

Highlights of the APGA Virtual Convention

APGA

Jemena Managing Director Frank Tudor at the Industry Panel

Discussion of the nation's future energy needs as either renewable or non-renewables had been detrimental to gas. "The binary discussion about fossil and non-fossil has not been helpful to gas. Seeing gas for what it is, for the attributes that it has is a really important message that we need to be able to convey to the general public," he said. "Lots of studies have been done to demonstrate that the cost of electrification, particularly in ... some of those more challenging environments is going to be really difficult to do with electrons, so having those [gas] molecules there for the overall support is really important." The additional cost of electrification had to be added to the cost of abandoning some of the gas infrastructure already in place when looking at the future energy mix.

EnergyQuest CEO Graeme Bethune presentation

LNG is the likely solution to projected domestic shortages of natural gas in the short-term. Australian gas market operator AEMO and the ACCC have predicted declining volumes of gas coming out of Victoria and South Australia's Cooper Basin.

The East Coast gas market was increasingly dependent on additional gas being transported south from Queensland, but those supplies were also predicted to begin to slow in around five years' time.

There were some possible new sources of gas, for example in the Beetaloo Basin in the Northern Territory, but most were challenging geologically and/or politically and far from markets.

"The fundamental problem of east coast gas is not an imperfect market or a lack of infrastructure, but rather a looming shortage of commercial gas resources close to the market," Graeme said.

"We believe that LNG imports are the only option. LNG imports are the only guaranteed way of quickly increasing supply."

HyP SA expands to industry supplier

The Australian Pipeliner 27 October 2020

Australian Gas Infrastructure Group (AGIG) is close to finalising construction works on its SA hydrogen project, while also signing a new supply deal with BOC.

AGIG said it has completed installation of the electrolyser on the Hydrogen Park South Australia (HyP SA) project in SA's Tonsley Innovation District, with the plant now undergoing commissioning activities.

The project has also made a new agreement with BOC, a subsidiary of Linde plc, to install tube trailer refilling infrastructure at HyP SA, which will enable the site to become a supplier of road-hauled hydrogen.

BOC plans to supply industrial customers in Whyalla and Adelaide with hydrogen output from HyP SA in a move that would replace current tube trailer hydrogen deliveries to Whyalla from Victoria.

"This initial partnership with BOC is a key enabler to further potential expansion to South Australia and wider industrial markets," said AGIG CEO Ben Wilson.

"It also brings us a step closer to supplying hydrogen for vehicle refuelling in SA.

"Tube trailers are a well-established form of hydrogen transport.

"This new renewable hydrogen production source at HyP SA demonstrates the wider potential for this carbon-free gas and its ability to integrate into existing and future energy networks."

Installation of the tube trailer infrastructure is expected to be completed by January 2021, while AGIG expects the supply of renewable hydrogen to commence at HyP SA later this year.



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