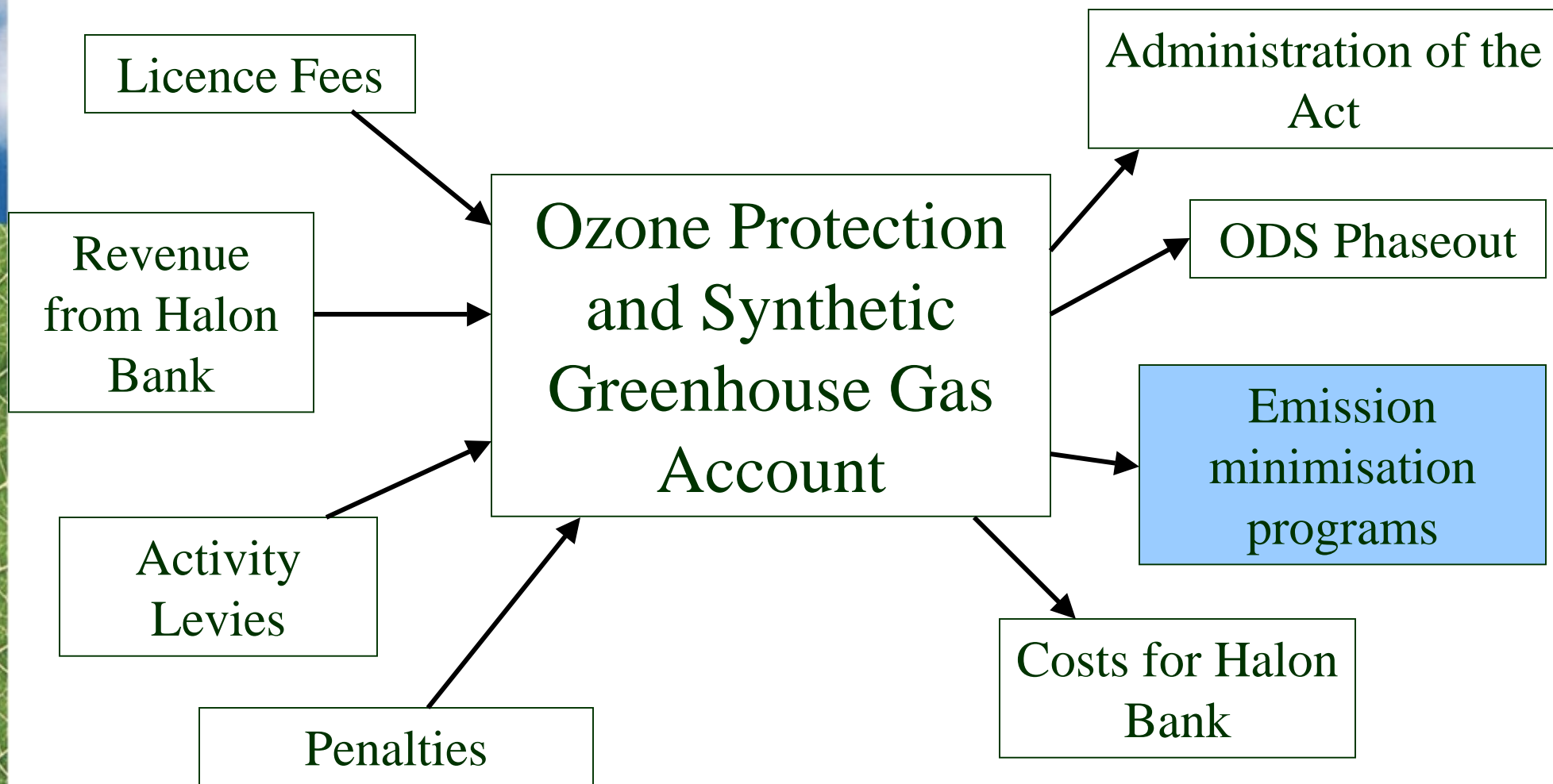
- Licence requirements for both bulk gas and gas in pre-charged refrigeration and air conditioning equipment
- Activity fee (AU\$0.165/kg) and reporting obligations
- No limits or quota on import, manufacture, or export of HFCs and PFCs



Improved management and handling

- Ban on venting synthetic greenhouse gases and ozone depleting substances
- Handling of these refrigerants will be restricted to those technicians who are licenced
- Sale of these gases will be restricted to those businesses who are authorised

Support for industry transition





Australian use of SF₆ – The electricity supply industry

- SF₆ emissions from switchgear are not currently included in Australia's inventory due to high uncertainty in estimates
- Australian industry is currently trialing an SF₆ reporting template
- Most of Australia's electricity transmission and distribution companies are participating in this trial



The Australian aluminium industry

- 6 aluminium smelters in Australia
- The world's largest producer and exporter of bauxite and alumina
- In 2003, Australia was the world's 5th largest producer of aluminium – accounting for 8.5% of world production



The Australian aluminium industry cont...

- The Australian aluminium industry has been a member of Greenhouse Challenge since 1996
- Emissions of PFCs have been reduced by 62% between 1990 and 2002, despite a 47% increase in aluminium production



The Australian magnesium industry

- Australia's magnesium industry is still in its infancy
 - 1 demonstration plant
 - Some firms produce magnesium alloy die castings
 - Research into light metals casting technology, including the use of alternative covers gases



Climate Action Partnerships – USA and New Zealand

- USA
 - Mobile Air Conditioning
 - Conversion Technology
 - Commercial Refrigeration
 - Magnesium
- New Zealand
 - Code of best practice refrigerant handling guideline
 - Distance education



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A collage of three images: a blue sky with white clouds, a green leaf, and a cross-section of soil layers over a blue ocean.

**Thank you for the opportunity to
speak**

**For further information contact me on:
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