



# The Hon Anthony Roberts MP

Minister for Resources and Energy  
Special Minister of State

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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Wednesday 25 February 2015

### **NSW GOVERNMENT TAKING ACTION TO SAFELY SECURE GAS SUPPLIES**

Minister for Resources and Energy Anthony Roberts today said the NSW Government is taking action through the NSW Gas Plan to safely secure the State's energy needs.

The NSW Gas Plan is the Government's clear strategy to deliver world's best practice regulation of the State's gas industry, that commits to implementing all 16 of the Chief Scientist & Engineer's recommendations, while securing vital gas supplies for NSW from a variety of sources.

Under the NSW Gas Plan, we have the toughest controls for CSG in the country – based on the best available science.

Unlike when Labor was in office, we have protections for our prime agricultural land and water, and the hold on CSG exploration we placed on the Sydney Catchment Special Areas in 2013 remains in place.

The NSW Government welcomes the report of the Legislative Council's *Select Committee on the Supply and Cost of Gas and Liquid Fuels* which highlights the gas supply issues facing NSW.

Mr Roberts said 500 heavy manufacturers, 33,000 businesses and more than a million households rely on a secure supply of gas each day.

"The Committee Report recognises there are growing concerns for gas energy security for the State's households and businesses," Mr Roberts said.

"Ensuring the State's energy security is a core responsibility of any government.

"The NSW Gas Plan clearly sets out that under the Liberals & Nationals Government, any onshore gas extraction must be done safely, with all risks adequately managed."

The NSW Government has consistently raised issues of gas market transparency at the COAG Energy Council, including the further development of the National Gas Bulletin Board. The Government will continue to do so at subsequent Council meetings.

All current or potential projects in NSW, being Camden, Gloucester and Narrabri, have committed to pumping their gas into the NSW gas market so that it is made available to domestic consumers over any export market.

Mr Roberts said at its last meeting, the COAG Energy Council emphatically rejected the implementation of any East-Coast gas reservation policy.

“An East-Coast reservation policy would require other states, such as South Australia and Queensland, to effectively sign up to a deal whereby they would subsidise NSW gas supplies without receiving anything in return,” he said.

“Labor left a terrible legacy for NSW, with a lack of oversight and regulation of the gas industry, that put our environment and communities at risk, without addressing the State’s energy security.

“The Liberals & Nationals Government is the only responsible team that has a plan to put downward pressure on energy costs, while ensuring a safe and responsible gas industry and supply for the State.

“When it comes to energy security, hope is not a strategy.”