

## ENERGY USERS URGE GOVERNMENT TO ACT ON GAS CRISIS

Following the release of the ACCC and AEMO reports yesterday (25 September 17) detailing domestic gas forecasted to have a shortfall of up to 108PJ, the Energy Users' Association of Australia (EUAA) has urged the gas producers and the federal government to act.

“The ACCC and AEMO reports highlight the perilous situation our domestic gas supply is in with the shortfall forecasted to be enormous, at up to 15% of demand,” said EUAA Chairman, Mr Brian Morris.

“This is an outrageous situation where energy users who rely on gas, which is abundant in Australia, are backed into a corner with no option but to pay huge prices, that are much higher than international benchmark highlighted by the ACCC.”

“Delaying action on domestic gas supply will only worsen this situation. Energy users are already under huge pressure with gas prices skyrocketing. These businesses cannot afford to lose gas supply, this situation is now critical.”

Members of the EUAA have been calling for action to address issues in the energy markets as they grapple with limited gas supply, less energy security, and enormous price increases across their energy bills.

The Federal Government's Australian Domestic Gas Security Mechanism (ADGSM) seeks to ensure a minimum domestic supply. Consultation on gas availability, cost and supply has been ongoing since the new policy was implemented earlier in the year. This information along with the ACCC and AEMO reports provide a significant amount of information about the unfolding gas crisis.

“With the ADGSM the only tool available for the government to use, we urge them to pull the trigger and act. The industry must rectify this situation without delay,” added Mr Morris.

Members of the EUAA include many large businesses responsible for producing essential items that include food, packaging, raw materials and medical supplies that are used in the Australian community every day.

Some energy users rely solely on gas to run their business and have no option for another fuel.

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