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oil and gas industry

Media Release

12 May 2015

APPEA Board appoints new Chief Executive

The Chairman of the Australian Petroleum Production & Exploration Association, Bruce Lake, is pleased to announce the appointment of Malcolm Roberts as APPEA's Chief Executive.

The appointment is the result of an extensive search by the APPEA Board, which resulted in a very strong field of candidates.

Dr Roberts will resign as the chairman of the Queensland Competition Authority to join APPEA in mid-June. He has considerable experience in industry associations, having held leadership roles at the Energy Networks Association, The National Generators' Forum, the Australian National Retailers Association and the Housing Industry Association.

Dr Roberts has also worked in government as a policy adviser to ministers and in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. He was an adviser and then chief of staff to Ian Macfarlane in 2001-04 and 2006-07.

He replaces David Byers who served as APPEA Chief Executive from August 2011 until his resignation in March to take up a senior role in public policy and government affairs with BHP Billiton.

Mr Lake said: "The Board is extremely pleased that we have been able to attract a candidate of Malcolm's calibre who brings significant experience in managing industry organisations, and a deep understanding of government and of managing challenging issues at a government and community level. He has good support from both major political parties for his intellect, integrity and understanding of the key issues."

Dr Roberts said: "Our oil and gas sector is a world class industry with huge potential to deliver even more prosperity for Australia. I am excited by the role APPEA can play to realise this potential."

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