

# GAS SUPPLY STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

## RELEASE OF CONSULTATION PAPER

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AUSTRALIAN GAS MARKETS ARE CHANGING. WHILE AUSTRALIA'S GAS RESOURCES OFFER SIGNIFICANT ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY, THE FUTURE OF GAS SUPPLY IS CHARACTERISED BY UNCERTAINTY. THE OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES INVOLVED IN DEVELOPING AUSTRALIA'S GAS RESOURCES ARE BEST ADDRESSED THROUGH DEEPER COLLABORATION BETWEEN GOVERNMENTS.

Following the December 2015 COAG Energy Council meeting, the COAG Energy Council released the Gas Supply Strategy (GSS).

In keeping with the Gas Market Vision the Council released in December 2014, the Council has agreed that its efforts should be better utilised to meet community expectations in delivering this objective. The Gas Supply Strategy is the Council's commitment to deepening collaborative efforts between jurisdictions on scientific and regulatory issues associated with onshore gas.

The Council considered key relevant developments in jurisdiction and from these, officials have identified four opportunities for deeper collaboration. These are intended to benefit collective understanding of the issues associated with a rising reliance on gas from unconventional reservoirs, improve the information available to the community and regulators on development activities, and lead to refinements to existing Council frameworks.

These opportunities are:

1. Improving information on gas reserves and production potential.
2. Improving public availability and accessibility of rigorous science and factual information.
3. Consideration of leading practice regulatory frameworks that effectively manage the risks and address issues for all conventional and unconventional gas resources.
4. Supporting leading practices in industry to support responsible development.

The Council tasked officials to develop an Implementation Plan outlining collaborative work in each of these four areas. The Council will also work with industry, communities and other interested stakeholders to communicate its expectations around those areas where industry should be showing improved leadership.



### Consultation Paper

The GSS Implementation Plan will be developed and presented to the Council when it meets mid-year. To inform the Implementation Plan, a consultation paper has been released for stakeholders' comment and feedback.

This consultation paper focuses on the proposed new collaborative actions. Implementation of the GSS will be at the discretion of each jurisdiction however Council members will continue to share information and experiences, regardless of individual Government policy positions.

Submissions on the consultation paper are now invited and should be provided to the COAG Energy Council Secretariat by 5.00 pm (AEST) Friday 20 May 2016.

Electronic submissions are preferred and can be sent to:  
[energycouncil@industry.gov.au](mailto:energycouncil@industry.gov.au)

Stakeholders who wish to provide hard copies by post may do so by addressing their submissions to:

Manager, COAG Energy  
Council Secretariat  
Department of Industry,  
Innovation and Science  
GPO Box 9839  
Canberra ACT 2601

All submissions will be made available from the Council website unless stakeholders have clearly indicated that a submission should remain confidential, either in whole or in part.

4 May 2016