



Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation

THE APGAS FORUM

Perth, Western Australia
1 & 2 September 2005

The vision of APGAS is to achieve a common understanding amongst the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) economies on the actions necessary to ensure free and unhindered trade in gas and LNG. The key goal is to enhance energy security by encouraging commercially sustainable cross-border gas trade in the region. This is best achieved by bringing representatives of government and business together in a forum where all can express their views.

APGAS is seeking to create consensus on the steps necessary to promote cross-border trade in gas and LNG, and will achieve its vision by:

- ❖ Facilitating a 'meeting of the minds' between senior members from all stakeholders in the Asia-Pacific gas trade - governments, regulators, industry, financiers and communities.
- ❖ Critically examining the functioning and interaction of gas markets regionally and globally to determine how the various players can contribute to the development of gas industry "best practice" in Asia-Pacific.
- ❖ Encouraging dialogue between government, buyers, sellers and users of gas to foster understanding of the needs and concerns of each.
- ❖ Building greater commercial transparency and community trust.

The advantages of accelerating Asia-Pacific gas trade...

- Cross-border gas trade is an essential strategy for increasing energy security within APEC.
- Gas trade offers all energy-importing economies in the Asia-Pacific region an alternative to dependence on imported oil and coal.
- Cross-border gas trade assists the entire Asia-Pacific region in moving towards lower emission economies and sustainable development.
- Cross-border gas trade will enhance energy efficiency and environmental management, and ultimately prosperity, throughout the region.

The challenge of accelerating gas trade

- Cross border gas trade requires both exporting and importing economies to install gas pipelines, port facilities and liquefied natural gas (LNG) infrastructure. For the importer, gas requires extensive distribution systems if the broader community is to have access to the gas.
- Sellers, buyers and financiers will need the assurance that prudent, long lasting policies are in place that provide a stable commercial environment within exporting and importing economies to facilitate sustainable trade.
- Each importing economy will be driven to encourage the development of its own market, and the necessary regulatory support, to align itself with the dynamics of the global marketplace.
- Sound social and environmental practices are key ingredients of sustainable economies. All members of participating economies should benefit, in this regard, from accelerated gas trade.
- Developing a large-scale gas project often takes 10 years or more from concept to commissioning. Putting in place policies, partnerships and trust that support investment, reduce risk and reduce lead times benefits everyone.

What is APGAS and who can attend?

- APGAS will bring together the best minds to discuss, in an open forum, the trading of gas and LNG, its role in regional energy security, and the measures needed to allow it to grow in the Asia-Pacific region.
- APGAS is organised by the APEC Energy Working Group Business Network (EBN) with the express purpose of bringing government and industry together to discuss issues pertinent to the promotion of cross-border trade in gas and LNG.
- APGAS is NOT a technical or commercial conference for the general public and does not involve an industry exhibition.
- Accredited representatives, speakers and guests from the 21 APEC economies are invited to present papers, participate in dialogue and attend APGAS functions.
- Participants in APGAS include representatives from government, regulators, investors, gas producers, buyers and sellers, end users, bankers and financiers, traders, shippers, construction companies, inter-governmental and non-governmental organisations.
- APGAS is self-funding – supported by sponsors from businesses involved in natural gas and LNG.
- Although APGAS is not a public conference, a limited number of observer passes will be available to the general public.
- APGAS will be professionally facilitated. It will include panel, plenary, presentation and break-out sessions; keynote addresses; seminar-type dialogues; and social and networking opportunities.

Why a forum in this format?

- In 2004, APEC workshops on cross-border gas trade in San Francisco, Tokyo and Singapore demonstrated vividly how much progress could be achieved by a single, well-organised event of this type.
- The annual Madrid Gas Forum, held under the auspices of the European Union, has helped European member countries to move more quickly towards a single energy market. APGAS will follow this and other precedents.
- The first APGAS Forum will be held in Perth, Western Australia on 1-2 September 2005 and its findings will be reported to the APEC Ministers Meeting to be held in Korea on 12 October 2005.
- Following the initial Forum, consideration will be given to the nature and location of any subsequent forums in future years.

Organisation of APGAS

- APGAS is organised by a Steering Committee comprising key executives drawn by the EBN from the natural gas industry. The Steering Committee includes the EBN Chair.
- The Steering Committee oversees all aspects of the event, including agendas, funding, and the appointment of a meeting organiser to manage the arrangements for the Forum.
- APEC economies have also nominated representatives to an Advisory Group which provides advice to the Steering Committee. In addition, a local Host Committee of sponsor representatives will be convened in Perth.
- Advisory Group nominees include experts in natural gas supply, transport, and infrastructure management, marketing and legislation.

APGAS Limited

- APGAS Limited has been incorporated in Australia as the legal entity responsible to the Steering Committee for the organisation of APGAS.
- A special APGAS website is being established by APGAS Limited, cross-linked to the APEC EWG website.

Further Information

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