

Clean Energy Investors welcome transformative partnership on much needed transmission investment

19 October, 2022, Melbourne: The Clean Energy Investor Group (CEIG) strongly welcomes the joint commitment by the Commonwealth, Victorian and Tasmanian governments to invest in much needed transmission infrastructure that will reset Australia's trajectory for a clean energy future.

"Today's announcement is the strong signal investors have been waiting for to demonstrate that Australia is open for business and is committed to the transformative investment needed to upgrade the power grid," CEIG Policy Director, Marilyne Crestias said today.

"After a lost decade in energy policy, investors are pleased to see energy ministers working together collaboratively and taking decisive actions that will bring Australia one step closer to making the Integrated Systems Plan (ISP) a reality this decade.

"CEIG congratulates energy ministers for their leadership which will fast track transmission investment and galvanise investors.

"These transmission projects will unlock the large amount of new clean energy generation and storage needed to bring Australia's energy supply and distribution in line with the 21st century. This cheaper electricity flowing into the grid will put downward pressure on prices and lead to lower bills for consumers," Ms Crestias said.

Modelling commissioned by <u>Nexa Advisory</u> showed that even a one-year delay in the transmission buildout compared with the 2022 ISP would increase electricity bills for consumers, with business customers impacted the most.

The funding agreements that were committed to today will enable significant progress on the development of VNI West (KerangLink) and Marinus Link, 2 of the 5 key priority transmission projects identified in the 2022 ISP.

They are the crucial next step after the recent decision by energy ministers to identify and declare transmission lines of national significance.

"CEIG welcomes the commitment by the Commonwealth and Victorian governments to coordinate regulatory processes around offshore wind approvals. This will improve investor confidence and will help secure the development of an Australian offshore wind industry," Ms Crestias said.

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About the Clean Energy Investor Group

The Clean Energy Investor Group represents domestic and global investors with a combined Australian portfolio value of over A\$24 billion and more than 70 clean energy assets under management. It is an investor body, representing the unique perspective of clean energy investors to regulators, policy makers and the broader energy sector.

https://www.ceig.org.au/

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