

# Gas industry leaders go into battle for LNG

Gas industry leaders have declared the fuel is essential to meeting emissions reductions targets and improving security of supply as they seek to turn around slowing demand growth that is contributing to some of the weakest prices for years in the LNG export market.

Origin Energy chief executive Grant King said gas was "absolutely critical and central to the decarbonisation of the world in the next 50 years", and said those turning their back entirely on fossil fuels were putting supply security at risk.

Gas stepped into the breach after the Fukushima nuclear disaster in Japan and is now saving Tasmania from energy shortages after the breakdown of the Basslink power cable, Mr King said ahead of the LNG18 conference in Perth.

Those pressing the case for gas over coal included David Carroll, president of the International Gas Union, who pointed out that gas was "cleaner than some of the solid fuels alternatives that are out there".

Mr King, Mr Carroll and others also underscored the flexibility of LNG over gas delivered by pipeline, given it can be shipped around the world as needed.

The comments in part reprise the "gas versus coal" debate prevalent in the months leading up to the COP21 climate talks in Paris late last year. Read more

## Non-compliant portable food steamers (Yum Cha steam trolleys)

#### Background:

Recently a portable LP gas food steamer trolley caught on fire in a South-East Queensland restaurant and put the safety of patrons and staff at risk. As a result of this incident portable LP gas food steamer trolleys are no longer to be used in Queensland.

#### Key issues:

- Many of these gas devices have not gone through the correct Australian approval process and therefore are not approved for use in Australia.
- All portable LP appliances are for outdoor use only. In many instances these popular gas appliances are used in an indoor setting.
- The gas cylinder that is mounted under this device poses a significant risk to members of the public if a fire was to occur.
- Australian/New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 1596:2014 The storage and handling of LP Gas, section 4.4.3 Prohibited locations for cylinders' states: "any cylinder and its associated equipment shall not be installed where the cylinder, or an incident involving the cylinder and its contents, could obstruct egress from a building." This includes the potential for these mobile steamer trolleys to block emergency exits.
- Australian Standard AS 3645-2010 Essential requirements for gas equipment states:
  "gas equipment shall be designed and built so as to operate safely and present no danger to persons, domestic animals or property when used for its intended purpose in accordance with the supplied instructions."
- Surface temperatures on these gas devices could present a danger of burns if touched.

### Recommendations:

Consumers are advised to take the following actions:

- 1. Owners of these devices are asked to cease using these devices immediately.
- 2. Devices should be removed from the operating location to prevent use of the appliance.
- 3. Equipment owners should seek professional advice to determine whether their appliance has been approved, and explore options for altering the steam trolley to operate in line with the Australian Standard requirements.

A note from the GC Editor – This article is posted for information and reflects the safety of these LPG products named in this article and <u>does not reflect</u> on the safety of other gas using appliances.