Energy Accounts

Policy uses and applications

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Energy Accounts
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• A quick overview of policy uses of the energy accounts
• Some Australian Examples
  – Example 1: National Accounts Benchmarks
  – Use of supply use tables
  – Example 2: Energy price elasticities
  – Use of energy intensity and prices
  – Example 3: Energy productivity
  – Use of hybrid tables
SEEA-Energy informs policy decisions related to the supply and use of energy.

- SEEA-Energy can provide broad guidance on issues and areas of concern that should be the focus of decision makers and provide indicators of progress towards policy objectives.

- SEEA-Energy can support a richer understanding of the issues including potentially identifying the key drivers of change.

- SEEA-Energy framework supports the development of models and scenarios that can be used to assess the impact of possible policies both within a country and between countries.
Overarching policy objectives could typically be framed against three major categories:

- improving energy supply and access to energy;
- managing energy supply and demand;
- and reducing pressures of energy on the environment.
Chapter 7 of the SEEA – Energy focuses on uses of Energy Accounts

7 Uses of Energy Accounts ................................................................. 3
7.1 Introduction .............................................................................. 3
7.2 Energy supply and use .............................................................. 4
7.2.1 Overall supply and use of energy ...................................... 5
7.2.2 Degree of energy self-sufficiency ....................................... 6
7.2.3 Use of energy and expenditures by industries and households ...... 7
7.3 The energy sector within the economy ...................................... 10
7.3.1 Output and value added from the energy sector .................. 10
7.3.2 Operating surplus of energy industries and the role of depletion .... 11
7.3.3 Energy taxes and resource rent .......................................... 14
7.3.4 Energy and foreign trade ................................................ 16
7.3.5 Wealth ............................................................................. 17
7.3.6 Economy wide energy decoupling ..................................... 19
7.4 Energy and other sectors of the economy ................................. 20
7.4.1 Energy intensities for selected industries ............................ 20
7.4.2 Factors behind changes in energy use ................................. 22
7.4.3 Energy use attributed to final use of products ..................... 23
7.4.4 Domestic and global energy use attributed to household consumption .... 25
7.5 Energy and the environment ................................................... 26
7.5.1 Energy sector and air emissions ........................................ 26
7.5.2 Use of energy accounts for estimation of emissions ............... 27
7.5.3 Analysis of energy related emissions based on the energy accounts ...... 29
7.5.4 The role of renewable energy and waste ............................. 30
At the moment we know of a limited range of users
- Treasury
- National Greenhouse Gas Inventories (Environment)
- Department of Industry, Innovation and Science
- Australian Taxation Office
- Australian Gas Association
- Clean Energy Regulator
- Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
- CGE modelling
- State of the Environment Reporting (upcoming)

The greatest use of the energy accounts is to get access to more detailed data for policy research and further analysis.
Energy Accounts

Example 1: National Accounts Benchmarks

- The energy accounts are an input data source for national accounts supply use benchmarks.

- Primarily used for measuring total intermediate use by industry of energy products.

- Used for coherence checks with energy supply and household final consumption expenditure.

- Energy accounts publish monetary accounts based on the National Accounts Benchmarks.
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Example 2: Price elasticities

• Project led by Department of Industry, given to ABS from the energy balances team (also in Dept of Industry)

• Seeking information to test the influence of energy prices on energy elasticities

• Supplied with more detailed energy accounts data (gross tables) and price indices of energy product by industry.

• ABS assisted the analysis and was able to proof read the results.
Contacted by a consultant to the department of industry looking at ways in which the government could double energy productivity.

Used hybrid tables due to the link between energy and costs.

ABS relied upon to talk through methods and assist in developing a good time series of productivity data for the consultant.

Results were used in a report back to the department.