

22 August 2022

Department of Industry, Science and Resources  
Industry House  
Canberra

Via: [ADGSM@industry.gov.au](mailto:ADGSM@industry.gov.au)

## Energy Networks Australia's response to Securing Australia's Domestic Gas Supply

Energy Networks Australia (ENA) welcomes the opportunity to respond to the issues paper related to Securing Australia's domestic gas supply (the ADGSM review).

Energy Networks Australia is the national industry body representing Australia's electricity transmission and distribution and gas distribution networks. Our members provide more than 16 million electricity and gas connections to almost every home and business across Australia.

ENA supports the seven principles that are guiding the ADGSM review. Gas plays an important role in energy security, reliability and affordability for both power generation and the direct use of gas in industry and homes for heating and cooking.

Both electricity and gas networks are decarbonising. Electricity networks are facilitating the continued build out of renewable generation, while ensuring safe and reliable supply. While the focus to date of decarbonisation has been on the electricity sector, gas networks are also on their own decarbonisation journey. Customers tell us that they are seeking a clean energy future and are engaged in achieving emission reductions from gas use.

New renewable fuels, such as hydrogen and biomethane, have the potential to become mainstream and complementary energy solutions that will repurpose existing energy infrastructure. Renewable gas provides a new supply of gas that can be used to complement projected gas shortages. Our gas networks are leading the development of renewable gas projects and blending renewable hydrogen in the Adelaide and Sydney gas distribution networks, with further projects under development in Victoria, Western Australia and Queensland. Attached is the latest Gas Vision 2050 progress report that illustrates the progress made in renewable gas developments in Australia.

Supportive policy developments such as a Renewable Gas Target and renewable gas procurement for government buildings will incentivise the development of additional renewable gas projects and markets, allowing it to become an additional large scale supply to address forecast shortfalls and reduce emissions.

ENA supports a market based approach to ensuring natural gas is provided to domestic markets under commercially competitive arrangements. Government intervention in the markets should only occur to address major market failures and/or in response to disruptive global events (e.g. gas prices in response to Ukraine invasion), or to engage in market development activities such as support for renewable gas initiatives and the development of a Renewable Gas Target (putting renewable gas on an equal footing with renewable electricity).

Should you have any queries please contact ENA's Head of Renewable Gas, Dr Dennis Van Puyvelde, [dvanpuyvelde@energynetworks.com.au](mailto:dvanpuyvelde@energynetworks.com.au). This submission can be published.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dom Adams".

**Dominic Adams**

General Manager - Networks

## Attachment

Energy Networks Australia & Australian Pipelines and Gas Association (2022), *Delivering the pathway to net zero for Australia – 2022 Outlook*.