

Monday, 6 June 2011

NEW APPOINTMENTS TO ADVISORY BODIES

Premier Mike Rann today announced that leading Adelaide businessman Bruce Carter had been appointed chair of both the Premier's Climate Change Council and the RenewablesSA Board.

Mr Rann said he believed Mr Carter would make a valuable contribution and bring strong leadership to the bodies based on his many years and extensive experience in the private sector.

Established under the *Climate Change and Greenhouse Emissions Reduction Act 2007*, the Premier's Climate Change Council is an independent high-level body which advises the Premier, in his role as the Minister for Sustainability and Climate Change, on reducing greenhouse gas emissions and adapting to climate change.

Alongside the appointment of Mr Carter, the Premier announced a number of other appointments to the Council. They include:

- Ms Ros DeGaris, Group Sustainability Manager, Adelaide Brighton Cement;
- Mr Brian Foster, Chair of the Eyre Peninsula Regional Climate Change Agreement Steering Committee and a community leader on the Eyre Peninsula;
- Ms Nicole Halsey, Director, UPRS;
- Professor Jean Palutikof, Director, National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility;
- Mr Tim O'Loughlin, Commissioner for Renewable Energy;
- Mr Tim Kelly, CEO, Conservation Council of South Australia; and
- Dr Prue McMichael, Plant Pathologist and Principal Consultant, Scholefield Robinson Horticultural Services.

They join existing members:

- Mr John O'Brien, Managing Director of Australian CleanTech; and
- Ms Verity Sanders, Strategic Planner, the City of Port Adelaide-Enfield.

The RenewablesSA Board was established in 2009 to drive the attraction of renewable energy investment in South Australia, provide advice on renewable policy matters and recommend how the State's Renewable Energy Fund should be disbursed.

New members of the RenewablesSA Board are Brian Foster, Nicole Halsey and John O'Brien who join existing member David Klingberg AO, who is Director of Snowy Hydro Limited, Codan Limited and E & A Limited.

Premier Rann said it is critical that government works together with industry, the research sector and the community to better prepare the state for a transition to a carbon constrained future and changing climatic conditions.

Mr Rann said he wanted South Australia to continue to be a leader in renewable energy and tackling climate change.

“That leadership has come about through choice not chance,” Mr Rann said.

“It is not only due to our hard work in harnessing our enviable wind, geothermal and solar resources but also because we are prepared to change our regulatory processes where necessary to provide greater consistency, transparency and investment certainty.

“We have done this through working closely with the business, community, local government, science and environment and conservation sectors.

“I’m pleased that both the council and board are made up of people who represent these areas and I look forward to receiving their advice on these vital matters,” Mr Rann said.

Council members are appointed from 1 May 2011 and board members are appointed from 1 July 2011.

For more information on climate change in South Australia, visit www.climatechange.sa.gov.au or to find out more about the Renewable Energy Fund, visit www.renewablesa.sa.gov.au