

BRICKWORKS

BUILDING PRODUCTS

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Victorian Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

Lodged via <https://engage.vic.gov.au>

Dear DELWP,

RE: Victorian Gas Substitution Roadmap Consultation

Brickworks Building Products Pty Limited (“Brickworks”) welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Victorian Gas Substitution Roadmap Consultation Paper.

Brickworks is a domestic manufacturer of building products and has plants located in all Australian states. In Victoria, Brickworks produces 170 million bricks each year at our Austral Bricks plant located in Wollert. The Wollert plant consumes approximately 1,000,000 GJ of natural gas each year. Brick making consumes natural gas to fire bricks at over 1,000 degrees Celsius. Brick manufacturers do not have an option to electrify their brick kilns as electricity can not achieve the high temperatures required to fire bricks.

Brickworks supports an initiative to begin decarbonising the Victorian gas network through the injection and blending of renewable gases in the network. We believe several renewable gases can assist with the transition towards net-zero carbon ambitions, including biomethane from waste and hydrogen. Government financial support will be needed to develop renewable gas production facilities, and support gas users adapt to a changing gas specification. Large manufacturing and industrial processes will need financial and technical support to change processes and upgrade equipment for a gas specification different from today’s natural gas specification. An advantage of injecting biomethane into the Victorian gas network over hydrogen is that it will not change the gas specification. Government support should be agnostic towards the type of renewable gas it supports if it decarbonises the gas network and represents the lowest cost to consumers. It will also be crucial that any renewable gas scheme has a key objective to minimise the cost impact to end consumers.

Brickworks is a member of the Energy User Association of Australia and supports its submission.

Kind Regards,



PROUDLY SUPPORTS

