

# “Future Gas Strategy – Public Submissions and Media Analysis”

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## Introduction

- The Australian Government’s Future Gas Strategy (FGS) emphasizes natural gas’s critical role in achieving net-zero emissions by 2050, balancing energy, environmental, and stakeholder interests.
- FGS development incorporated formal submissions from various stakeholders, with its announcement generating significant media coverage and varied stakeholder reactions.
- This study analyzes stakeholder submissions, media coverage, and industry perspectives to understand the dominant discourses shaping the FGS.
- Using qualitative methods, the study identifies key themes, arguments, and potential trade-offs to guide FGS implementation.
- The findings aim to support industry and government in public engagement strategies, aligning stakeholder interests with FGS goals.
- Project Duration: August 2024-February 2025

## Data Collection and Analysis

### 1. Consultation Submissions

- **244** online available submissions (collected)
- Categorization of the data (completed)
- Analysis according to the thematic area of the FGS consultation document and strategy (ongoing).
- Analytical tool: NVivo 14 (ongoing)

### 2. Media Analysis

- Database: Factiva
- Timeframe: January 2023 to August 2024
- Keywords: "future gas strategy" OR "gas strategy"
- Region: Australia
- Language: English
- Initial results: **1079** news articles
- After sorting: **631** news articles for analysis
- Analytical tool: Leximancer 4.5 (ongoing)

## Initial Outputs

### Media Analysis

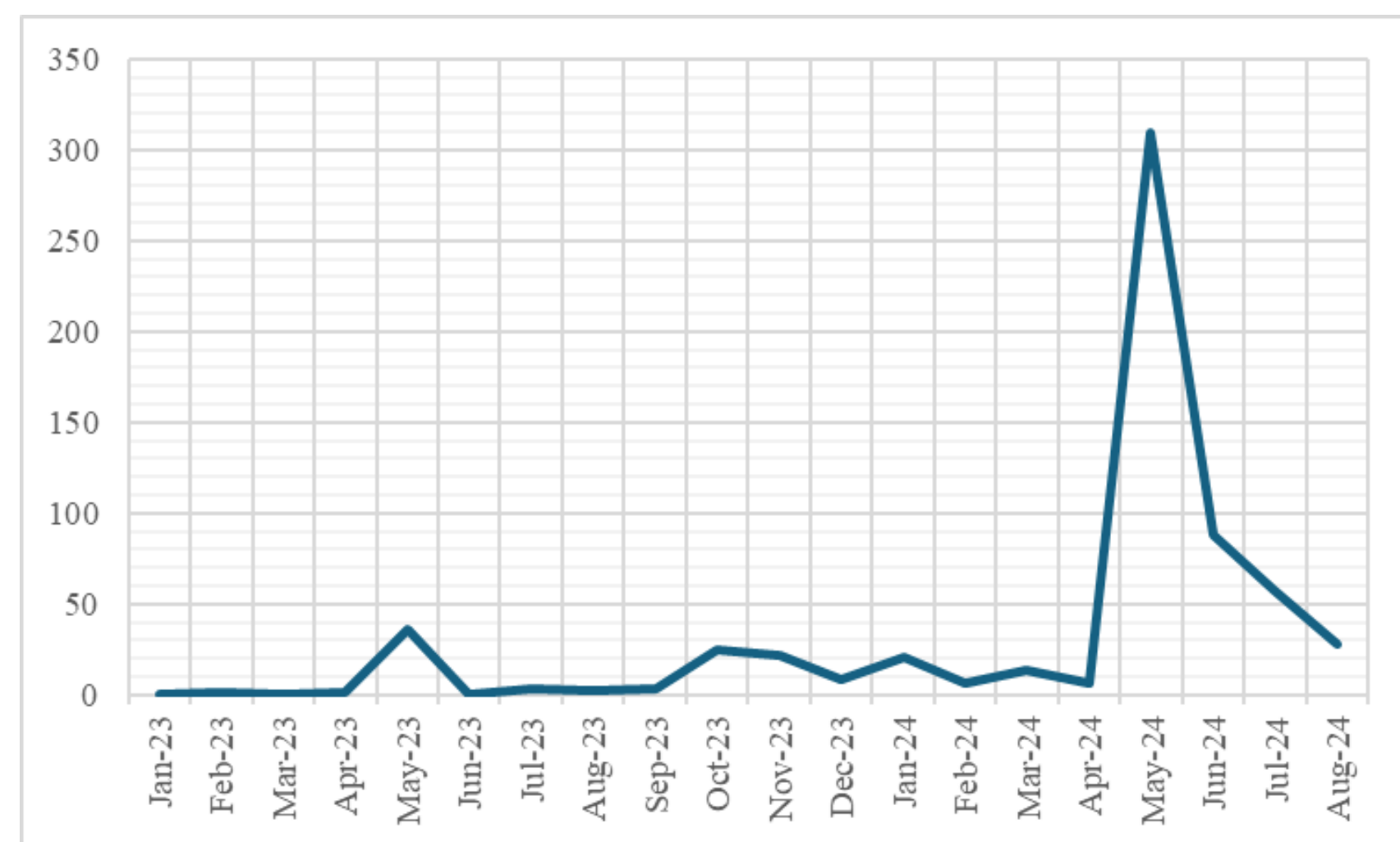


Figure 1: Frequency of news articles on or related to FGS

### Consultation Submissions

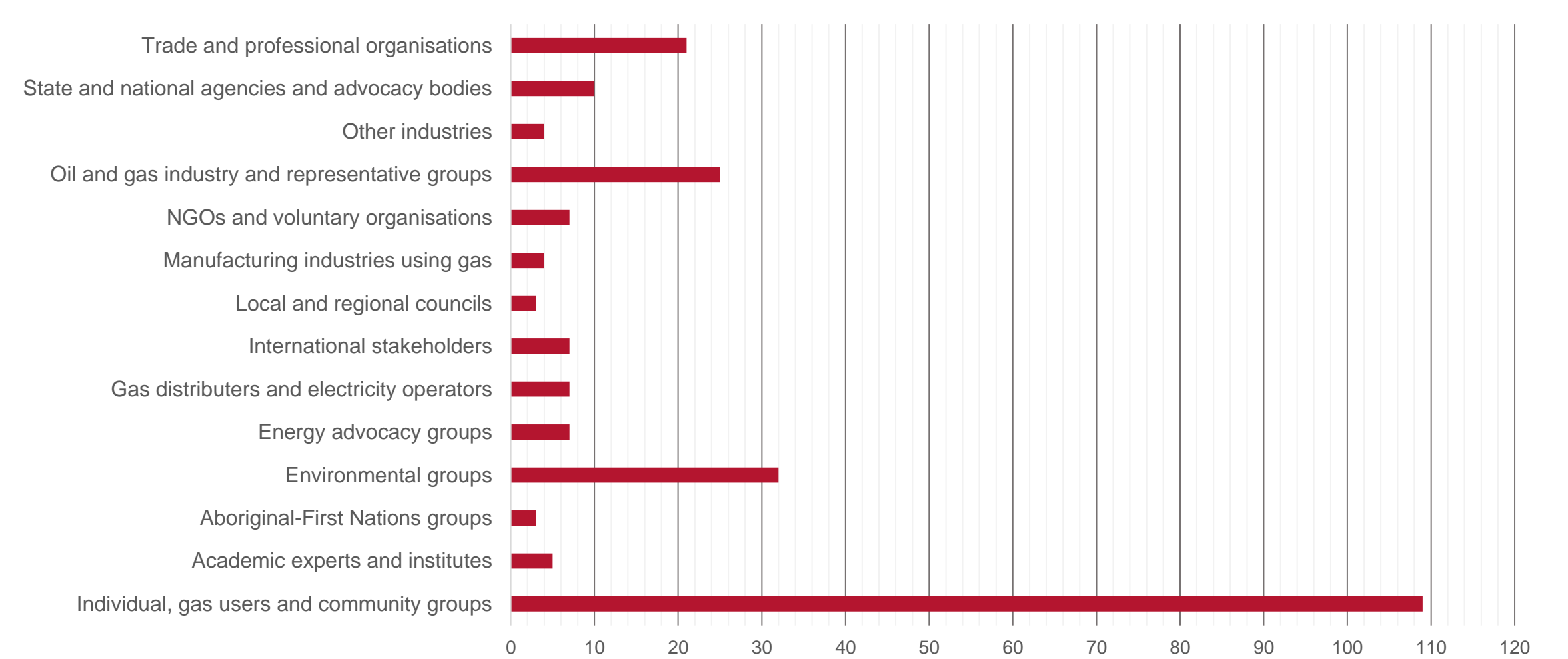


Figure 5: Number of consultation submissions from different categories of stakeholders

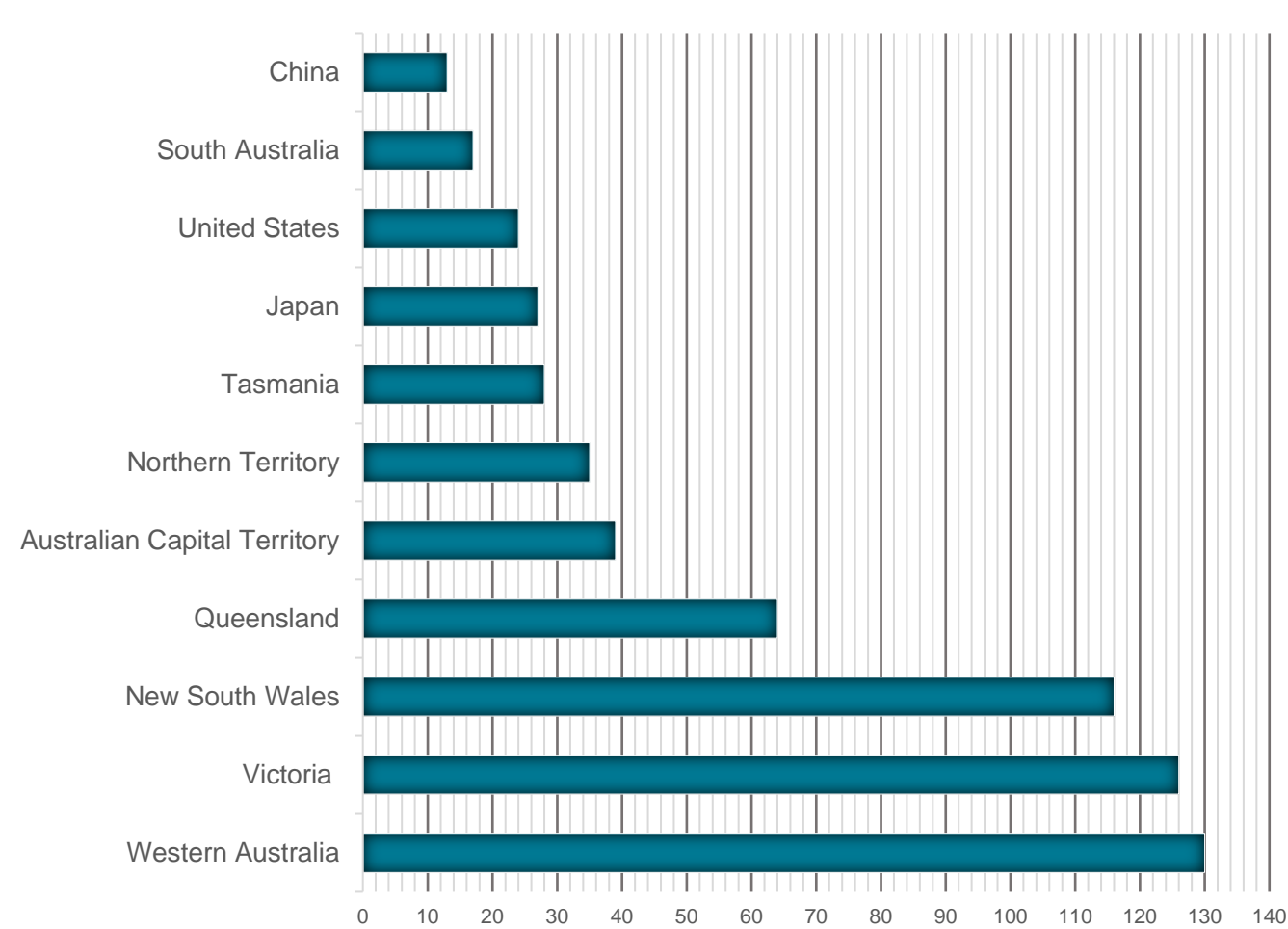


Figure 2: Top 10 mentioned Australian states and other countries

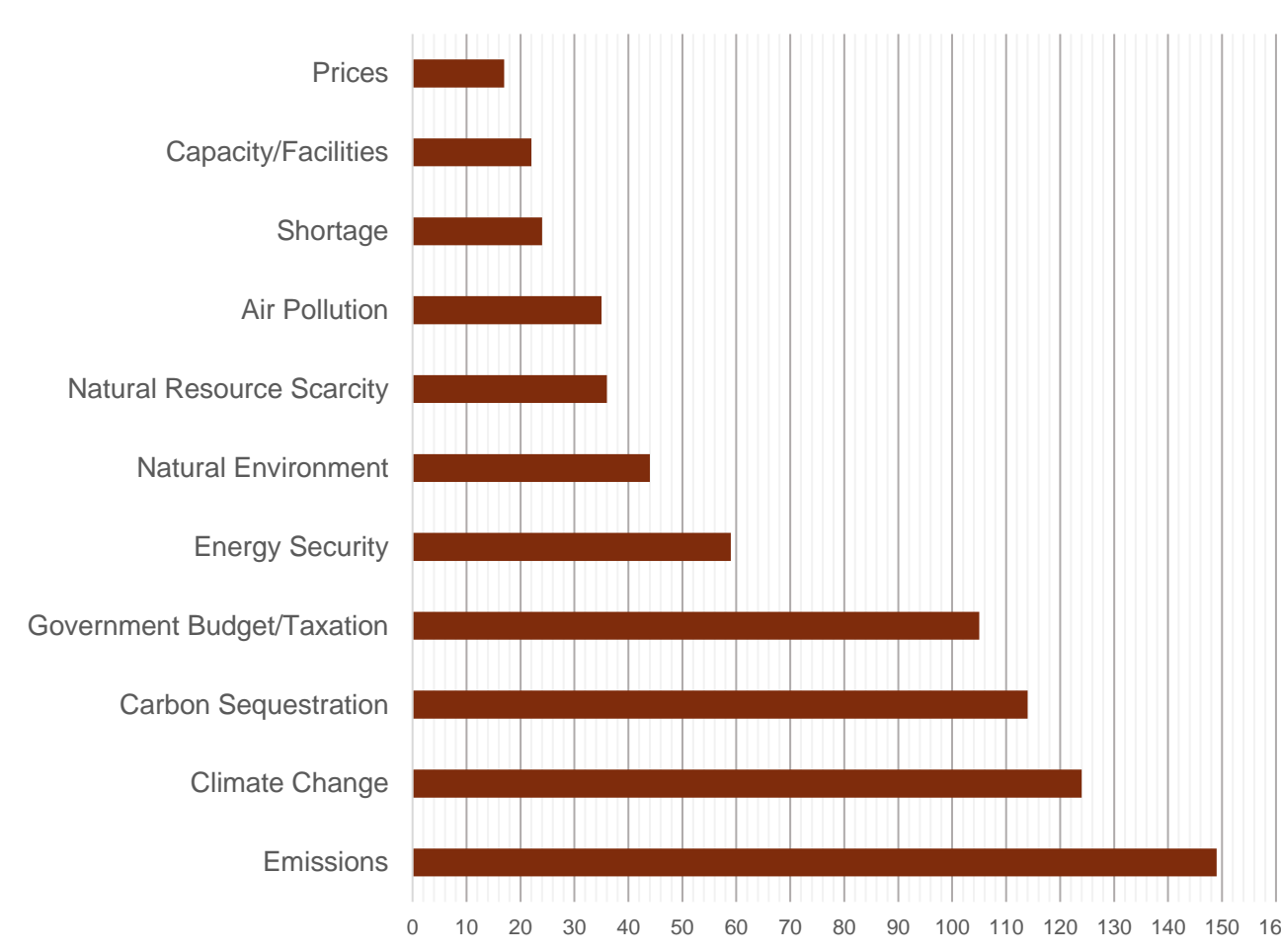


Figure 3: Top 10 issues discussed regarding FGS

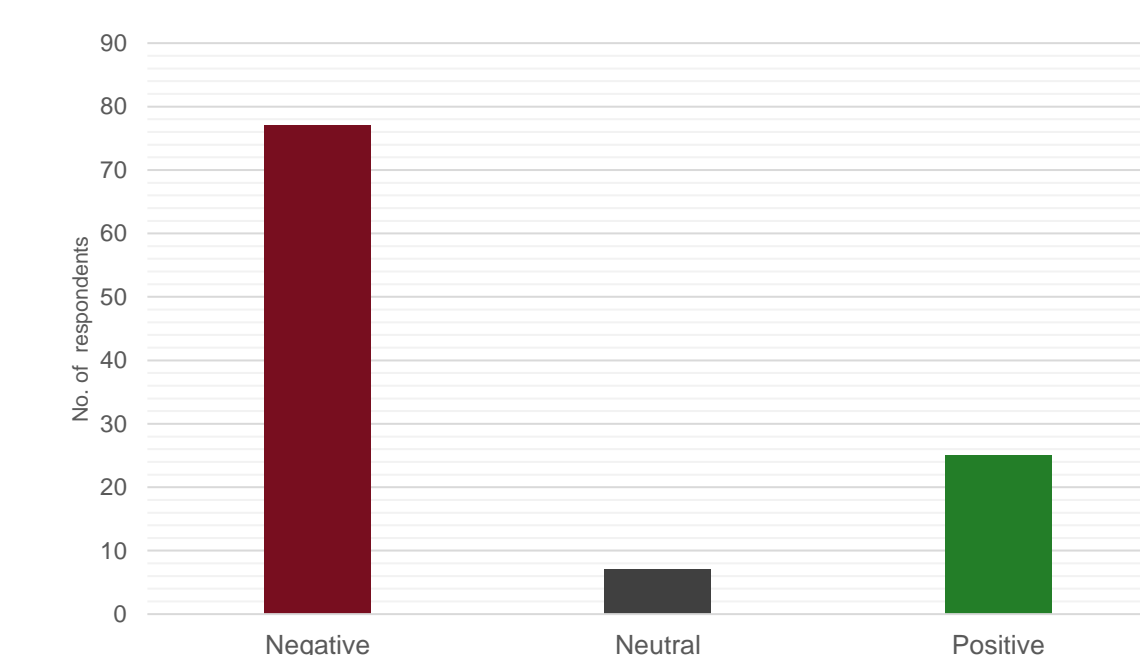


Figure 6: Overall sentiments of individual gas users and community groups towards the future of gas

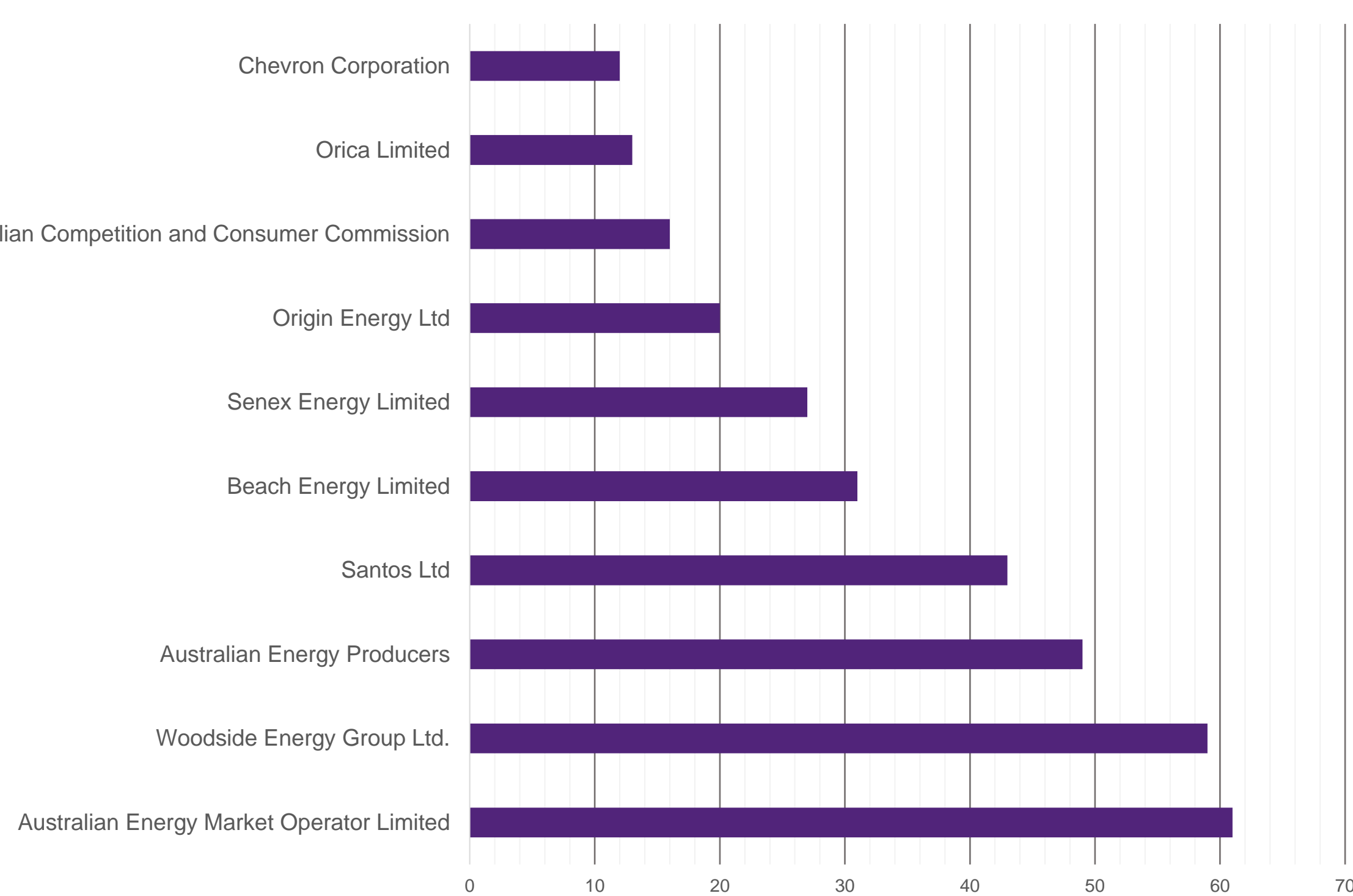


Figure 4: Top 10 mentioned companies and organizations

- Gas should be **phased out** as it is damaging to the environment
- Gas can be used to **manage energy gaps**, but not a long-term option
- Consistent and unbiased messaging** from governments and industry for accountability
- CCS is unproven and not feasible** to be considered for carbon reduction
- Domestic need** should be prioritized over exports
- Reliable alternatives** would help switch from gas
- Need **Govt support and incentives** for services needed to transfer from gas
- Subsidies** should shift from fossil fuels to support renewable energy
- Government policies need to align with **climate targets** for effective transition
- Invest on **retraining** to keep the workforce efficient in energy transition

Key thematic findings of individual gas user and community groups' consultation submissions