

Energy 21C Media Release

1 August 2007

Karen Waldman can be contacted on (02) 9853 6166 or 0417 465 266

## **Energy industry must prepare for regulatory and climate change**

Climate change will challenge every aspect of energy transmission and distribution from planning new assets to managing peak demand and meeting customer expectations, says an industry leader.

Karen Waldman, General Manager of Regulatory and Corporate Affairs for Integral Energy, said: "Human induced warming of the climate has been described by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change as 'unequivocal'.

"Climate change presents the single greatest environmental challenge to fulfilling our commitment to future generations.

"As we move into a future of appropriately costing carbon, industry must factor in this cost while empowering customers to make more sustainable power choices."

Ms Waldman will chair the Business, Regulatory and Climate Change session of the Energy 21C conference, to be held at the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre from 11 to 14 November 2007.

*Energy Delivery – Solutions for the 21st Century* will be the theme of the 9th international energy transmission and distribution conference and exhibition, to be co-hosted by Integral Energy and EnergyAustralia.

More than 2,000 delegates are expected to attend the four-day Energy 21C conference to explore emerging regulatory and climate change challenges.

"The Australian energy industry is facing a period of considerable change as we transition to a national regulatory regime and confront the climate change issue," Ms Waldman said.

"In relation to climate change, the community expects business and government to take action, while investor certainty requires a single, national trading scheme capable of transitioning into an international framework.

“As technological advances converge with the need to find energy efficiency and emissions solutions, and maintain commercial returns to shareholders, there is now a real opportunity to ensure a sustainable energy industry for Australia into the future.”

Given this unique timing, Energy 21C organisers have dedicated an opening session of the conference to address climate change issues.

Climate change authority, internationally acclaimed scientist, author and Australian of the Year, Professor Tim Flannery, will be one of the keynote speakers.

The seven principal streams of the Energy 21C conference are:

- Asset management and forecasts of future demand and infrastructure needs;
- Business and regulation against the spectre of climate change;
- Demand management and advanced metering infrastructure;
- Customer expectations and solutions;
- Energy delivery capability with a particular focus on the development and sustainability of professional and technical skills and capacity;
- Technical regulation and standardisation; and
- Gas network management.

For more information, visit [www.energy21c.com.au](http://www.energy21c.com.au) or contact the Conference Managers, Waldron Smith Management, by telephone (03) 9645 6311 or e-mail [energy21c@wsm.com.au](mailto:energy21c@wsm.com.au)