

## The answer to gas problems is increasing supply

APPEA 22 February 2017

APPEA Chief Executive Malcolm Roberts rejects the view that a gas reservation policy would work and says removing exploration moratoriums will bring more supply to market.

“It’s a very strange idea to think that the way to get more of a product is to increase regulation around that product and increase the costs of development,” Mr Roberts told the ABC’s *The Business* program on Tuesday 21 February.

“We should be looking at measures that bring more gas to market.

“More gas supply and more gas suppliers will create greater security and more competition in the market.

“Rather than thinking in terms of redistributing a shrinking cake, we should be working on policy and regulatory reforms that support more gas being brought into the market.”

See the full interview at [this link](#).

## Politics trumps facts – Victoria wants gas, just not local gas

APPEA 8 February 2017

The decision today by the Victorian Coalition to support the Labor Government’s bans on natural gas exploration and development in the state is the last, predictable act in a political race to the bottom. The price of this decision will be paid by the 1.82 million Victorians who rely on gas.

“Both sides of politics in Victoria have decided to ignore the facts about the gas industry to play short-term politics. Every independent, expert study into the industry has found that the industry is safe for the environment,” said APPEA Chief Executive Dr Malcolm Roberts.

“The Government and the Opposition have decided not just to prohibit hydraulic fracturing – the bogeyman peddled by activists – but to extend the blanket ban on conventional onshore gas exploration and development.”

“Until recently, Victoria had a successful conventional onshore gas industry. The opportunity to create local jobs and local gas supply has been thrown away. Over the last two months, the national debate has focused on the economic risks posed by tightening gas supply on the east coast. A supply shortfall is expected as early as 2019.”

“As the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission has noted, Victoria and NSW – the two States with virtually no local gas production – are the States most exposed to higher prices.”

“How long will it be before the Victorian politicians who have banned local gas development turn on the industry to complain about higher prices and uncertain supply?”

“Sadly, the Victorian government is not just doing the wrong thing – it is doing it the wrong way. The Government has not just killed local gas projects; it also wants to amend the law to deny investors in projects the opportunity to seek compensation through the courts.”

“That is the act of guilty people. “Businesses have invested millions in good faith and complied with the terms of the licenses issued by State governments. They deserve better.”

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

RSVP: Essential for registration - please email [associations@aigroup.com.au](mailto:associations@aigroup.com.au) and advise your attendance.



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