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### **New Minister chance for new balance: DomGas Alliance**

The DomGas Alliance has welcomed the appointment of the Hon Josh Frydenberg to the new portfolio of Minister for Resources, Energy and Northern Australia.

DomGas Alliance Executive Director Matt Brown said the appointment was an opportunity to re-balance Australia's national energy policy.

"Canberra has traditionally prioritised the export of Australia's energy resources rather than strategically thinking through how those same resources could be used to build Australian industry and create Australian jobs," Mr Brown said.

"This year's Energy White Paper simply confirmed that narrow line of thinking. We need to re-balance and re-focus our national energy debate.

"Nations like the United States are reaping an enormous economic windfall for their domestic industry from their natural gas resources. Meanwhile the ACCC has confirmed that Australian industry is struggling to secure the gas it needs to continue to operate and grow.

"For too long our national energy policy has been largely dictated by the interests of oil and gas producers who take an 'all or nothing' approach in their push for LNG exports over domestic gas supply.

"The supply problems facing the East coast must surely send a signal to Canberra that something is seriously wrong with our current national policy settings.

"The Western Australian experience proves that you can have a prosperous LNG sector while ensuring a small but fair share of our gas is marketed at commercial rates into the domestic market.

"We are hopeful that Minister Frydenberg will look at the real world outcomes from Western Australia rather than the self-interest and scare campaigns from oil and gas producers."

The DomGas Alliance has also acknowledged the service of the former Minister for Industry, the Hon Ian Macfarlane, and wished him well in retirement.

**For further comment contact Matt Brown on 0419 813 171.**