



## Don Harwin

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council  
Minister for Resources  
Minister for Energy and Utilities  
Minister for the Arts

### MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday, 19 December 2017

## ENERGY SECURITY TASKFORCE ISSUES FINAL REPORT

Minister for Energy Don Harwin today welcomed the findings of the Energy Security Taskforce's final report into the NSW electricity system.

In February, Minister Harwin launched the Taskforce, headed by Chief Scientist & Engineer Mary O'Kane, to analyse the resilience of the NSW electricity system and provide advice about any long-term risks.

The final report examines issues including extreme weather and barriers to new technologies which could boost generation capacity. Minister Harwin said the report also highlights the need to progress national market reform.

"The NSW Government is focused on ensuring the security of our energy supply and I thank the Taskforce for their work," said Mr Harwin.

"In May, the Taskforce's interim report encouraged the government to introduce measures to strengthen the system ahead of summer – and we acted.

"We will now consider the recommendations in this final report."

The Taskforce has said that under normal conditions the NSW electricity system is generally secure and reliable, but close attention will be needed to ensure future reliability is maintained as the market changes.

Following the taskforce's initial report in May this year the NSW Government:

- Invested \$7.2 million in demand reduction with the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) to produce 61MW of spare capacity this summer.
- Introduced legislation to improve the speed with which the government can respond to an energy emergency.
- Took a leadership role at COAG Energy Council, encouraging the states to support development of the National Energy Guarantee.
- Developed a Government Energy Action Response program to build on the good work by Government on the 10<sup>th</sup> of February to help beat the heat.

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