Gas infrastructure advice submission – 108

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Stakeholder group/interest: A gas user, (cooking and heating)

Q1. Do you have any further information, evidence, or concerns that you wish to raise in relation to the scenario design and analysis?
A number of basic principles is required.

One, is a recognition that gas resources in this state is very finite and expected to be uneconomical to extract in the next ten to fifteen years at the current rate of extraction.

Two, The cost of gas is far too high now and will get higher as gas availability runs down.

Three, there is no point in using natural gas for power stations as they cost too much and have short runs as stand-by stations, given the cost and pollution levels they emit.

Four, Importing gas will become more expensive and unnecessary, in the next few years, unless the capital and running costs are covered by government and/or it is used only be industry (non-power stations) and home consumption. This demands action no later than by 2030 rather than 2050.

Q2. Do you have any further information or evidence that can help identify an optimum scenario for a net zero emissions gas sector in 2050?
There is need to alternative power sources, such as solar or wind. There are others such as Geothermal, of which here are two known sources in this state, near Geelong. There is tidal power, bio-gases, or other gases, all of which are by nature small producers of power. This means a de-centralisation of power generation from the Latrobe Valley, across the state thus replacing he current distribution systems. Again, all this demands action by 2030, rather than by 2050. It means closing down all the coal burning power stations by 2030, not sometime into the far future..

Q3. What policies and/or regulations, if any, are needed to support the development of low carbon pathways such as biogas, green hydrogen, and carbon capture and storage?
Changing plumbing, and building inspection laws, as well as housing standard regulations to allow for more individual styles and especially the planning acts, that controls them all.

To decentalise all generation systems that reflect the new political and economic scenarios. It makes he existing distribution systems out of date and in need move into new directions.

Q4. What is your view on the best ways to maintain the reliability and affordability of Victoria's gas supply if natural gas use declines?
See all the alternative above.

Q5. What else can you tell us about the implications of decarbonisation pathways for the electricity generation, transmission and distribution networks?
A cleaner and pollution free state. Superior economic, physical and land use planning.

Far superior economic cost to consumers and better reliability.

Q6. How can the use of Victoria's existing gas infrastructure be optimised during the transition to net zero emissions, over the short (10 years), medium (20 years) and long-term (30+ years)? How can the Victorian Government assist in this?
Remove gas using power stations as a future option.

Q7. What principles should apply or what measures will be needed to manage the impacts of gas decarbonisation on households and businesses?

1. A rate and scale of government subsidies to assist voters and residents to change from one system to another.
2. A measured programme for change, including new regulations, legislation and information to all users.
3. Planning ahead and information exchange with locals before action is implemented.
4. Alternative jobs, training and or employment for all workers so displaced.
5. Equal development of alternative power generation availability, linked to the closure of the coal burning power stations.

Q8. What polices, programs and/or regulations should the Victorian Government consider or expand to encourage households, commercial buildings and small businesses to reduce their gas use?

See Q7 above.

Q9. What policies, regulations or other support, if any, do you think are needed to support industrial users to switch from natural gas to lower emissions energy sources or chemical feedstocks?

See Q5 and Q7 above.

How would you like your submission treated?

Published with my name