

PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

RESOURCES, ENERGY AND TOURISM PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

MINISTER AND PORTFOLIO RESPONSIBILITIES

The Hon Martin Ferguson AM MP is the Minister for Resources and Energy and the Minister for Tourism. The Minister is responsible for improving the strength, competitiveness and sustainability of the resources, energy and tourism sectors. These sectors are key drivers of the Australian economy underpinning the competitiveness of regions, industries and business across the economy and are at the forefront of the economic and environmental challenges facing Australia.

The portfolio comprises:

- The Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism (a Department of State under the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997* (FMA Act)) ;
- Geoscience Australia (a prescribed agency under the FMA Act);
- The National Offshore Petroleum Safety Authority (a statutory agency established under the provisions of the *Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2006* and, for the purposes of governance arrangements, a prescribed agency under the FMA Act);
- Tourism Australia (a statutory agency established under the *Tourism Australia Act 2004* and subject to the provisions of the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997* (CAC Act)); and
- Australian Solar Institute (a wholly-owned Commonwealth company that forms part of the Clean Energy Initiative, and subject to the provisions of the CAC Act).

The Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism plays an important role in assisting the Australian Government to achieve its outcome of enhancing Australia's economic prosperity, by providing high quality advice and programs to achieve improved productivity, competitiveness, security and sustainability of the resources, energy and tourism industries. The Department works closely with state and territory governments, international governments, and the private sector, including major corporations and business associations, to achieve this outcome.

Portfolio Overview

Geoscience Australia is custodian of the geographic and geological data and knowledge of the nation. Geoscience Australia provides first class geoscientific information and knowledge that enables the Australia Government and community to make informed decisions about the exploitation of resources, the management of the environment, the safety of critical infrastructure, and the resultant wellbeing of all Australians. Geoscience Australia also encompasses the Office of Spatial Data Management which coordinates the implementation of the Australian Government's policy on spatial data access and pricing.

The National Offshore Petroleum Safety Authority (NOPSA) is responsible for the delivery of world class health and safety regulation for the Australian offshore petroleum industry. In addition, NOPSA is responsible for the promotion of the occupational health and safety of persons engaged in offshore petroleum operations in Australian Government and state and territory coastal waters. The primary objectives for NOPSA include: improving safety outcomes across the Australian offshore petroleum industry; ensuring health and safety regulation of the offshore petroleum industry is provided to standards that are equal to the best in the world; and reducing the regulatory burden on the offshore petroleum industry, which operates across multiple jurisdictions, by delivering a consistent and comprehensive health and safety regime.

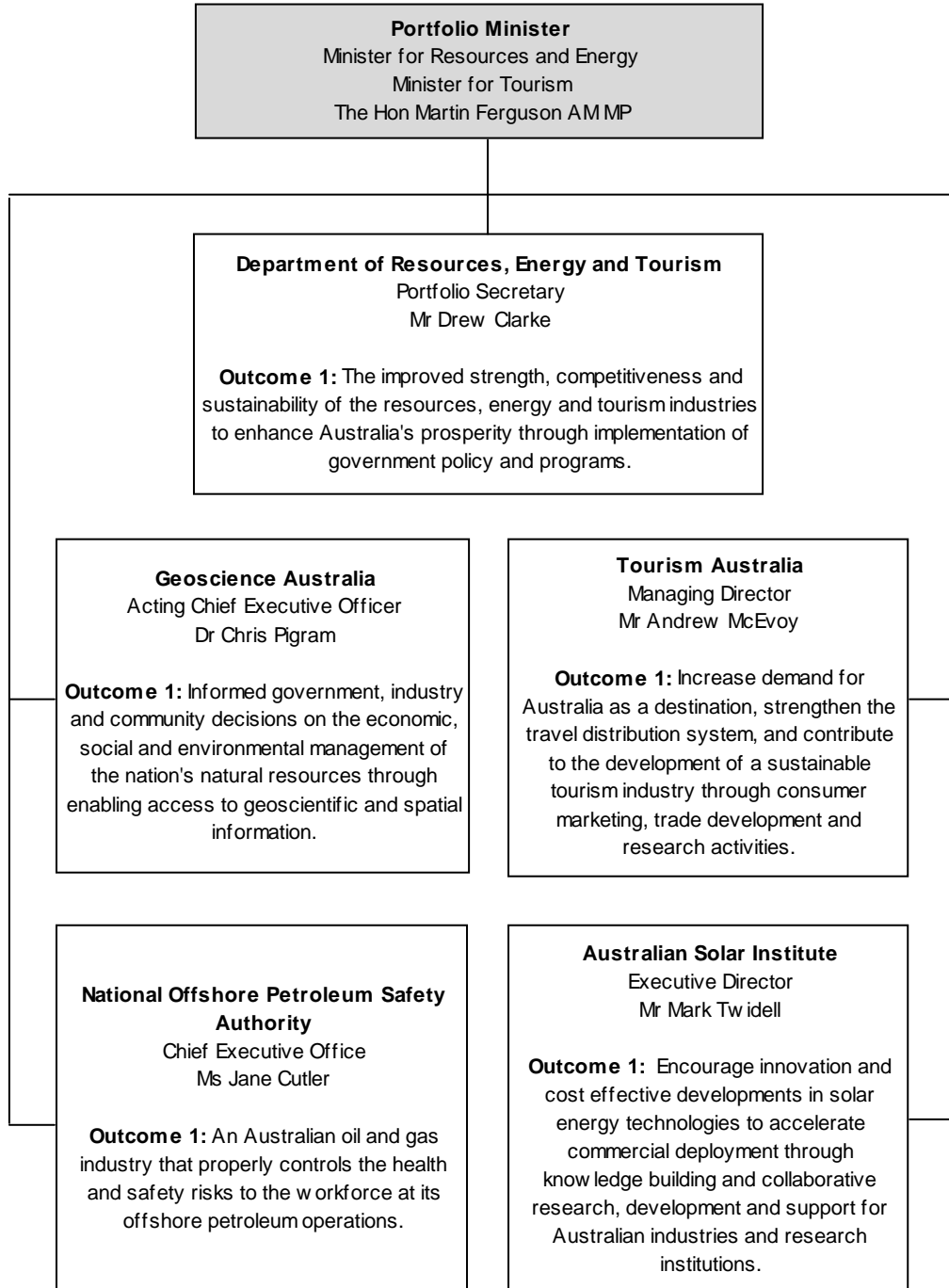
Tourism Australia is a statutory authority whose three key objectives are to: facilitate tourism industry and market development through strategic insights; increase distribution of Australian tourism product and facilitation of niche events and regional tourism growth; and to facilitate consumer travel demand stimulation. To meet these objectives it promotes Australia as a travel destination internationally and domestically. Using a broad mix of consumer and trade marketing, in partnership with state and territory tourism organisations, industry and commercial partners, Tourism Australia aims to increase the economic benefits of tourism to Australia by building demand and increasing visitation and visitor spend to and throughout the country. Through its 13 offices Tourism Australia targets leisure, business events and working holiday travellers across 26 countries. Through its research and trade development activities Tourism Australia also aims to foster a sustainable and quality-focussed tourism industry in Australia.

The Australian Solar Institute Limited (ASI) was registered as a company limited by guarantee under the CAC Act on 10 August 2009. The ASI aims to drive collaborative, focused research and development that will have a major impact on the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of solar technologies. It will also disseminate the results and learning's from solar research for the benefit of the Australian and global solar communities and the Australian public and will act as a catalyst and champion for Australia's leadership strengths in solar research and development.

More comprehensive information on activities undertaken by the Resources, Energy and Tourism portfolio is available from the following web sites:

- Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism
<http://www.ret.gov.au>
- Geoscience Australia
<http://www.ga.gov.au>
- National Offshore Petroleum Safety Authority
<http://www.nopsa.gov.au>
- Tourism Australia
<http://www.tourism.australia.com>
- Australian Solar Institute
<http://www.australiansolarinstitute.com.au>

Figure 1: Resources, Energy and Tourism portfolio structure and outcomes



PORTFOLIO RESOURCES

Table 1 shows the total new resources provided to the portfolio in the 2010-11 budget year, by agency.

Table 1: Portfolio Resources 2010-11

	Appropriation			Receipts	Total
	Bill No. 1 \$'000	Bill No. 2 \$'000	Special \$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism					
Administered appropriations	800,051	-	16,560	2,848	819,459
Departmental appropriations	84,724	928	-	9,501	95,153
Total:					914,612
Geoscience Australia					
Administered appropriations	-	-	-	-	-
Departmental appropriations	122,778	2,940	-	857	126,575
Total:					126,575
National Offshore Petroleum Safety Authority					
Administered appropriations	-	-	-	-	-
Departmental appropriations	200	-	-	12,971	13,171
Total:					13,171
Tourism Australia					
Administered appropriations	-	-	-	-	-
Departmental appropriations	122,920	13,181	-	-	136,101
Total:					136,101
Australian Solar Institute					
Administered appropriations	-	-	-	-	-
Departmental appropriations	-	-	-	29,628	29,628
Total:					29,628
Portfolio total					1,220,087
Less amounts transferred within portfolio	(147,920)	(13,181)	-	-	(134,739)
					Resources available within portfolio: 1,085,348