SENATOR SUSAN McDONALD
Shadow Minister for Resources
Shadow Minister for Northern Australia
Senator for Queensland

THE HON DAN TEHAN MP
Shadow Minister for Energy and Emissions Reduction
Member for Wannon

THE HON ANDREW HASTIE MP
Shadow Minister for Industry and Sovereign Capability
Member for Canning

SENATOR THE HON MATT CANAVAN
Leader of The Nationals
Shadow Minister for Trade, Investment and Tourism
Senator for Queensland

JOINT STATEMENT

27 November 2026

PASSAGE OF LABOR'S GAS RESERVATION LEGISLATION

The Albanese Labor Government's gas reservation scheme is not the silver bullet Labor thinks it is to address soaring energy prices in Australia — scrapping Net Zero is.

The Coalition has supported a domestic gas reservation scheme since 2019 but wants appropriate safeguards and transparency to ensure the Government can be held to account if the scheme has unintended consequences.

We sought certainty that affordable and reliable gas supplies will be available to domestic manufacturing for decades to come.

Labor has consistently failed Australians on energy, but in the interests of certainty the Coalition has not stood in the way of the scheme.

We have secured important improvements including a carve out for Western Australia, concessions on the must-sell provision, vital reforms to offshore oil and gas regulation, extension of the carryover period from 3 to 5 years and a statutory review of the scheme's impact on investment.

These reforms do not go as far as we would like to safeguard investment in new supply.

This is why we also proposed further common-sense amendments including an objective that the scheme should lead to more investment in new gas supply.

In addition, further strengthening of the WA carve out, addressing the oversupply issue and increased flexibility arrangements. It is shortsighted for the Government to reject these.

Labor has a record of failure on energy and gas policy. Since 2022, energy prices have risen by almost 40 per cent, Labor's carbon taxes have crushed investment, and access to coal, oil and gas has been blocked.

The Coalition will closely scrutinise how the scheme works in practice, so that Australian gas goes to Australian households and manufacturers without choking off the new supply we badly need.

Labor's rush to legislate their half-baked reservation scheme does not address the looming supply crunch forecast by industry.

Unlike Labor, the Coalition has always believed that Australian gas should be for Australian households and businesses, especially our manufacturers.

That is why the Coalition supports more investment in new gas along with a domestic gas reservation scheme.

Madeleine King, Tim Ayres, and Chris Bowen never believed in Australian gas, and they do not believe in it now.

ENDS

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