



# MEDIA RELEASE

## MARTIN FERGUSON

Minister for Resources and Energy  
Minister for Tourism

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### **FACT SHEET 7:**

#### **AUSTRALIAN ENERGY RESOURCE ASSESSMENT**

The Australian Government's expanded \$5.1 billion Clean Energy Initiative is a key plank of the national response to climate change.

The Australian Government today reminded industry and interested parties of the valuable prospectus of Australia's energy resources provided by the *Australian Energy Resource Assessment*.

In the Assessment, Geoscience Australia and ABARE have provided the first ever comprehensive compilation of Australia's rich energy resource endowment – both renewable and non-renewable.

The Assessment shows that Australia has one of the best renewable energy resource bases in the world – in geothermal, wind, solar, ocean and bioenergy.

In particular, the Assessment states that:

- Geothermal energy is a major resource and potential source of low emissions renewable energy suitable for baseload electricity generation and direct use applications. Geothermal energy is projected to produce around 6 terawatt hours in 2029-2030.
- Australia has some of the world's best wind resources along its south-western, southern, south-eastern and eastern margins. The share of wind energy in total electricity generation is projected to increase from 1.5 per cent in 2007-08 to 12.1 per cent in 2029-30.
- Australia has the highest average solar radiation per square metre of any continent, making solar energy a vast and untapped resource. Solar energy use in Australia is projected to increase by 5.9 per cent per year to 24 petajoules in 2029-30.
- World-class wave energy resources exist along Australia's northern, western and southern coastlines, especially the north-west coast of Western Australia and in Tasmania. The adoption of ocean energy in Australia will depend on the technologies proving their commercial viability.

The Australian Energy Resource Assessment is now available for download, free of charge, at [www.ga.gov.au](http://www.ga.gov.au) and colour printed copies can be purchased from Geoscience Australia.

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