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Legislative Assembly
Economics and Industry Standing Committee
Email: laeisc@parliament.wa.gov.au

Inquiry into the WA Domestic Gas Policy - New analysis regarding domestic gas policies and emerging threats to WA's domestic gas market

Attention Hon. Peter Charles Tinley, MLA

Dear Chair, please find enclosed our additional submission with regards to the above parliamentary inquiry. Our submission is not confidential.

SEN has worked together with independent analyst Piers Verstegen to present new analysis of key threats facing the WA domestic gas market which are central to the current Inquiry into WA Domestic Gas Policy.

To date, these threats have not been clearly identified in the public debate surrounding the WA domestic gas market, but they must be central to any consideration of domestic gas policy because they are underlying drivers for the anticipated issues which this Parliamentary Inquiry seeks to address.

In particular, the analysis identifies excess emerging LNG export capacity and current state energy policies as major threats to not only the WA domestic gas market, but also to the economy and environment of our state.

This is the first time that modelling and analysis has been presented examining current and proposed LNG export facilities and their inevitable increasing reliance on WA's domestic gas reserves.

Urgent action is required by the State Government to avoid this situation which cannot be resolved through the current approach to domestic gas reservation.

A new policy approach is required which must include:

- a gas substitution and demand management plan for the WA gas market that focusses on replacing gas demand with utility-scale renewable energy;
- a moratorium on expansion and extensions of existing LNG facilities and an orderly phase out of excess LNG export capacity; and
- a protection plan for the state's domestic gas reserves that prioritises critical, high value uses that support rapid decarbonisation.

We present the analysis in the form of a late submission to your inquiry. We hope it will assist with your deliberations as you prepare findings and recommendations to the WA Parliament and State Government.

We would be pleased to discuss this analysis with the Committee at your convenience, or provide further detail and information supporting our findings and conclusions should you require it.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require further information.

Thank you for considering this important analysis.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Fraser Maywood". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped 'F' and 'M'.

Fraser Maywood

Chair

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Sustainable Energy Now Inc. (SEN) is a not-for-profit incorporated association advocating for the utilization of sustainable energy sources within Western Australia.