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TECH PLAN POSITIVE FOR OUR FUTURE GRID

The release today of the Commonwealth Government's [Technology Investment Roadmap Discussion Paper](#) is a positive step towards planning Australia's future energy grid.

Energy Networks Australia CEO Andrew Dillon welcomed the release of the discussion paper by Energy Minister Angus Taylor and said networks were looking forward to continuing to work with the Commonwealth on shaping Australia's energy transformation.

"A 21st-century energy system cannot continue to rely on 20th-century technology," Mr Dillon said.

"How our future energy system operates goes well beyond just what will replace coal, and this paper brings to the fore many of those potential technologies.

"As the way we use technology evolves, careful investment in our transmission and distribution systems will be crucial, facilitated by measures such as the Commonwealth Government's \$1 billion [Grid Reliability Fund](#).

"The paper highlights the contribution the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) has made to technology development and how a key focus of ARENA's work is now integrating variable renewable generation into the grid."

The paper also reinforced the crucial role hydrogen would play in a sustainable energy future, and Mr Dillon said networks around the country were [already trialling blending hydrogen gas](#) into the distribution network.

"A sustainable energy future will involve a combination of electricity and gas, with hydrogen being a key component," Mr Dillon said.

"Networks are already actively working to harness the huge potential that renewable hydrogen could bring when blended into existing gas networks.

"This work is an important step towards establishing domestic hydrogen use, an essential platform for the development of a viable export industry."

For a web version of this media release, [click here](#).

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Energy Networks Australia is the national industry body representing Australia's electricity transmission and distribution and gas distribution networks. Our members provide more than 16 million electricity and gas connections to almost every home and business across Australia.