



Media Release

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NGIP RECOGNISES THE CRITICAL ROLE OF NATURAL GAS

Leading Australian energy infrastructure business, APA Group, today welcomes the release of the Australian Government's first full National Gas Infrastructure Plan and the Future Gas Infrastructure Investment Framework.

"We look forward to working with the government on the implementation of the first full NGIP, to ensure the energy sector delivers additional energy security ahead of forecast supply risks and continues to support jobs and economic growth," APA CEO and Managing Director Rob Wheals said.

"The NGIP recognises that natural gas and associated gas infrastructure play a critical role in today's energy mix, and are forecast to continue to do so as the energy transition gathers pace, providing more dispatchable generation to firm increasing amounts of variable renewable energy, thereby ensuring grid stability and reliability.

"The NGIP development scenarios reflect the importance of the delivery of northern gas to southern markets and the critical role of APA's East Coast Grid."

APA is pleased that the NGIP confirms APA's position that incremental expansion of existing infrastructure is likely to be the least cost solution for the market and that domestic gas supplies are likely to be lower cost than LNG import terminals.

APA is already working with Blue Energy to investigate options in both the Bowen and Galilee Basins and Empire Energy and other gas producers to look at solutions to open up supply from the Beetaloo, while also delivering additional energy security for southern gas markets through investments APA is making today in a staged 25 per cent expansion of the East Coast Grid.

"Our East Coast Grid expansion reinforces the competitiveness of APA's East Coast Grid and the critical role it plays in delivering for our customers through cost effective, safe and reliable transportation of Australian domestic gas from northern gas producers to southern markets," Mr Wheals said.

"Our organic growth pipeline now exceeds \$1.3 billion and we are also in delivery mode on critical projects such as the Northern Goldfields Interconnect in Western Australia and the Kurri Kurri Pipeline in the Hunter.

“While there is no doubt about the critical role gas will continue to play in our nation’s energy mix, over time gas infrastructure will also be essential to enable new industries like hydrogen and biogas.

“With billions of dollars already invested in gas infrastructure across the country, it makes sense to support Australia’s transition to a low carbon future.”

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About APA Group (APA)

APA is a leading Australian Securities Exchange (ASX) listed energy infrastructure business. We own and/or manage and operate a diverse, \$21 billion portfolio of gas, electricity, solar and wind assets. Consistent with our purpose to strengthen communities through responsible energy, we deliver approximately half of the nation’s gas usage and connect Victoria with South Australia and New South Wales with Queensland through our investments in electricity transmission assets. We are also one of the largest owners and operators of renewable power generation assets in Australia, with wind and solar projects across the country. APT Pipelines Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of Australian Pipeline Trust and is the borrowing entity of APA Group.

For more information visit APA’s website: apa.com.au.

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