



Australian Pipeline Industry Association Ltd.

Media Release

Monday, 16 April 2007

Natural Gas – Australia’s Energy Future

The nation’s gas industry has today backed calls by the upstream oil and gas lobby for increased investment in gas-fuelled energy projects to help reduce Australia’s greenhouse gas emissions.

In a statement released in Adelaide this afternoon, the Australian Pipeline Industry Association (APIA) said it welcomed acknowledgement of natural gas as the next step in reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the nation’s energy generation processes.

APIA’s Chief Executive, Ms Cheryl Cartwright, said the report *Platform for Prosperity*, released in Adelaide today at the annual conference of the Australian Petroleum Production and Exploration Association (APPEA) conference provided strong evidence of the benefits of increased use of natural gas.

Platform for Prosperity outlines the challenges faced by Australia’s energy sector in achieving the appropriate investment in the nation’s energy future.

“The report also highlights the benefits to the economy of increasing investment in Australia’s natural gas resources,” Ms Cartwright said.

“It will reinvigorate the debate about how the nation approaches the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, demonstrating that ‘electricity generated from gas has, on average, about half the greenhouse gas emissions of electricity generated from coal’.

“Therefore, rather than providing preferential treatment to competing energy sources, such as preferential tax treatment in the case of coal and subsidies for renewable energy sources, governments should be encouraging greater use of gas.

“Natural gas is a major part of Australia’s energy future, for efficiency reasons and also as a more greenhouse-friendly alternative to coal-fired energy generation.

“APIA welcomes the *Platform for Prosperity* report and encourages governments all levels to introduce policies that encourage investment in gas exploration, as well as gas transmission infrastructure.”

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