



14 November 2012

Renewable Energy Target Review
Climate Change Authority
GPO Box 1944
Melbourne VIC 3001

Email enquiries@climatechangeauthority.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam

Climate Change Authority – Renewable Energy Target Review – Discussion Paper

The Chamber of Minerals and Energy of Western Australia (CME) welcomes the opportunity to provide further comment on the Climate Change Authority – Renewable Energy Target (RET) Review.

CME is the peak resources sector representative body in Western Australia funded by its member companies who generate 95 per cent of the value of all mineral and energy production and employ 80 per cent of the resources sector workforce in the State.

The Western Australian resources sector is diverse and complex covering exploration, processing, downstream value adding and refining of over 50 different types of mineral and energy resources. The sector plays a significant role in locating, analysing, and developing water resources in regional and remote areas.

In 2011, the value of Western Australia's mineral and petroleum production reached \$107 billion, and accounted for 95 per cent of Western Australia's total merchandise exports and 46 per cent of Australian merchandise exports. Furthermore, royalty payments to the state government totalled \$4.8 billion for the 2010-11 year.

CME put forward a submission to the RET - Issues Paper, 14 September 2012. The primary focus of this submission was around the need to retain the self-generator exemption and its importance in accounting for the different circumstances facing renewable power development for remote generators. CME strongly advocated for its retention.

CME notes the RET - Discussion Paper, released 26 October 2012, has recommended the exemption from liability under RET should be removed for new self-generation. Draft Recommendation R.20 states;

The preliminary view of the Authority is that there is no strong case for the exemption from liability under the Renewable Energy Target for self-generation, and that the exemption should be removed for new self-generation (but retained for existing self-generators).

CME welcomes the retention of the self-generator exemption for existing projects, however, strongly opposes its removal for new self-generation. CME is concerned the removal of the self-generator exemption will render many future remote resource projects as unviable and jeopardise future income generation, jobs and small local communities. We request further consideration be given to retaining the exemption for all self-generation projects before release of the Final Report in December 2012.

For further information regarding the above please contact Kane Moyle, Manager – Environment, on (08) 9220 8511 or k.moyle@cmewa.com.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Reg Howard-Smith', written over a horizontal line.

Reg Howard-Smith
Chief Executive