



The Hon Chris Hartcher

Minister for Resources and Energy

Special Minister of State

Minister for the Central Coast

MEDIA RELEASE

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NSW GOVERNMENT CARBON CAPTURE DEAL A WORLD FIRST

NSW Government-owned electricity generator Macquarie Generation and biofuels company Algae.Tec today signed a deal which will see the beneficial capture and reuse of carbon emissions from one of Australia's largest coal-fired power stations.

Energy Minister Chris Hartcher said emissions from the Bayswater Power Station in the Hunter would be fed into algae ponds to create sustainable transport fuels, including biodiesel and jet fuel.

"The NSW Government is working to achieve a sustainable and affordable renewable energy future. Biofuels will play a key part in this vision, whilst also encouraging regional development and job creation in NSW," Mr Hartcher said.

"We are always keen to support the development of a clean and viable biofuels industry – especially when that industry continues to be such an important source of employment for regional NSW.

"The vision and innovation in the development of this technology is such that it's a world first. We welcome the technology to NSW and hope Algae.Tec can continue to develop partnerships with regional industries who are working to become increasingly energy efficient.

"The coal industry is a significant pillar of the State's economy and our single biggest export. This innovation offers great promise for an industry vital to NSW, giving it a long term and sustainable future by capturing and reusing carbon emissions from power generation."

The Algae.Tec facility will take 270,000 tonnes of carbon a year from Bayswater, increasing to 1.35 million tonnes in the future.

Parliamentary Secretary for Renewable Energy, Rob Stokes said the announcement is a positive move towards a sustainable fuel source for NSW.

"This is an innovative product that provides a pathway to economic success using waste products to produce sustainable transport fuels," Mr Stokes said

"The resulting biofuels from the algae ponds – projected to be 250,000 tonnes per year – will be used by consumers and the mining industry in the Hunter region for commercial diesel fuel."

Member for Upper Hunter, George Souris said an additional benefit of the deal was the creation of hundreds of regional jobs for the Hunter region.

“A local biofuels industry will boost the region’s economy and support local jobs, making the Hunter a leader in this emerging technology whilst providing a locally produced, environmentally sustainable fuel source,” he said.

The Algae.Tec facility is expected to commence operations in mid-2014.

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