

Australian Government

Department of the Environment and Energy

MEDIA RELEASE

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Public Consultations to inform national electricity blueprint

The Independent Review into the Future Security of the National Electricity Market, chaired by Australia's Chief Scientist Dr Alan Finkel, is commencing a wide-ranging open public consultation process.

The Independent Panel's preliminary report, released on 9 December 2016, included a number of observations and questions to guide these consultations. A blueprint informed by the public's perspectives will be released in the first half of 2017.

"Electricity is the lifeblood of the nation and I encourage members of the public to share their point of view with the Review Panel," Dr Finkel said.

The consultation sessions will be held on the following dates:

Adelaide, Crowne Plaza Adelaide: 30 January 2017: 5 pm – 7 pm

Brisbane, Sofitel Brisbane Central: 2 February 2017: 5 pm – 7 pm

Melbourne, Ibis Melbourne Hotel and Apartments: 8 February 2017: 5 pm – 7 pm

Hobart, Hotel Grand Chancellor: 13 February 2017: 5 pm – 7 pm

Sydney, Karstens Sydney Function Centre: 15 February 2017: 5 pm – 7 pm

Members of the public are invited to attend the session in their capital city.

The Panel will also hold targeted meetings in capital cities for businesses, researchers, policy specialists and consumer groups involved with the energy sector.

Details on registering for public sessions and the targeted meetings are available on the Department of the Environment and Energy's website at <u>http://www.environment.gov.au/energy/national-</u>electricity-market-review

Consultation Enquiries: Department of Environment and Energy, NEMSecurityReview@environment.gov.au