



MEDIA RELEASE

SENATOR KIM CARR
Minister for Innovation, Industry,
Science and Research

SHARON GRIERSON MP
Federal Member for Newcastle

Thursday, 11 June 2009

CLEAN ENERGY BOARD AND DIRECTOR APPOINTED

Australia's growing clean energy sector has received a boost with the announcement today of an Interim Advisory Board and Centre Director – Dr Gillian Sparks – for the national \$20 million Enterprise Connect Clean Energy Innovation Centre.

The Clean Energy Innovation Centre, based in Newcastle, is part of the Rudd Government's Enterprise Connect network – which provides practical advice and assistance to small to medium sized enterprises in various sectors.

"The future of Australian manufacturing lies in innovation, and great opportunities are emerging in the clean energy field in particular," Innovation Minister, Senator Kim Carr said.

"This is a great step for Australia's clean energy sector, a sector with enormous growth potential and crucial in addressing future environmental challenges.

"The eleven board members and centre director will bring high-level, practical business and research skills to the table."

Federal Member for Newcastle, Sharon Grierson MP was pleased with the board's diverse representation – consisting of clean energy representatives Australia-wide.

"This is a great opportunity for Newcastle and I look forward to working with the board members and director to support their work in this crucial area," Ms Grierson said.

Interim Advisory Board Chairman Mr Philip Pledge said, that "the board members bring expertise in renewable energy, low emission technology as well practical experience in establishing SMEs and in the research sector."

Centre Director, Dr Gillian Sparkes, has had a 28-year career in the manufacturing industry and has held senior management roles with private and public groups including BHP Steel, Brambles and EPA Victoria.

Dr Sparkes chaired the Victorian Water Industry, Sustainable Energy Use Working Group, which developed a framework for greenhouse gas reductions and was a member of the Reference Group for the Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability in Victoria.

To see how businesses can benefit from the Enterprise Connect, visit www.enterpriseconnect.gov.au or call the hotline on 131 791.

A list of members is attached.

Media contact: 4926 1555

Clean Energy Innovation Centre - Interim Advisory Board

Chairperson

| | | |
|------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Mr Philip Pledge | SA Water Board | Board Chair |
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Board Members

| Name | Organisation | Title |
|-----------------------|--|---|
| Mr Terry Kallis | Petratherm Ltd | Managing Director |
| Mr Michael Fielden | Acquasol Infrastructure Ltd | Managing Director |
| Dr Tom Denniss | Oceanlinx Limited | Chief Technology Officer |
| Mr Vincent Hawksworth | Hydro Tasmania | Chief Executive Officer |
| Mr Leighton White | Hofmann Engineering Pty Ltd | Technical Director |
| Ms Janine Ricketts | Department of State and Regional Development | Executive Director – Policy and Resources |
| Ms Peta Ashworth | CSIRO | Team Leader – Social Research Projects |
| Prof Rod Hill | Monash University | Pro Vice-Chancellor – Industry Engagement and Commercialisation |
| Mr Nixon Apple | Australian Manufacturing Workers' Union | Industry and Economic Adviser |
| Mr Jan Dekker | Cleantech Ventures Pty Ltd | Principal |