



Australian Government

Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism

Methane to Markets Partnership Coal Subcommittee Meeting –

Partner Country Updates - Australia

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Issues to be covered

1. Australian coal industry
 2. Methane emissions in Australia
 3. Australia's waste coal mine gas industry
 4. Government support and policy issues
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Australian Coal Industry

- World ranking – 4th producer, 1st exporter
 - Domestic – 80% of electricity
 - Export orientated – 30% of world trade
 - Strong growth prospects
 - World class environmental, occupational health and safety standards
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Australian Greenhouse Gas Emissions

All greenhouse gas emissions, 2007 541 MT (CO₂e)

- Total methane emissions 115 Mt
 - Coal sector methane emissions 26.8 Mt

Trends in coal sector methane emissions

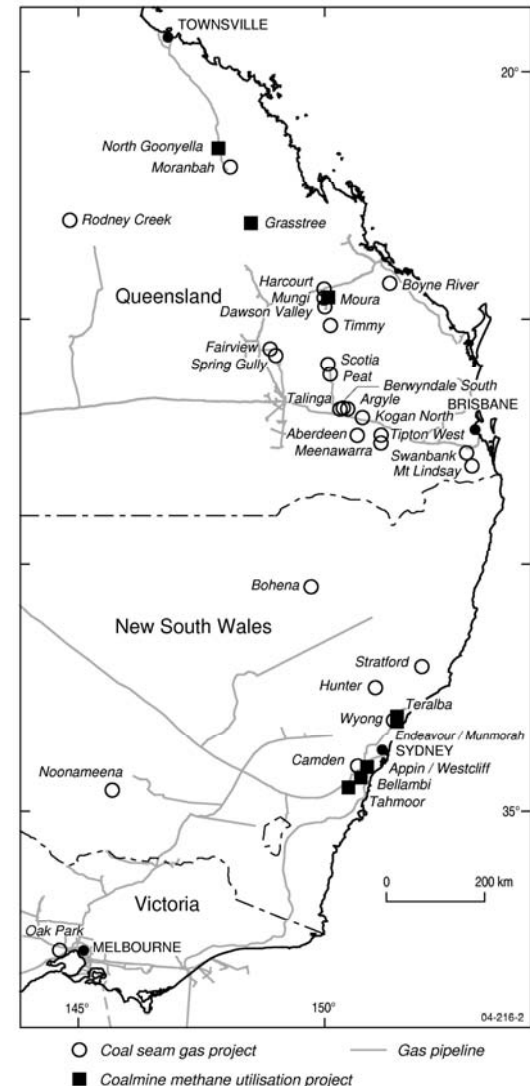
- Coal sector methane emissions in 1990 were 16.2 Mt (CO₂e)
- 99.5% increase in coal mine production between 1990 and 2007
- 65% increase in emissions
- Emissions per 1000 tonne of coal produced decreased by 16.5% from 67 tonnes to 56 tonnes (CO₂e)
- Improvements due to less gassy mines, technologies to recover, use or flare methane

Waste Coal Mine Gas Power in Australia

- Seven grid connected WCMG power stations using drainage gases with a combined capacity of 215 MW abates 6.5 mtpa of CO₂e



Appin Tower	97 MW
German Creek	32 MW
Moranbah North	45 MW
Oaky Ck	14 MW
Glennies Ck	10 MW
Teralba	10 MW
Tahmoor	7 MW

- Based on expected growth in the industry there is the potential to at least double generating capacity over the next decade
- WestVAMP (not grid connected) 6 MW






Government Support

- The Australian Government is committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions through domestic and global action.
 - Ratified the Kyoto Protocol and committed to emission reduction targets under the Copenhagen Accord:
 - By 2020: 5-15% or 25% below 2000 levels
 - By 2050: 60% below 2000 levels
 - Climate change committee
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Concluding Comments

- Australia is world leader in the development and demonstration of technology to make effective use of fugitive methane emissions.
 - But we still face major challenges in deploying this technology.
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