

COAG invites feedback on expanded MRET

The Federal Government has invited feedback on issues relating to the design of an expanded national renewable energy target. The COAG Working Group on Climate Change and Water released a design options paper as part of the consultation process. “The expanded renewable energy target will help deliver on the Government’s commitment to ensure at least 20 per cent of Australia’s electricity supply comes from renewable energy by 2020,” says Climate Change Minister Penny Wong. The Federal Government’s target will expand the previous government’s Mandatory Renewable Energy Target to 45,000 GWh by 2020. Combined with existing renewable energy sources, this will bring the proportion of Australia’s energy coming from renewable sources to 20 per cent (60,000 GWh) by 2020, according to Wong. She also reiterates that the renewable energy target is a transitional measure, that will be phased out between 2020 and 2030, as the Government’s emissions trading scheme, due to start in 2010, matures. The deadline for submissions is 30 July 2008.

[Source essa news]