

## **GAMAA Technical meeting will be held on Wednesday 18 October 2017.**

Where: Ai Group - L2, 441 St Kilda Road Melbourne

Time: 10am to 2pm

RSVP: Email [associations@aigroup.com.au](mailto:associations@aigroup.com.au)

## **ACCC Chairman slams gas moratoria**

GAS Today Thursday 21 September 2017

Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) Chairman Rod Sims has identified gas moratoria's in states and territories as one of the reasons behind the energy crisis. Addressing the National Press Club in Canberra yesterday, Mr Sims said energy affordability issues are already hitting Australia's manufacturing sector hard.

"We at the ACCC have been sounding the alarm in relation to business energy costs for some time, it is great that there is now considerable focus on the issue," said Mr Sims. "We have gas affordability issues for completely different reasons to those driving our electricity affordability issues.

"The gas shortage, however, is making the electricity affordability issues worse.

"Moratoria and other regulatory restrictions in New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania are preventing or impeding onshore gas exploration and development in those states, and particularly causing higher gas prices in the south."

Mr Sims also took aim at LNG exporters, saying companies are continuing to sell gas to the international LNG spot markets in excess of contract requirements. "It must be acknowledged that there are some issues with getting significant quantities of this latter gas into the domestic market, however they do not seem insurmountable," said Mr Sims.

"To make matters worse, there seems to be no attempt by the LNG producers to meet some of their contractual commitments via the low-priced international spot market so that they could divert gas to the high-priced domestic market. "In a normal market you would expect the export and domestic markets to arrive at a similar price.

"This is not happening – international prices are at all-time lows; Australian gas prices are at all-time highs."

Read a full transcript of Mr Sims' address to the National Press Club [here](#).

## **Gas producers will meet forecast surge in gas demand**

APPEA media release 27 September 2017

Gas producers will guarantee the east coast market will not be short of gas in 2018, despite surprisingly high forecasts for demand released earlier this week.

APPEA Chief Executive Dr Malcolm Roberts said the industry had reassured the Prime Minister at a meeting in Sydney today that sufficient uncontracted gas would be available in 2018 to meet the new, much higher forecast of expected demand released on Monday by the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO).

The meeting was attended by representatives from Shell, Santos and APLNG.

Read full media release [here](#)

## **Comment on gas agreement signed today**

Ai Group media release Tuesday 3 October 2017

"Today's gas agreement delivers breathing space to pursue medium-term plans to moderate demand and bring on new conventional, unconventional and import supply options as existing resources deplete. If implemented as outlined today, the agreement should help avoid the looming supply crunch we've feared – for now," Australian Industry Group Chief Executive, Innes Willox, said today.

"However, there are two big questions from here. Will we make the most of this opportunity to secure the market for the longer term, including by reforming State gas moratoria? And will prices fall to export parity quickly? Contract prices offered to gas users appear to have fallen from the highs of early 2017, but remain well above historic levels. Energy users will be looking for further falls as more uncontracted gas is offered locally. Read more [here](#)



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