



**Gas Appliance  
Manufacturers  
Association of  
Australia**

### **Expensive interconnectors and renewables not the only answer for energy security** – article from GEA

Australia's peak body for the downstream gaseous fuels industry, Gas Energy Australia, urged the COAG Energy Council to look to cleaner affordable gas and distributed energy options for energy security and not be blinkered by the false dichotomy between costly new interconnectors and more renewables.

"We share the view of a growing number of expert voices that over reliance on both renewables and expensive interconnectors is making us more vulnerable and not less vulnerable to disruption" Gas Energy Australia CEO John Griffiths said today.

"There are other options, as we have said in our submission to the Tasmanian Energy Security Taskforce where Tasmania's reliance on both hydro-electricity and the Basslink interconnector failed them. And clearly the case remains in South Australia that the existence of interconnectors and heavy reliance on renewables guarantees neither reliable nor affordable energy."

We welcome recognition by the Federal Government that gas is the only energy source that currently can deliver large quantities of reliable affordable energy while also significantly reducing emissions." [Read full article here](#)

### **NSW to deregulate gas prices**

Gas Today Mon 26 September 2016

The New South Wales (NSW) Government is looking to promote further competition in the gas market by deregulating prices from 1 July 2017.

Targeting houses and small businesses, NSW Minister for Industry, Resources and Energy Anthony Roberts made the announcement at the Committee for Economic Development of Australia (CEDA) Energy Series event in Sydney last week.

Mr Roberts said more than 80 per cent of the State's 1.3 million residential gas customers have already switched away from the regulated price.

"Our successful deregulation of retail electricity prices has boosted competition in the market, put downward pressure on prices and we now want to see those benefits further replicated across the retail gas market," said Mr Roberts.

"Last year we signalled our intention to deregulate retail gas prices, subject to there being significant increase offers available to customers in regional NSW.

"The NSW Government has worked with industry and stakeholders to improve competition in the regional gas market."

The NSW Government will consult with key consumer groups to develop an information campaign to support NSW gas retail customers.

### **Industry welcomes Macfarlane appointment**

Gas Today Mon 26 September 2016

The appointment of the Hon Ian Macfarlane as the Chief Executive Officer of the Queensland Resources Council (QRC) is warmly welcomed by the Australian Petroleum Production and Exploration Association (APPEA).

[Read full article here](#)

**GAS**  
**Connections**