

# PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Monday, May 08, 2017



## **Unlocking pathways to reliable, secure and affordable energy is possible and in everyone's best interests.**

Today's media coverage highlighting the ongoing challenges within the energy sector with comments that include 'It wouldn't be surprising if some big companies just make a decision to shut the doors and walk away sometime soon if this isn't fixed' should send shivers down the spine of policy makers and ring alarm bells for all Australians.

"Getting to a point where it is accepted that business in Australia will close their doors due to energy price rises because they have no choice is simply unacceptable," said Energy Users Association of Australia (EUAA) Chief Executive Officer, Mr Andrew Richards.

"Solving the energy crisis in Australia is possible. But we must be willing to come together and find some shared solutions and common ground."

"The challenges faced in the Australian energy market are complex and a result of failings on multiple fronts. And these can only be resolved on multiple fronts as well," added Mr Richards.

The EUAA represents large energy users and has been advocating for action in energy markets and gas (including pipeline rules) for many years.

"The current issues facing energy consumers are dramatic and serious but the EUAA is committed to working actively with government and policy makers as well as business, market managers and operators to resolve the short-term issues and create longer-term market solutions that can work for everyone," said Mr Richards.

The organisation's National Conference on May 24 - 25 will this year focus on Solving Australia's Energy Crisis. The program brings players from across the energy market together for a shared discussion that encourages speakers and delegates to bring and share their big ideas.

"Lateral thinking, solution focused and realism are required to bring about the changes we need to solve the challenges we face in our energy market for the short, medium and longer term," added Mr Richards.

"We are encouraged to hear new ideas already being shared such those from AEMO CEO, Audrey Zibelman, and we encourage our members and others to take the opportunity to do the same."

Speakers at the conference include CEOs and senior executives from companies that include AER, AEMC, APPEA, IIG, CEFC, AGNL, Powerlink, Transgrid, CSIRO, the Shannon Company, CEC, EEC, ARENA and Stanwell.

The EUAA National Conference 'Solving Australia's Energy Crisis' will be held on May 24-25 at the Hilton in Brisbane. Learn more at [euaa.com.au](http://euaa.com.au)

-ends-

Media Contact: Emily Wood 0421 042 121