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## **MORE GAS FLOWING TO HELP AUSTRALIA'S CONSTRUCTION BOOM**

The voice of Australia's oil and gas industry today said the latest announcement by Esso Australia, that it has expanded a gas sales agreement with Oceania Glass and will now supply the company with increased volumes of gas, shows how economically efficient and reliable gas is for Australian manufacturers.

APPEA Chief Executive Andrew McConville also said the agreement highlights the role gas plays in the local economy, this time in Victoria where a boom in home renovation and the construction industry is creating demand for gas to help manufacturers produce glass, bricks, roofing and cement.

"It's another sign that gas continues to deliver for local customers and the local economy. This time it's manufacturers in Dandenong South that need reliable gas for their furnaces and the supply from Gippsland delivers that reliability and certainty for them," said Mr McConville.

"This agreement to supply more gas also shows just how essential gas is in the manufacturing of many everyday products. In Australia, we have abundant gas resources and as a fuel that has only half the emissions of coal when used for electricity, our natural gas is in high demand. That means high paying, skilled jobs, export dollars and taxation revenue to governments for decades."

Esso commissioned the Gippsland Basin's West Barracouta project earlier this year and it is expected to be the largest new source of domestic gas for the Australian market over the next ten years.

"The bottom line is the gas in the Gippsland Basin can deliver supply that is competitive and economic and that is the best outcome for manufacturers and customers."

"Australia's oil and gas industry keeps the lights on at home, in our hospitals and other public facilities operating, by continuing to deliver reliable, secure and competitive energy to the domestic market," said Mr McConville.

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