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Australian gas exports helping to reduce global emissions

As countries gather in Katowice, Poland for the annual UN Climate Change Conference, the latest government estimate¹ released with the *June Quarterly Update of Australia's National Greenhouse Gas Inventory*² confirms the importance of Australia's liquefied natural gas (LNG) exports to reducing global greenhouse gas emissions.

"The global appetite for energy is growing, with more than 1.1 billion people still lacking access to electricity. Substituting LNG for more emissions-intensive fuels allows importing countries to satisfy growing demand while reducing emissions," said APPEA Chief Executive Dr Malcolm Roberts.

"When replacing other fuels, LNG can cut emissions by up to 50 per cent. LNG also helps developing countries to reduce air pollution, a major cause of millions of premature deaths."

Dr Roberts said Australia's LNG projects will deliver decades of economic growth, jobs and exports as well as strong regional and global environmental benefits.

"The latest government estimate suggests that Australia's LNG exports have the potential to save importing countries 130 million tonnes of emissions per year," Dr Roberts said.

This conservative estimate equates to nearly a quarter of Australia's total emissions and is more than the entire emissions from the Australian transport and waste sectors combined.

"Climate change is a global problem that needs a global solution," Dr Roberts said.

"Changing the energy mix with more use of cleaner fuels and renewables is the only way to meet growing demand without soaring emissions."

Australia's LNG export earnings increased 36 per cent to \$31.7 billion in 2017-18 and are forecast to reach \$48.4 billion in 2018-19, according to the figures recently released by the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science.

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¹ See www.environment.gov.au/minister/price/media-releases/mr20181130a.html

² The June Quarterly Update is available at www.environment.gov.au/climate-change/climate-science-data/greenhouse-gas-measurement/publications/quarterly-update-australias-national-greenhouse-gas-inventory-june-2018.