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APPEA welcomes Queensland minister's reappointment

The Queensland gas industry has congratulated Dr Anthony Lynham on his reappointment as the Minister for Natural Resources and Mines, with added responsibilities for Energy.

APPEA Queensland Director Rhys Turner said Dr Lynham showed a strong commitment to policy development and a willingness to work closely with industry during the Palaszczuk Government's first term.

"Dr Lynham has the deep respect of the industry. His understanding of resources and energy issues will continue to be an asset for Queensland at what is a critical time for the energy sector," Mr Turner said.

"Decisions by some states to bow to activist campaigns by imposing moratoriums and bans on gas projects has placed Australia's energy markets under unprecedented strain at the expense of households and businesses.

"Queensland will continue to do the heavy lifting for the foreseeable future when it comes to east coast gas supply. Having the one minister responsible for the mines and energy portfolios is highly appropriate given the connection between energy prices, access to resources and development opportunities."

Mr Turner said that the Queensland gas industry enjoyed a strong working relationship with the Palaszczuk Government and welcomed its positive response to APPEA's election policy statement.

"The Government has shown a willingness to progress important reforms, including project-based administration of tenure and environmental authorities and establishing an efficient and effective progressive rehabilitation framework," he said.

"The Government has also stated it is receptive to APPEA's proposal to establish a joint taskforce to reduce regulatory costs and approvals timeframes. This will become increasingly important in attracting new investment in exploration and production in Queensland.

Mr Turner said that the industry also welcomed the appointments of Cameron Dick as Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and Leeanne Enoch as Minister for Environment and Great Barrier Reef, Science, Arts.

"Well developed planning schemes, coordinated infrastructure development and appropriate environmental processes are important for attracting new investment and maintaining public confidence in regulatory regimes," Mr Turner said.

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