

CLEAN ENERGY SUMMIT

Parliament House
North Terrace Adelaide

11.30am - 5.00pm
Monday 1 December 2014



Communiqué

About seventy clean energy industry and community leaders met in Adelaide today for a Clean Energy Summit to discuss the need for continued investment in renewable energy in Australia.

The Summit was called by Premier Jay Weatherill on the back of continuing uncertainty in the renewable energy sector arising from the Federal Government's review of the Renewable Energy Target (RET) scheme, a target that has enjoyed bipartisan support for more than a decade.

The Summit resolved to call on the Abbott Government to abandon amendments to the existing Renewable Energy Target that would jeopardise employment and investment.

The Summit heard how change to the Renewable Energy Target will jeopardise tens of thousands of jobs around the Country, many involved in working in local communities in country areas.

Attendees also heard how uncertainty around the Renewable Energy Target has already jeopardised billions of dollars of proposed investment and effectively stifled new investment, as well as reducing the return on existing investments.

Estimates show that annual world-wide investment in renewable energy needs to increase four-fold to \$1 trillion in order to meet international climate change targets in the coming years.

Australia is well placed to capitalise on this increased investment, with abundant renewable resources and a stable political and economic environment.

We are also well placed to attract investment from China and Europe, with the Federal Government having recently signed a free trade agreement with China, and proposing to negotiate a free trade agreement with the European Union.

Dr John Hewson AM spoke about Climate Change, and the need to maintain the current Renewable Energy Target, as being one beyond politics. He called on the Liberal Government to meet its pre-election commitment to maintain the current Renewable Energy Target commenting, "if you're talking about barnacles, get rid of this one."

Professor Ross Garnaut AO, discussed the underlying economics influencing the sector and explained that Australia has a natural advantage for low-cost production of renewable energy. He explained how the low cost of renewables would create a cost advantage for local industry into the long-term future.

The Summit heard of the key role that renewable energy technologies could play in driving innovation and kick-starting local advanced manufacturing activity in an area of growing international demand.

Kane Thornton, Chief Executive of the Clean Energy Council, highlighted the impact already being felt by workers in our clean energy sector. He reflected that the current situation has resulted from a

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vacuum of vision for Australia's energy sector and political uncertainty and warned that the cost of continuing uncertainty is great. Mr Thornton also noted that, of 144 jurisdictions with renewable energy targets, none were looking to reduce these except Australia.

Summit attendees called on the Federal Government to urgently abandon changes to the RET that would risk billions of dollars in investment and thousands of jobs, by effectively creating an environment of sovereign risk, jeopardising Australia's reputation as a country of choice for renewable energy investment.

Summit attendees also called on the Government and the Opposition to commit to a durable bipartisan agreement on the Renewable Energy Target that ends ongoing uncertainty and secures employment and investment.

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ATTENDEES

Company

ABB Australia Pty Ltd

Abengoa Solar

ACIL Allen

ACCIONA Energy Australia Global Pty Ltd

Alstom

Australian Cleantech

Australian Solar Council

Australian Solar Council

Australian Youth Climate Coalition

CATCON

Clean Carbon

Clean Energy Council

The Climate Council

Conservation Council of SA

CWP Renewables Pty Ltd

Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources

Attendees

Grant Lindner

James Harding

Marianne Lourey

Lisa Francis

Mark Benjamin

John O'Brien

John Grimes

Wayne Smith

Dan Spencer

Steve Moreau

Greg Butler

Kane Thornton

Andrew Stock

Craig Wilkins

Alex Hewitt

Tim Goodes

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Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources

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Department of the Premier and Cabinet

Department of the Premier and Cabinet

Department of the Premier and Cabinet

Department of State Development

Department of State Development

Department of State Development

Department of State Development

DP Energy

E&A Contractors

ElectraNet

Energy Matters/Sun Edison

EPYC Pty Ltd

Finlaysons

Flinders University

Goldwind Australia

Attendees

Julia Grant

Stephanie Ziersch

Stuart Hocking

Sandy Pitcher

Madeline Richardson

Vince Duffy

Rebecca Knights

Dr Don Russell

Catherine Way

David Blake

Michael Lewis

Rainer Korte

James Larratt

Shahroo Mohajerani

Jeremy Schultz

Professor David Lewis

John Titchen

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Company

Grattan Institute

Infigen Energy

Kallis & Co

Kawa Australia Pty Limited T/a Conergy

Keppel Prince Engineering

Muradel Pty Ltd

Neoen

Pacific Hydro Ltd

Performance Matters Pty Ltd

RATCH-Australia Corporation Ltd

Remotenergy

RF Industries

Senvion Australia Pty Ltd

SolarpowerRex Pty Ltd

SunPower Corporation

Suntrix

Tindo Solar

Attendees

Tony Wood

Miles George

Terry Kallis

David McCallum

Steve Garner

Andrew Milligan

Mark Headland

Andrew Richards

Tim O'Loughlin

Neil Weston

Barrie Harrop

Adam Champion

Peter Sgardelis

Geoff Acton

Jane Bond

Jenny Paradiso

Adrian Ferraretto

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Company

Trustpower Australia

Union Fenosa Wind Australia

The University of Adelaide

The University of Adelaide

Trina Solar Pty Ltd

Trustpower Limited

Vestas Australia

The Wilderness Society SA

ZEN Energy

ZEN Energy

Attendees

Peter Calderwood

Warwick Forster

Susan Jeanes

Professor Graham Nathan

Douglas Smith

Peter Calderwood

Ken McAlpine

Peter Owen

Reuben Summerell

Richard Turner