

## Treasurer Tom Koutsantonis

Minister for Finance  
Minister for State Development  
Minister for Mineral Resources and Energy  
Minister for Small Business

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### Roadmap to develop SA's bioenergy industry

The State Government today released the first stage of a new report which highlights “hotspot” areas to further develop South Australia’s bioenergy industry.

Mineral Resources and Energy Minister Tom Koutsantonis released *A Bioenergy Roadmap for South Australia* while visiting the State’s South East as part of the Limestone Coast Country Cabinet.

The report identifies Mount Gambier and Penola as prospective areas for bioenergy.

Mr Koutsantonis said bioenergy can be produced from organic matter, derived from plants, animals or manufactured food waste, known as biomass or biofuel feedstocks.

“Biomass resources are a sustainable and environmentally-friendly feedstock that will contribute significantly to a diversifying our energy sources,” Mr Koutsantonis said.

“Electricity, transportation fuels, chemicals and materials currently produced from petroleum and natural gas could instead be produced from these biomass resources.

“Bioenergy could play a significant role in coming years by supplying a localised energy source in low input, peak demand periods.”

In March, the State Government commissioned consultancy group Jacobs to analyse South Australia’s bioenergy potential and produce a report and associated spatial data as a first step towards creating a substantial and sustainable bioenergy industry.

The company investigated commercial conversion technologies, mapped potential biomass feedstocks for those technologies and explored the potential for new purpose-grown biomass crops.

Mr Koutsantonis said by matching biomass feedstock information to companies with a demand for both electricity and heat, Jacobs arrived at a number of “hotspot” areas in the State for further investigation.

“The project has significantly increased information about the potential location and use of bioenergy generation in the State,” he said.

“It shows the most prospective area for bioenergy is Penola and Mount Gambier, while purpose-grown biomass crops are best suited to the areas of Peake, Naracoorte, Elliston, Spalding and Cummins.

“This presents a fantastic opportunity for South Australia and the South East region in particular to diversify its industries and create new jobs for local communities.

“The State Government is committed to unlocking the full potential of South Australia’s resources, energy and renewable assets.

“As the costs of traditional energy such as electricity and gas continue to rise, we have the potential to make greater use of existing and new feedstock and allow bioenergy to contribute to the State’s low carbon future.”

The release of *A Bioenergy Roadmap for South Australia* comes ahead of the Premier Jay Weatherill and Climate Change Minister Ian Hunter attending global climate change talks in Paris next month.

*A Bioenergy Roadmap for South Australia* is available on the RenewablesSA website. Visit [www.renewablessa.sa.gov.au](http://www.renewablessa.sa.gov.au)

Stage 2 of the project will involve relevant industries in the hotspot areas to investigate the feasibility of developing specific projects.