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The Importance of Reforming the Renewable Energy Target

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Clean Energy Council Annual Conference May 2010

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Agenda

- > Importance of the 26 February reforms
- Sustainable Energy within the context of global energy market transformation
- > Renewable Energy Target:
 - » MRET and the reforms of 2009
 - » Unintended consequences of complementary policies
 - » Reforms announced on 26 February
 - » Fundamental shift in supply options
- > Downstream customer impacts:
 - » Impacts on prices





Importance of the 26 February reforms

- > 26 February reforms of the Renewable Energy Target were welcomed by the industry
- > There are serious consequences flowing from any delay in passage of the legislation:
 - » Loss of jobs
 - » Loss of investment confidence
 - » Flow on effects for confidence in energy policy generally
- > Objective of the reforms have bipartisan agreement
- > No reason why the legislation should not be passed immediately





Transformation of Global Energy Markets

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Energy Market Transformation

Global energy markets are undergoing significant transformation. Energy policy makers are responding to three key issues:

Issue	Global Policy Response	Australian Policy Response
Climate Change	Greenhouse gas emissions trading	CPRS (deferred)
Energy Security	Renewable energy targets	20% Renewable Energy Target
Fuel Poverty	Energy efficiency schemes	Emerging state-based schemes

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Global policies driving renewable investment

Since mid-2009, a number of new policies have been announced that will drive renewable investment – Australian policy is consistent with global trends

Country/State	Renewable Mandate	
Spain	22.5% renewable by 2020	
US – Colorado	30% renewable by 2020	
US - Alaska	50% renewable by 2025	
Israel	10% renewable by 2020	
Kuwait	5% renewable by 2020	

» Source: DB Climate Change Advisors

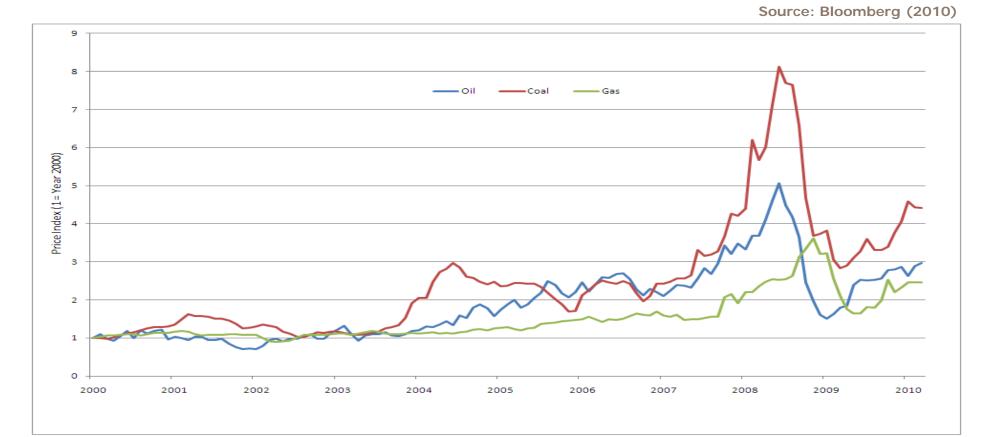
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Renewables provide fuel cost certainty

In an environment of increasing global commodity prices, renewable technologies provide certainty of fuel cost



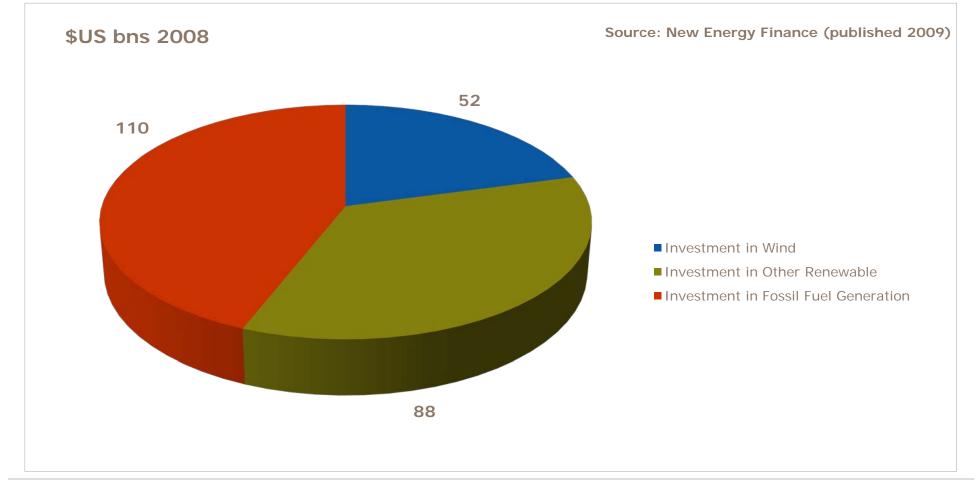
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New investment

More than half of new installed capacity globally was renewable

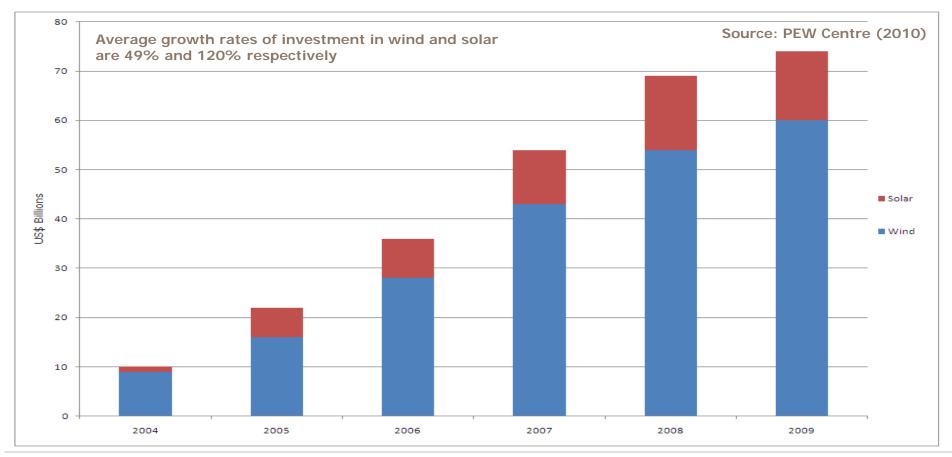


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Investment in renewable technologies

All technologies have a role to play – growth in global investment has been significant particularly for wind and solar



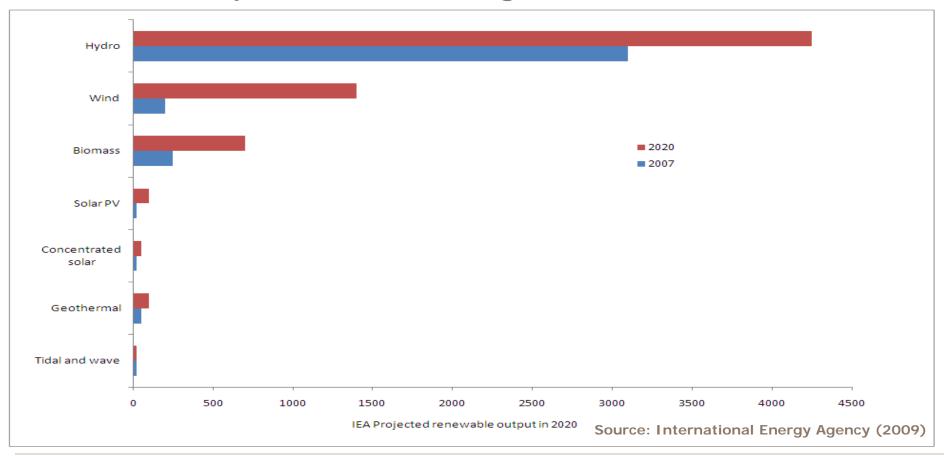
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Trend is forecast to continue

Wind and biomass forecast by IEA to be the technologies of choice in developed countries through to 2020



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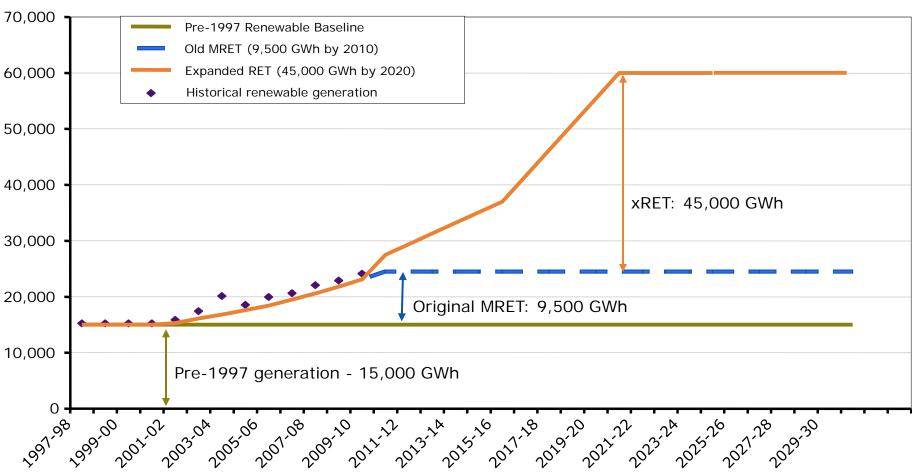
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The Evolution of Renewable Policy – MRET to RET to....

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The Expanded Renewable Energy Target...

Renewable Target (GWh)



Source: Roam, AGL Corporate Affairs

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Role of complementary policies

- Additional subsidies for solar hot water and solar PV have driven substantial uptake of these technologies in recent years
- > Recent example: solar hot water

Rebate	State Incentives	RECs	Total Subsidies
\$1,600	\$500	\$910	\$3,010

> Recent example: solar PV

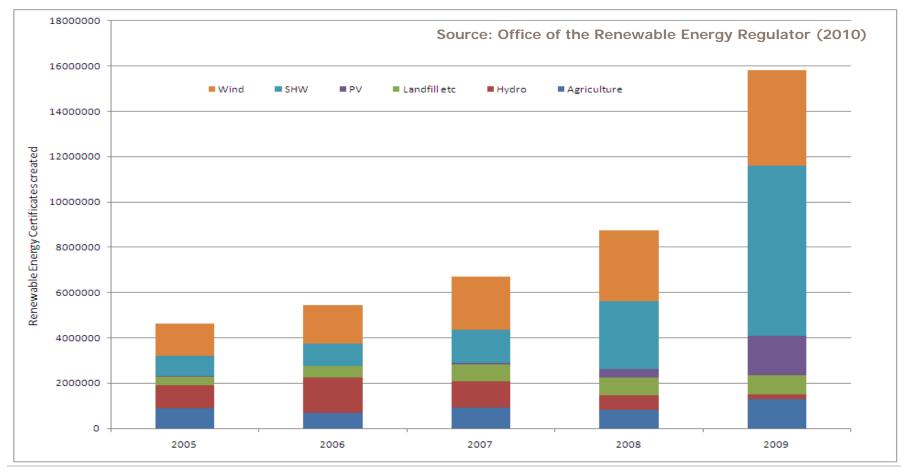
FiT	RECs	Total Subsidies
\$10,500	\$4,650	\$15,150

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Historical REC creation

RECs from SHW and solar PV grew substantially due to complementary policies. This negated the need for new investment.

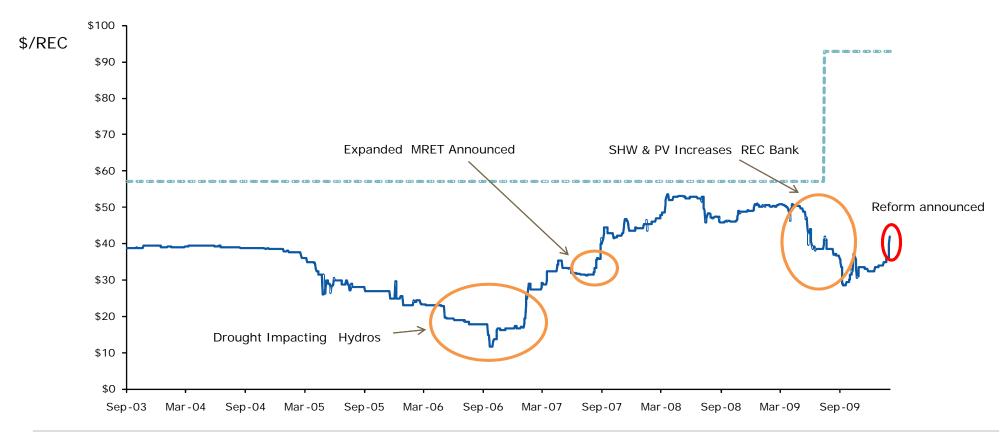


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Role of complementary policies

REC prices declined substantially as complementary policies drove creation of RECs from SHW and PV preventing new investment



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Reforms of 26 February – Driving Growth in Renewables

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Small scale renewable energy scheme (SRES)

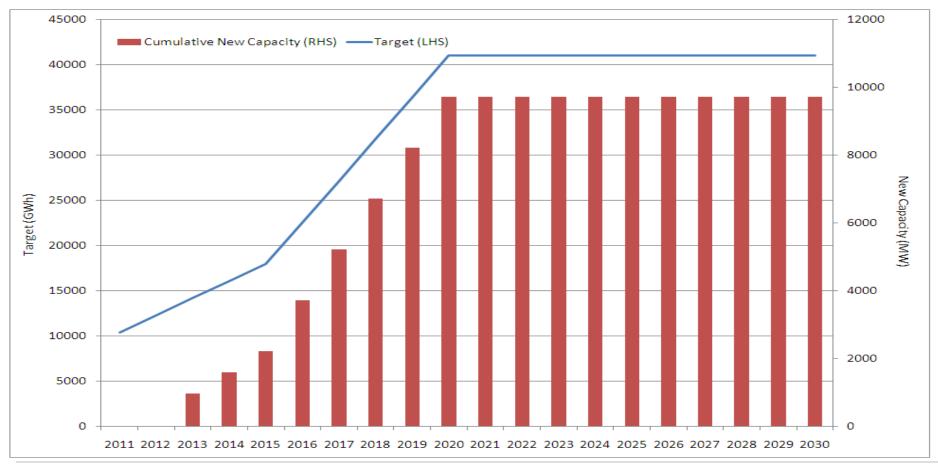
- > Small scale renewable energy scheme
 - » Fixed \$40 per certificate price for solar PV and solar hot water
 - » All other technologies remain in the LRET
 - » Uncapped quantity
- > Similar to 'feed-in tariff'
- > Uptake dependant upon numerous factors including
 - » Ongoing complementary policies such as feed-in tariffs and capital rebates

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Large scale renewable energy target (LRET)

LRET to drive investment of up to 10,000 MW of new renewable investment

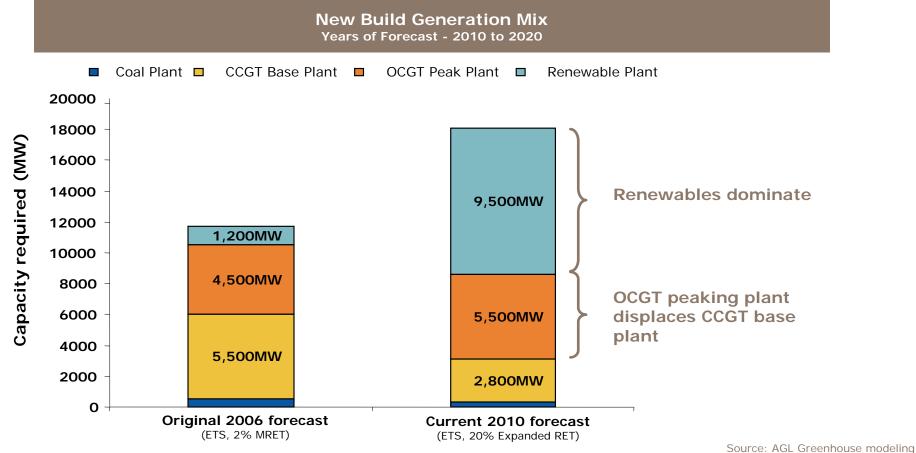


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Impact of Renewable Policy Setting

Fundamental changes required to generation mix.



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MAGL Downstream **Customer Impacts**

Cost impacts - LRET

- > At a REC price of \$90, impacts of LRET are estimated to be about 1% pa (real) on electricity bills over the next decade
- > This should be contrasted with recent price increases driven by network charges of 10-15% (real) pa for three years
- Important conclusion: renewable targets are only a minor contributor to rising electricity prices

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Conclusion

- > 26 February reforms of the Renewable Energy Target were welcomed by the industry
- There are serious consequences of the legislation not being passed before a Commonwealth election
- Objective of the reforms have previously had bipartisan agreement
- No reason why the legislation should not be passed immediately
- With the legislation passed, the industry is ready to commit billions of dollars with associated increases in employment and economic activity



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Further information

AGL Sustainability Report (online and concise summary)

www.aglsustainability.com.au

AGL Sustainability Blog

http://aglenergy.wordpress.com

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