
NEWS

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GEOHERMAL ENERGY EXPERT APPOINTED TO KEY AUSTRALIAN ENERGY MARKETS REVIEW COMMITTEE

Australia's fast-growing geothermal sector is set to play a key role in forming the nation's renewable energy goals and policies.

This follows the appointment today of Mr Terry Kallis as the Australian Geothermal Energy Association's (AGEA) representative on a committee undertaking a landmark national energy market review.

Mr Kallis – Managing Director of the advanced Adelaide-based geothermal developer, Petratherm Limited (ASX: "PTR") – has been appointed to the Stakeholder Advisory Committee of the Australian Energy Market Commission's (AEMC) Review of Australia's Energy Markets.

The committee has been charged with conducting a comprehensive review of the Federal Government's Energy Market Framework following new policies developed to combat the effects of climate change.

"The review will assess how the national electricity and gas market frameworks will operate in light of the Federal Government's climate change policies and renewable energy targets," Mr Kallis said.

"The fact that the AEMC has seen fit to appoint a representative of the geothermal sector demonstrates just how seriously the Government is taking geothermal power as a critical component of the country's long-term base-load energy mix," he said.

A former CFO of ETSA Corporation, Mr Kallis has broad experience in the Australian energy market, having worked in the development of coal, gas and wind power projects, before taking up his current geothermal industry role.

Mr Kallis serves as Deputy Chairman of AGEA and is leading the Association's National Electricity Market Policy Committee, which is determining the geothermal energy industry's policy position on changes to the energy markets.

Petratherm's advanced Paralana Geothermal Project in the northern Flinders Ranges is due to begin producing Australia's first commercial supply of geothermal electricity when it starts providing power to the Beverley uranium mine in 2010.

Over the next 12 months, the AEMC review will assess the potential impacts of the Government's Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme (CPRS) and 2020 Renewable Energy Target (RET) on Australia's energy market frameworks, in order to recommend amendments to federal laws, rules and regulations to ensure the efficient and reliable operation of energy markets.

Mr Kallis' appointment to the Advisory Committee comes at a time when the AGEA is developing its own policy positions on the CPRS and the RET, as well as the Garnaut Climate Change Review, the Renewable Energy Fund, and other legislation and regulations governing geothermal energy.

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