

NEWS

Minister for Industry calls for a strategic approach to developing a national energy policy

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Securing Australia's long-term domestic energy needs, maintaining international competitiveness while meeting international obligations, and growing our export base are fundamental to a strong economy, the Hon Ian Macfarlane MP, told a gathering of over 250 senior industry and academic leaders at the Annual Foundation Dinner on July 22.

"Australia ranks 17th out of 143 economies in the Global Innovation Index - an improvement from 19th last year."

But we need to do more to boost innovation output. To do that, we must strengthen the links between science, research and industry.

"This is the key to improving our national competitiveness, and it is a central theme of the Prime Minister's National Industry Investment and Competitiveness Agenda."

"We need researchers to be at the forefront of developing new products and new industries, and better and more efficient ways of doing things."

The Minister told attendees that to address the challenges facing our energy sector and provide certainty in Government policy, the Government will deliver an Energy White Paper that will articulate a coherent, consistent and integrated national energy policy.

"A dynamic energy landscape is creating a fundamental shift in the way electricity is produced, supplied and used in Australia."

"This is change that calls for a strategic approach to future energy market reforms."

[Click here to download the speech in pdf.](#)

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