

Political fight around energy making situation worse for business

Radio National breakfast 28 February

Interview with Innes Willox Chief Executive Ai Group.

Innes Willox mentioned in the interview that the current energy war is between coal and renewables and made particular mention that gas is being ignored as a transition fuel and that there is a need to secure domestic gas supplies and provide a much higher level of pricing certainty. Innes refers to an Ai Group report ENERGY SHOCK: NO GAS, NO POWER, NO FUTURE? Which can be accessed [here](#).

It was reported by the ABC this morning that – ‘In a speech to an economic gathering last week, Ken Henry, the former Treasury secretary—now chairman of the National Australia Bank—fired both barrels at what he described as Australia's dysfunctional political classes.

Now another business voice has joined the fray—arguing that political infighting around energy policy in particular was now 'making a bad situation worse'.

According to an Ai Group survey of CEOs released this morning, rising energy costs and a lack of reliability were now the key issues keeping business leaders up at night.

A podcast of the full Radio National breakfast interview can be accessed [here](#)

Natural gas consumption to grow by 50 percent by 2040

Gasline NZ

Gas will continue to be a cornerstone of world energy supply, according to the International Energy Agency (IEA). The IEA provides analysis through a wide range of publications such as the World Energy Outlook, to advocate for policies that will enhance the reliability, affordability and sustainability of countries' energy.

As one of the most authoritative sources of energy market analysis and projections, the most recent [outlook forecasts](#) demand for gas to increase over the next 25 years.

In addition, the outlook predicts consumption of natural gas is set to increase 50 percent by 2040. In addition to forecasting the future of gas, the energy outlook heavily focused on renewable energy and its place to steer the energy system to the low-carbon future. Its analysis assesses the rapid improvement in the competitiveness and economics of renewables, relative to fossil-fuels and other low carbon options.

Moreover, the outlook present opportunities and questions that a rising share of renewable energy open up for the energy system as a whole. IEA executive director, Dr Fatih Birol, visited New Zealand February 21 and present Minister of Energy and Resources, Judith Collins, with the agency's latest in-depth review of New Zealand energy policies.

Since the agency's last in-depth review in 2010, its latest publication praises New Zealand's development of its energy policy, as reflected in its energy strategy to 2021. It goes on to state that with its unique resource base, "New Zealand is a success story" – thanks largely to the development of renewable energy, notably hydro and geothermal, without government subsidies. "Geographically isolated, New Zealand has developed robust policies for security of supply."

However, the review states managing the economy's energy intensity and greenhouse gas emissions while still remaining competitive and growing will remain a challenge.

GAMAA Technical Committee meeting - Thursday 6 April 2017 - 10am start

RSVP: Essential for registration - please email associations@aigroup.com.au and advise your attendance.



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