

**ENERGY IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA CONFERENCE 2017:
August 23 – 24, 2017 Pan Pacific Hotel Perth
The New Energy Cycle: Challenge, Innovation, Change**

Day 1 – Wednesday 23rd August

8:45am	Introduction by Conference Facilitator Brenna Pavey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome to Country by Barrie McGuire
8:55am	Conference overview by the Australian Institute of Energy Chair Speaker: Louis Kent
9:00am	Special address: The Hon Ben Wyatt, Treasurer; Minister for Energy; Finance; Aboriginal Affairs
9:30am	International Keynote Speaker: Dr Steve Lennon, Managing Director, Shanduvan (Pty) Ltd. Perspectives from the World Energy Outlook of the International Energy Agency: The state of play in global energy supply, demand and investment and its future outlook. This talk will highlight the implications for coal, gas, renewables and nuclear of adjusting to current and future market conditions, as well as options to ensure the resilience of energy systems while creating a foundation for a sustainable energy future.
10:00am	Morning tea (sponsored by Holman Fenwick Willan)
10:30am	Introduction by Conference Facilitator
10:35am	International Keynote Speaker: Prof Paul Stevens, Distinguished Fellow, Chatham House. The international oil companies face serious problems with the business model that has been driving them for the last 30 years. One of these problems has been the much lower oil prices experienced in recent years. In order for them to survive, will it be wise to hang on in the hope that oil prices begin to rise again, or is this an unlikely future? What alternatives may be tried or are they doomed to extinction?
11:05am	Speaker: Tim Buckley, Institute of Energy Economics and Financial Analysis (IEEFA) Are emerging economies ‘skipping a generation’ by opting for renewable energy technologies instead of thermal generation? To what extent are our major trading partners in the region decarbonising their electricity sectors? The Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis conducts research and analyses on financial and economic issues related to electricity markets. IEEFA’s mission is to accelerate the transition to a diverse, sustainable and profitable energy economy and to reduce dependence on coal and other non-renewable energy resources. Tim Buckley will discuss IEEFA’s views on regional investment trends in the electricity sector and the outlook for major energy technologies.
11:35am	Speaker: Senior energy policy professional (TBA) Energy policy has taken a front-and-centre position on the stage at local, national and international levels. The game is changing in uncertain ways, and for policy makers in the energy space this requires some smart thinking to enable frameworks that provide certainty, while simultaneously being flexible and highly responsive to change. The Speaker will talk about the opportunities and challenges associated with the implementing energy policy in the modern WA environment.
12:05pm	Lunch (Sponsored by Alinta Energy) Dine with Conference Speakers The Energy in WA Conference will, for the first time, host an interactive lunchtime session with conference speakers and WA energy leaders. The session allows delegates to dine with a speaker of their choice (and eight other delegates) to discuss matters facing the energy sector over an enjoyable lunch. The sessions will follow an informal Q&A style, and delegates will be able to choose their table on a first-come, first-served basis.

1:25pm	Introduction by Conference Facilitator
Interactive Session 1: Competition in the Gas Market	
1:30pm	<p>Chair: Murray Meaton AM, Director, Economic Consulting Services</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tim Langmead, Director – External Relations, Fortescue Metals Group Limited. • Michael Parker – Chairman and Managing Director, Alcoa of Australia Limited • Peter de Bono – Chevron • Jill Hoffman - SVP Marketing and Training, Woodside Energy <p>The gas market in Western Australia has fundamentally changed. High contract prices have seen demand falter while new producers and the end of joint marketing have seen the number of potential suppliers increase. The panel will discuss the new market dynamics and the outlook for natural gas use in the State.</p>
3:00pm	Afternoon tea (Sponsored by: Holman Fenwick Willan)
3:30pm	Introduction by Conference Facilitator
3:35pm	<p>The Future of Retailing</p> <p>Speaker: Senior energy professional from the retail sector (TBA)</p> <p>We all know the game is changing, but how threats to the traditional retailing model translate into consumer offers is a challenge still playing out. We are told that retailers must reinvent themselves or risk declining profits, but is this as easy as it sounds when change is so often driven by customers at the fringe? Can retailers innovate to meet the needs of a variety of customer types while still turning a profit, or are we starting to see differentiation in retailer types?</p> <p>This speaker will discuss their company's approach to innovation in electricity retailing in the context of changing consumer behaviour, regulatory uncertainty and the pace of technology advancement.</p>
4:00pm	<p>Speaker: Rachel Cooke, U.S Consul General, Perth</p> <p>Clean Energy Developments in the United States and Australia</p> <p>In Australia, U.S. companies have invested over \$100 billion in Australia's LNG sector and have developed technology that will be vital to the world's clean energy future. Beyond LNG, the U.S. and Australia are key partners in the development of hydro, wind, solar, geothermal, and wave energy, as well as biofuels. What are the latest technologies that U.S. and Australian companies are using in Western Australia and what is the future of this industry? Rachel Cooke will discuss the energy policy direction and industry trends.</p>
4:30pm	<p>Ali Asghar from Bloomberg New Energy Finance</p> <p>Global trends and the cost of policy uncertainty</p> <p>In these uncertain times, a clear and cohesive energy policy framework is needed to provide business with the certainty required to make confident investments. Developing such a framework is by no means easy, but what is the price of not rising to this challenge? Ali Asghar will discuss the impact that a lack of national policy direction may have in Australia and also highlight current global trends including the declining costs of batteries and renewable technologies, potential uptake of electric vehicles and the closure of traditional fuel power plants that will impact Australia regardless of policy certainty.</p>
5:00pm	Close of Day One
6:00pm	Conference Dinner, Beaumonde on the Point (Sponsored by Aggreko)

Day 2 – Thursday 24th August

8:45am	Introduction by Conference Facilitator by Kirsten Rose
8:50am	<p>International Keynote Speaker: Prof Stephen Dow, Senior Lecturer in Energy Law, University of Dundee.</p> <p>Professor Stephen Dow works on legal aspects of stranded investment in the energy sector, his research interests include oil and gas law. He has an interest in financing of energy projects, particularly as projects are built in transition and developing economies. His current research interests are in liberalisation and privatisation of electricity and gas industries. He has served as a consultant to the Parliament of Ukraine as the electricity reform law was developed, advising as the draft law was refined in line with the practical reforms towards a liberalised electricity market. He is writing on the regulatory and legal needs for electricity sector reform in transition economies and is also involved in research into proposed reforms of the electricity market in China. Professor Dow continues to study developments in the UK energy markets, particularly in the run-up to the introduction of full competition in electricity and gas supply.</p>
9:25am	<p>Speaker: Paul Bloxham – Chief Economist, HSBC</p> <p>Paul is chief spokesperson for HSBC on forecasts and trends for the Australian and New Zealand economies and their interaction with global financial markets and international economies. He will provide delegates with a domestic fuels analysis, outlining what international market trends mean for Western Australia's domestic fuel availability and price.</p>
10:00am	Morning tea (Sponsorship available)
10:30am	Introduction by Conference Facilitator
Interactive Session 1: The Future of Coal	
10:35 am	<p>Chair: Murray Meaton AM, Director, Economic Consulting Services</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tennant Reed, Principal National Advisor, The Australian Industry Group • Bill Moody, Principal, William Moody Resources Advisory (WMRA) • David Trench, independent consultant • Speaker on transitioning communities <p>Coal has been held forth as pariah and savior and such hyperbole emerging from politics and the media is difficult to reconcile. The panelists will unpack some of the questions about coal's long term prospects in Western Australia. They will seek to answer the questions of whether coal is in decline and if so why, whether government has a role in supporting the fuel or whether it should instead focus on transitioning the communities that have supported the state for decades.</p>
12:20pm	Lunch (Sponsorship available)
1:20pm	Introduction by Conference Facilitator
1:25pm	<p>From New York to Australia's South West: lessons from New York's Reforming the Energy Vision</p> <p>Speaker: Audrey Zibelman. Chief Executive Officer, AEMO</p> <p>Audrey will be able to talk about her time as Chair of the New York State Public Services Commission (NYPSC), which included the development and implementation of the 'Reforming the Energy Vision' (REV) plan. The REV plan has been internationally recognised as an example of 21st century regulatory reform that focuses on lowering the cost of energy for consumers while building a more resilient and reliable power system. Audrey will discuss how the REV applies in Australia, specifically in the context of Western Australian market reform.</p>

2:00pm	<p>Retail competition: Lessons from the east-coast</p> <p>Speaker: Tony Wood, Energy Program Director, The Grattan Institute</p> <p>There has been a relatively unquestioned assumption that competition is required to improve efficiency in the electricity retail sector, delivering lower costs and better quality services to consumers. Western Australia has long been viewed as the laggard with its Government ownership of the major electricity retailers in WA, and the prohibition on residential and small business customers from choosing their retailer. Certainly the intent behind delays in implementing competition is open to criticism, but irrespective it would seem that WA might now be uniquely positioned to benefit from the experiences in more mature markets such as Victoria. Tony Wood will discuss the Grattan Institute's report 'Price Shock: Is the retail electricity market failing consumers', providing a unique perspective for WA as it considers expanding retail competition.</p>
2:30pm	<p>Speaker: Mark McGranaghan, Vice President of Power Delivery & Utilization Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI)</p> <p>Mark will discuss the need to address energy issues as an integrated analysis, recognizing the increasing interdependency between electric, gas, thermal systems, storage and natural resources. The Integrated Energy Network envisions a future in which customers have flexibility to use, produce and manage energy, while having increased access to reliable, safe, affordable and cleaner power for all. To achieve this future requires an integrated view of energy and natural resources – looking beyond just electricity. The discussion will address needs in the areas of technology development, policy, regulation and standards to achieve the Integrated Energy Network.</p>
3:00pm	Afternoon tea break (Sponsorship available)
3:30pm	Introduction by Conference Facilitator
Interactive session 2: Making Customers the Centre of Service Delivery	
3:35pm	<p>Chair: Nicky Cusworth, Chair, Economic Regulation Authority</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chris Alexander, Director Advocacy and Communications, Energy Consumers Australia • Seán McGoldrick, Executive Manager Asset Management, Western Power • Geoff White, Project Director – Retail Strategy, Horizon Power • Geoff Roberts, General Manager Commercial, Synergy <p>The days of passive consumption of energy by consumers are over, with new technologies and business models allowing consumers to generate and sell as well as buy electricity. Utilities can now engage customers and develop diverse products and services that reduce costs and improve services for consumers.</p> <p>As utilities get better at engaging customers, customers are also becoming more vocal about how their energy is generated and delivered. Among many customer demands is more renewable generation, along with micro-grid and standalone power that improve reliability.</p> <p>Synergy, Horizon Power and Western Power will discuss how their businesses are changing to accommodate customer needs and expectations and how they will adopt, and adapt to, emerging technology.</p>
4:50pm	Conference Wrap up by Conference Committee Chair
5:00pm	Closing function
6:00pm	Conference conclusion