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CMS GAS TRANSMISSION OF  
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Professor Peter Newman  
Director  
Sustainability Policy Unit  
Policy Office  
Department of Premier and Cabinet

By email: [sustainability@dpc.wa.gov.au](mailto:sustainability@dpc.wa.gov.au)

Dear Professor Newman

**RE: SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY**

As a major investor in the energy sector in Western Australia, CMS Energy shares many of your sustainability goals.

We are encouraged by your commitment to the long-term future of gas as a sustainable fuel of choice and agree that many sustainability goals can be achieved using gas without trade-offs and compromises, but with positive benefits for society and the environment as a whole.

Throughout the world, CMS Energy works in partnership with companies and governments to not just manage, but actively redefine their energy needs to achieve sustainable economic and environmental outcomes.

Although the Western Australian domestic gas market is relatively small, CMS believes that the gas industry can play a pivotal part in the drive to increase the ecological, social and economic sustainability of Western Australia. CMS has interests in a number of projects and infrastructure assets that can foster the sustainability of the metropolitan and regional areas. In addition, we bring to the table a new approach to gas marketing and services that can substantially enhance the sustainability of Western Australia's energy needs.

An example of the sustainable outcomes that can be achieved by using gas as a fuel source can be found at Murdoch University, where CMS has recently contracted the University to the Parmelia Pipeline via the AlintaGas supply network. With this new contract, the university will achieve substantial cost savings, which could have the potential to release funds for upgrades which could lead to the university using less energy and producing fewer greenhouse gases.

A further example is CMS's work with landfill gas operators to enhance the commercial viability and competitiveness of their green power generation, by supplementing landfill gas production with natural gas to manage the traditionally unpredictable nature of their supply.

In the Mid-West, the Parmelia gas Pipeline transports Perth Basin gas from Dongara, in the State's Mid-West to markets in and around Perth. Gas flow from the Parmelia Pipeline was established to the AlintaGas metropolitan distribution network in January this year. This enhances the sustainability of WA's energy infrastructure by providing alternative supplies of gas to metropolitan consumers, improving competition, and providing new opportunities for gas exploration in the Perth Basin.

We believe the Mondarra gas storage facility at Dongara could play a key role in substantially enhancing the sustainability of WA's energy resources. An extinguished gas reservoir, Mondarra can be used as a natural underground "tank" to store gas that can be redeployed through the gas distribution system as required in times of high demand, or when other supplies are threatened. Presently Mondarra has enough storage capacity to provide up to 40 days worth of gas for domestic use during an emergency, or five days of industrial gas supply.

An expansion of Mondarra using new gas compression technology is being considered by CMS. If we proceed with this project, it will provide increased certainty for smaller gas producers wishing to supply Perth's domestic and industrial markets. This in turn means more regional development and job opportunities, while increasing WA's technical base, reducing costs to consumers, and ensuring reliable flows of gas as a replacement for less environmentally sustainable sources of fuel for electricity generation.

CMS also has an interest in the creation of new sustainable opportunities through its interest in the Goldfields Gas Pipeline, which delivers clean, economical and safe energy from the North West to the Goldfields via the 1380 kilometre pipeline, significantly enhancing the economics and environmental impact of mineral processing in the Pilbara and Goldfields region.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Government's sustainability agenda. We agree that there are many ways that economic, social and environmental outcomes can be made to work together. We look forward to the development of Western Australia's Sustainability Strategy and the part that CMS and its customers can play in it.

Yours sincerely

**David King**  
**Manager of Operations**