



The Voice Referendum, 2023

Statement of support

Viva Energy has a long-standing public commitment to support reconciliation and improve outcomes for First Nations people. Our Reconciliation Action Plan sets out these commitments and the steps we are taking to meet this pledge. We want employees, stakeholders, and most importantly the First Nations communities, to know that we are allies of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in their quest to close the gap.

To achieve this goal, we believe that there are complex generational disadvantages that need to be overcome. Our individual and company actions are important, but we acknowledge that bolder steps are needed, if we are to make meaningful progress to heal deep and longstanding wounds.

We believe that formal constitutional recognition of First Nations people, reflecting their enduring connection with the land prior to colonisation is an important foundation on which we can move forward. This heritage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples is a material part of our history which should contribute to proudly defining our nation.

We also accept as reasonable, the call within the Uluru Statement from the Heart, that a Voice should be enshrined within the Constitution as a contribution to empowerment for peoples who currently feel powerless. We believe society has capacity to give greater representation and voice to our First Nations people without diminishing the voices of others.

The government is seeking to bring life to the request for constitutional recognition and a Voice through a constitutional referendum. The questions to be put to the Australian people were determined by the government, with advice from its Referendum Working Group, and are now incorporated within the referendum legislation. We seek to contribute to a respectful, well informed and constructive public discourse in the lead up to the referendum.

This will be an important decision for the Australian people to make. We would like voters to record their vote, respecting First Nations people and their heritage, and the value they can bring to contemporary Australia.

Beyond the referendum, as an organisation of more than 7,500 employees, with many from Indigenous backgrounds, we commit to continuing to work in overcoming indigenous disadvantage and achieving full reconciliation, with First Nations people equitably sharing in all the opportunities and benefits our nation can offer.