



**Gas Appliance
Manufacturers
Association of
Australia**

Political Update Edition

Ai Group comment on new Federal Ministry

"Ai Group welcomes the appointment of the new Federal ministry announced by the Prime Minister today," said Ai Group Chief Executive, Innes Willox.

"Josh Frydenberg has the industry and community connections and experience to successfully take on this important and expanded Environment and Energy role. The reorganisation makes a lot of sense given the pressures on the energy market at the moment and the need for energy security and downward pressure on prices. Energy and climate policy are now the same issue, and effective and workable environmental regulation is central to the future of Australia's gas markets".

Portfolio reshuffle an opportunity to integrate energy and climate policy

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull's Cabinet reshuffle and the alignment of the Environment and Energy portfolios is a smart step forward that recognizes the significant policy relationship between the energy sector and Australia's climate change commitments, the Clean Energy Council said today.

Clean Energy Council Chief Executive Kane Thornton said the combination of the energy and environment portfolios made a lot of sense and the industry looked forward to working with Minister Frydenberg to continue to transition Australia's energy sector.

"Australia has a big challenge and opportunity in transitioning its energy sector to a cleaner, more modern system, and it's critical that climate policy and energy policy are all pulling in the same direction," Mr Thornton said.

"Australia has some of the oldest and highest-polluting electricity generation in the world, and clear and coordinated policy is crucial to attract private investment in clean energy and deliver a reliable and low-cost energy supply.

"This can deliver billions of dollars in investment and tens of thousands of jobs into the future with the right policy settings."

The Clean Energy Council released the Power Shift blueprint before the election, which details the policy and regulatory reform necessary to transition Australia's energy sector to deliver a zero-emission power sector by 2050.

"I would like to recognise the long-standing commitment to our industry from outgoing Environment Minister Greg Hunt and look forward to working with him in his new portfolio," Mr Thornton said.

Machinery of Government changes - E3 Appliance Energy Efficiency Branch

The Department of Industry, Innovation and Science will be subject to Machinery of Government changes following the outcome of the Federal election. The Appliance Energy Efficiency Branch (including the GEMS regulator) and the Energy Productivity Branch (including the CBD regulator and NatHERS Administrator) will be moving with the Energy Division to the new Department of Environment and Energy.

We do not expect any disruption to the ongoing EEAT/E3 work plan or reporting structure and we will let you know of the staff relocations when they occur.

Asa previously reported in Gas Connections, GAMAA has a number of Representatives who sit on the E# Review committee and we will keep you updated on any industry significant issues that arise.

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