

10th Energy Council Meeting Communique

Publication date: Monday, 10th April 2017.

Energy Ministers met to discuss their top priority of ensuring the security, affordability and sustainability of the National Electricity Market over the short, medium and long term.

Ministers heard from key experts on measures already underway to mitigate the risk of security, affordability and sustainability issues in Australia's energy markets and were updated on progress of the National Gas Reform Taskforce, and the commitments made by LNG producers and gas pipeliners to meet the Australian Energy Market Operator's predicted domestic supply shortfalls from 2018. Ministers also discussed recent announcements about the significant pumped hydro energy storage feasibility study for the Snowy Hydro Scheme.

Ministers were also updated on the review by the Climate Change Authority, with advice from the Australian Energy Market Commission, to enhance power system security and to reduce energy prices, consistent with achieving our emissions reduction targets in the Paris Agreement.

Ministers were briefed on the closure of Hazelwood Power Station confirming that the closure will not compromise the security of the National Electricity Market next summer.

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