According to the International Energy Agency (IEA), between 2005 and 2009, Australia emitted more CO2 per unit of power generated (measured in grams of carbon dioxide per kilowatt-hour—gCO2 per kWh) than 134 out of 139 countries (see figure).

Australia emitted 884gCO2 per kWh, making it the world’s 5th-largest carbon emitter. Only four countries emitted more CO2 than Australia:

- Botswana (1991gCO2 per kWh),
- Cambodia (1162gCO2 per kWh),
- Malta (940gCO2 per kWh), and
- India (939gCO2 per kWh).

All other OECD countries emitted less than Australia (457gCO2 per kWh on average)