

Committee To Review WA Gas Supplies

Western Australian Energy Minister Peter Collier has established a review of Western Australia's gas network to be undertaken by the Gas Supply and Emergency Management Committee.

The move follows a Senate report into last year's Varanus Island gas explosion which recommended further reviews of gas security and the management of gas supply disruptions.

The review will identify risks to the state's supply of gas. It will look at the amount of gas reserves available to the domestic market, processing and gas delivery, and will examine ways to improve the management of energy emergencies.

The committee will begin work in March and will be asked to report to the government in September. The committee's membership will be comprised of key government representatives, gas producers and retailers, major gas users, including electricity generators

and networks, representatives from Dampier Bunbury Pipeline Ltd, the Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Chamber of Minerals and Energy.

"The review will consider the range of plausible gas supply shortage events and the best way to minimise any impacts on our community and business", Collier said.

"The review will incorporate work previously done by the Office of Energy in preparing a report into the management and impacts of the Karratha gas supply disruption", he said, referring to the January 2008 disruption.

"When the Liberal-National Government was elected in September 2008, the report was still incomplete. A final version of the report has not been provided to this government as it was always envisaged that it would be combined with a review of the Varanus Island incident and a broader review of gas supply security and emergency management." ■



Western Australian Energy Minister Peter Collier