



# Australian Pipeline Industry Association Ltd

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **ALP sees role for natural gas to help reduce carbon emissions**

Australia's natural gas industry has welcomed the Australian Labor Party's acknowledgment of the importance of natural gas, as contained in its latest energy and resources policy announcement.

"The industry is pleased that the Labor Party has formally and publicly endorsed the role that natural gas will play in Australia's future energy generation," Cheryl Cartwright, Chief Executive of the Australian Pipeline Industry Association (APIA), said today.

"While the gas transmission industry does not seek government hand-outs, we have sought recognition by the nation's leaders that natural gas will be an essential fuel for energy generation as Australia seeks to reduce greenhouse gas emissions," Ms Cartwright said.

APIA is the peak national body representing Australia's gas transmission industry, and has consistently called on both major parties to ensure that natural gas is part of Australia's energy future.

The cost of using natural gas for power generation is much less than the cost of available renewable and "clean coal" technologies. Also, natural gas uses far less water than does coal-fired energy generation.

"The technology is proven to build gas-fired power stations for Australia's energy generation, and gas is available now," Ms Cartwright said.

"Improved energy efficiency, renewable energy and improved fossil fuel technologies will be key features of Australia's future energy mix. Natural gas will be an essential part of Australia's clean, green future.

"Nevertheless, the industry cautions the Labor Party on further reform of the natural gas market through increased regulation.

"This industry is working closely with government officials to develop an appropriate gas market and reduce the impact of intrusive regulatory practices.

"Gas transmission pipelines are privately owned and operated and do not rely on government funding to operate or expand, but appropriate economic policies need to be in place in order to encourage investment in future development."

#### **Media contacts:**

**Cheryl Cartwright**  
**APIA Chief Executive**  
**0419 996 066**

**John Field**  
**Field Public Relations**  
**0418 819 527**

Registered Office of:  
Australian Pipeline Industry Association Limited, Level 1, 7 National Circuit, Barton ACT 2600.  
**Mailing Address: PO Box 5416, Kingston ACT 2604**  
Telephone: (02) 6273 0577 Facsimile: (02) 6273 0588 Email: [apia@apia.asn.au](mailto:apia@apia.asn.au)  
ABN: 29 098 754 324 ACN: 098 754 324