CO2CRC

CRC FOR GREENHOUSE GAS TECHNOLOGIES

MEDIA RELEASE

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Carbon capture and storage vital to clean energy future

The Cooperative Research Centre for Greenhouse Gas Technologies (CO2CRC) is pleased to see that renewable energy technologies and energy efficiency will be supported through the proposed clean energy future package, but concerned that carbon capture and storage (CCS) is not included.

”All the projections of bodies such as the International Energy Agency clearly show that we will need CCS for at least 20 per cent of the global mitigation effort in the coming decades,” said Dr Peter Cook, Chief Executive of CO2CRC.

“If we do not include CCS in the overarching clean energy package and the Clean Energy Finance Corporation we run the risk of taking a highly polarised approach to lowering our carbon footprint,” said Dr Cook. “Without inclusion of CCS there is no solution to the greenhouse issue.

“CCS is a clean energy technology that is highly relevant to decreasing emissions from biomass, gas and coal. There are also potential opportunities for combining CCS with geothermal power and algal sequestration. CCS is likely to be a key component of moving to electric cars and the hydrogen economy.

“The clean energy future for Australia has to include greater energy efficiency, increased use of renewable energy, switching to gas, *and* carbon capture and storage (CCS). While acknowledging that current Government support for CCS programs will continue, what is proposed does not seem to recognise that renewable energy and CCS are part of a continuum of measures needed to decrease carbon dioxide emissions.

“People have to be realistic about the clean energy mix and what the various technologies can achieve, and whilst they might like renewable energy to be the answer, the reality is that for decades to come it will only be part of the answer. The steps proposed as part of the clean energy package should reflect this reality and include CCS, and support for CCS R&D, as an important component of the way forward.”

The Cooperative Research Centre for Greenhouse Gas Technologies (CO2CRC) is one of the world's leading collaborative research organisations focused on carbon dioxide capture and geological storage (CCS).

CO2CRC is a joint venture comprising participants from Australian and global industry, universities and other research bodies from Australia and New Zealand, and Australian Commonwealth, State and international government agencies. Its resources come from the Federal Government Cooperative Research Centres Program, other Federal and State Government programs, CO2CRC participants and wider industry.

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