



Mallee Regional
Innovation Centre

Hydrogen in the Mallee

Mallee Hydrogen Technology Cluster

3 & 4 August 2021

28 July 2021

Mallee Hydrogen Technology Cluster Virtual Visit

Dates: Tuesday 3 August – Mildura region
Wednesday 4 August – Swan Hill region

Objective of the visit:

The Mallee Hydrogen Technology Cluster will bring together parties to:

- discuss innovation and technology development of hydrogen
- provide an improved and increased understanding of hydrogen opportunities for industry, identified stakeholders and community in the region
- provide a regional overview and raise the profile of the region as a place for hydrogen project development
- facilitate and build relationships
- identify opportunities that will aid the development of the hydrogen supply chain in areas such as transport, gas, agriculture, skills capabilities and new uses for renewable energy by creating opportunities for existing and alternative industries to transition to hydrogen, reduce emissions and boost economic opportunities for the Mallee Region.

Virtual visiting delegation

We look forward to virtually welcoming delegations from the Victorian Hydrogen Hub, DELWP (Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning), NERA (National Energy Resources Australia), Design Factory Melbourne and GHD to our region, for what is planned to be a productive pathway in to better understanding the opportunities for the development of a hydrogen industry in our region.

Participating organisations

We thank all the organisations that have stepped forward to join the discussion over the two days visit. This includes Mildura Rural City Council, Swan Hill Rural City Council, Mildura Regional Development, GTS Freight Management, SuniTAFE, the Almond Board of Australia, Tas Gas , local parliamentarians and other industry representatives.

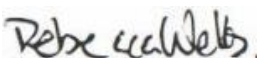
The organisations attending cover the following sectors: local government, economic development, transport and logistics, education and training, agriculture, gas, food processing and manufacturing.

Mallee Hydrogen Technology Cluster

Thanks to the Mallee Regional Innovation Centre, Mildura Regional Development and Regional Development Loddon Mallee for their supporting contributions in making the visit possible.

This pack provides you with the program for the forum, etiquette for engagement, participant individual and organizational profile information.

Finally on behalf of my fellow Mallee Hydrogen Technology Cluster Steering Committee members, Brett Millington, Peter Forbes, Brian Pang and Ben Chatfield, we encourage you all to make the most of this opportunity and hope that it will be the beginning of some new relationships that will lead productive activities.



Lead - Mallee Hydrogen Technology Cluster
Chief Executive - Mallee Regional Innovation Centre

Mallee Hydrogen Technology Cluster

Hydrogen Regional Themed Forum

Dates: Tuesday 3 & Wednesday 4 August 2021

Please see listed 'visitor' and host organisations involved:

Name	Title	Organisation
Victorian Hydrogen Hub		
Dr Victor Pantano	Director, Strategic Programs	Swinburne University of Technology
Dr Sally McArthur	Director, Manufacturing Futures Research Institute	Swinburne University of Technology
Gordon Chakaodza	Director, Victorian Hydrogen Hub	Swinburne University of Technology
Fiona Knowles	Head, Learning Design and Innovation	Swinburne University of Technology
Milorad Cerovac	Researcher, Learning Design and Innovation	Swinburne University of Technology
Eve Martin	Manager, Strategic Programs	Swinburne University of Technology
Anita Kocsis	Director, Design Factory Melbourne	Swinburne University of Technology
Pauliina Mattila	Coach and Lecturer, Design Factory Melbourne	Swinburne University of Technology
Jon Callander	Business Partner Victoria Hydrogen Hub (VH2)	Swinburne University of Technology
Design Factory Melbourne		
Professor Anita Kocsis	Director, Design Factory Melbourne	Swinburne University of Technology
Pauliina Mattila	Coach & Lecturer, Design Factory Melbourne	Swinburne University of Technology

National Energy Resources Australia (NERA)		
Leigh Kennedy	National Cluster Development Manager	NERA (National Energy Resources Australia)
Richard Reilly	Victorian Hydrogen Cluster Network Lead	NERA (National Energy Resources Australia)
Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP)		
Gabrielle Henry	Director, Industry Development and Engagement	DELWP
David Oglesby	Senior Manager, Emerging Technologies	Energy Group, DELWP
Marika Wanklyn	Manager, Emerging Technologies	Energy Group, DELWP
Cienna Turpie	Principal Project Officer, Emerging Technologies	Energy Group, DELWP
Gemma Hammond	Senior Project Officer, Emerging Technologies	Energy Group, DELWP
Nicholas Barda	Senior Project Officer, Emerging Technologies	Energy Group, DELWP
Siobhan Bradley	Project Officer, Emerging Technologies	Energy Group, DELWP
Kathleen Tonini	Project Officer, Emerging Technologies	Energy Group, DELWP
Jack MacCauley	Project Officer, Emerging Technologies	Energy Group, DELWP
Mallee Hydrogen Technology Cluster – Steering Committee		
Rebecca Wells (Chair)	Chief Executive	Mallee Regional Innovation Centre (MRIC)
Peter Forbes (Member)	Manager Regional Development Australia, Regional Development Victoria	Regional Development Victoria
Brett Millington (Member)	Chief Executive Officer	Mildura Regional Development
Ben Chatfield (Member)	Chief Financial Officer	GTS Management
Brian Pang (Member)	Senior Business Development Manager	The University of Melbourne
Mallee Regional Innovation Centre		
Leonie Burrows	Chair	Strategic Advisory Panel
GHD		
Rory Quinn	Technical Director	Plant and Process, GHD

Mildura Regional Development		
Sharon Morrell	Economic Development Officer	

ALL ATTENDEES – PLEASE READ

Please note we'll be saving the chat's from all the meetings.

We encourage you to use this tool to engage by asking questions, network or share information

We have planned to allow each meeting to have some time for general discussion or question and answers.

We will take 5 minutes before the end of each meeting to review any actions out of the meeting.

Please note that we haven't set up a waiting room and there will be times when other may arrive toward the end of a meeting.

Due to the number of participants in these meetings, can we please ask that you mute yourself, so we can avoid feedback.

Some of these meetings will involve large groups of participants and we'd encourage you to raise your hand to flag you'd like to contribute to the conversation.

Day 1 – Tuesday 3 August – Mildura region and industry

Time	Meeting Detail	Presenter, Attendees or participates
9.30am to 10.00am	<p>General welcome</p> <p>Acknowledgement of country</p>	<p>Rebecca Wells – Chief Executive, Mallee Regional Innovation Centre, Lead Mallee Hydrogen Technology Cluster and Chair of Cluster Steering Committee.</p> <p>Leonie Burrows – Chair Strategic Advisory Panel, Mallee Regional Innovation Centre</p> <p>All (Victorian Hydrogen Hub, NERA, DELWP, Mallee Hydrogen Cluster Steering Committee members,</p>

	Introductions	Mildura Regional Development, Design Factory Melbourne and GHD). The above mentioned will participate in all the scheduled appointments below for Day 1.
10:00am to 11:00am	Overview of the Mildura region	Brett Millington – Chief Executive Officer, Mildura Regional Development and Mallee Hydrogen Cluster Steering Committee member
11:00am to 11:30am	Morning tea break and networking opportunity	We'd encourage everyone to grab your morning tea, check your email, make that call you have to. But also know you can come back and take the opportunity to network with everyone.
11:30pm to 12:30pm	Transport – freight and logistics Discussion on opportunities for the region as seen by the Cluster Steering Committee	Ben Chatfield – Chief Financial Officer, GTS Management & Mallee Hydrogen Cluster Steering Committee member
12:30pm – 1.30pm	Lunch break and networking opportunity	We encourage you all get up, move around and take a break but also highlight the opportunity to sit and eat your lunch and network. (Please turn off your camera and mute yourself while you are absent during this time)
(From 1.10pm to 1.30pm)	Federal member for Mallee, Dr Anne Webster MP And State member for Murray Plains, The Hon. Peter Walsh MP	Local parliamentary members will be joining us for some informal networking and discussion over the latter part of our lunch break.

<p>1.30pm to 3.00pm</p> <p>Farm</p> <p>1.30pm to 1.50pm</p> <p>1.50pm to 2.15pm</p> <p>Skills</p> <p>2.15pm to 2.30pm</p> <p>2.30pm to 2.35pm</p> <p>2.35pm to 3.00pm</p>	<p>SuniTAFE – SMART Farm (Part 1) & Skills – Education and Training (Part 2)</p> <p>Short presentation on SuniTAFE Smart Farm</p> <p>Discussion of hydrogen opportunity.</p> <p>SuniTAFE – (Skills and training opportunity with hydrogen)</p> <p>Victorian Hydrogen Hub Skills project and what a skills framework looks like for hydrogen.</p> <p>NERA - hydrogen skills development (Clusters)</p> <p>Questions and discussions</p>	<p>Greg Hutchison – SuniTAFE Board Director and member SuniTAFE Horticulture Industry Advisory Group (HIAG)</p> <p>Geoff Dea – Chief Executive Officer and member SuniTAFE HIAG</p> <p>David Harris – General Manager – Operations and member of HIAG</p> <p>Greg Leslie – Manager Strategy – Business Development and Strategy</p> <p>Ross Humphreys - Commercial Business Development Manager</p> <p>Warren Lloyd – Manager, Primary Industries – Primary Industries and Smart Farm and member of HIAG</p> <p>Nicole Byrnes – Project Lead, Hort Innovation / Technology – Smart Farm and member of HIAG</p> <p>Darren Minter – Owner / Manager Minter Magic and member of HIAG</p>
<p>3.00pm to 3.30pm</p>	<p>Afternoon tea break and networking opportunity</p>	<p>We’d encourage everyone to grab your afternoon tea, check your email, make that call you have to. But also know you can come back and take the opportunity to network with everyone.</p>
<p>3.30pm to 4.15pm</p>	<p>Almond Board of Australia</p>	<p>Joseph Ebbage, Market Development and Deidre Jaensch Industry Development Manager</p>

	Almond industry - discussion on agricultural applications of hydrogen, including biomass, emissions and economics.	
4.15pm to 4.45pm	Wrap up and review of actions from day one	All (Victorian Hydrogen Hub, NERA, DELWP, Mallee Hydrogen Cluster Steering Committee, Mallee Regional Innovation Centre, Melbourne, Design Factory and GHD).
4.45pm	End of Day 1 – Close of program	

Day 2 – Wednesday 4 August – Mildura Rural City Council, Swan Hill Rural City Council, Swan Hill region and Swan Hill industry

Time	Meeting Detail	
9.30am to 10.15am	Mildura Rural City Council	Councillors and staff
9.30am to 9.40am	NERA - hydrogen opportunities, national perspective	Mayor Jason Modica, Cr Ian Arney, Cr Glenn Milne, Jodie Reynolds (tentative), Cr Liam Wood and Bonnie Pettett (Environmental Sustainability Coordinator) and Jay Smith (Energy & Water Innovation Officer)
9.40am to 9.50am	DELWP - hydrogen opportunities, Victorian State Government perspective	
9.50am to 10.15am	Then questions and discussion	and
	Mildura Rural City Council are invited to stay for networking at the morning tea break.	The below mentioned will participate in all the scheduled appointments below for Day 2.

		All (Victorian Hydrogen Hub, NERA, DELWP, Mallee Hydrogen Cluster Steering Committee members, Mallee Regional Innovation Centre, Design Factory Melbourne and GHD).
10.15am to 10.30am	Morning tea break and networking opportunity	<p>We'd encourage everyone to grab your morning tea, check you can come back and take the opportunity to network with everyone.</p> <p>Mildura Rural City Council are invited to stay for networking at the morning tea break.</p>
<p>10.30am to 11.30am</p> <p>10:30am to 10.50am</p> <p>10.50am to 11.00am</p> <p>11.00am to 11.10am</p>	<p>Swan Hill Rural City Council Meet Swan Hill Councillors and staff</p> <p>Mayor Moar to give brief overview of Swan Hill Region.</p> <p>NERA - hydrogen opportunities, national perspective</p> <p>DELWP - hydrogen opportunities, Victorian State Government perspective</p>	<p>Mayor Bill Moar to give a brief overview of the Swan Hill Region</p> <p>Mayor be joined by Cr Stuart King and Heather Green, Director of Development and Planning.</p> <p>Apology Cr Ann Young.</p> <p>Leigh Kennedy present on NERA, the hydrogen opportunity and the cluster network.</p> <p>DELWP Energy team</p>

<p>11.10am to 11.30am</p>	<p>Then questions and discussion</p>	<p>Swan Hill Rural City Council group are invited to stay online for the meeting with Tas Gas.</p>
<p>11:30am to 12.30pm 11.30am to 12.10pm 12.10pm to 12.30pm</p>	<p>Tas Gas Presentation from Tas Gas Business networks include Swan Hill and Robinvale (mother/daughter systems). Business opportunities. Then questions and discussion</p>	<p>Phaedra Deckart, Chief Executive Officer, Tas Gas Will Temple-Smith, General Manager Commercial and Business Development, Tas Gas Quade Geale, Acting Manager Commercial, Tas Gas Ken McAlpine, Manager Director, Spring Street Advisory Swan Hill Rural City Council group as listed above are invited to join this meeting.</p>
<p>12.30pm to 1.30pm (From 1.10pm to 1.30pm)</p>	<p>Lunch break and networking opportunity State member for Mildura, Ali Cupper MP (TBC)</p>	<p>We encourage you all get up, move around and take a break, but also highlight the opportunity to sit and eat your lunch and network. (Please turn off your camera and mute yourself while you are absent during this time) Swan Hill Rural City Council group are invited to stay for networking over lunch. An invitation has gone out to local parliamentary members to join us for some networking and discussion over the latter part of our lunch break.</p>

<p>1.30pm to 3.00pm</p> <p>1.30pm to 1.50pm</p> <p>1.50pm to 2.10pm</p> <p>2.10pm to 2.30pm</p> <p>2.30pm to 3.00pm</p>	<p>Swan Hill industry hydrogen information session</p> <p>NERA - hydrogen opportunities, national perspective</p> <p>Mallee Hydrogen Technology Cluster</p> <p>DELWP - hydrogen opportunities, Victorian State Government perspective</p> <p>Then questions and discussion with industry</p>	<p>Leigh Kennedy present on NERA, the hydrogen opportunity and the cluster network.</p> <p>Rebecca Wells to give brief overview of Mallee Hydrogen Cluster and their work.</p> <p>DELWP Energy team</p> <p>* Invitations have gone to OLAM (almond orchards and food processor), Cobram Estate (olives groves and food processor) , Swan Hill Chemicals, Pickerings Transport, Whitfield Excavations (Sand, gravel and concrete products), Polymaster (Tank manufacturer), Wattle Organic Farms, Entegra (Big sheds), Andrew Peace Wines, Floorex Products (industrial equipment), VFS Fruits (Orchards and fruit exporter) and Cutri Fruit (Orchards and fruit exporter).</p>
<p>3.00pm to 3.30pm</p>	<p>Afternoon tea break and networking opportunity</p>	<p>We'd encourage everyone to grab your afternoon tea, check your email, make that call you have to.</p>

		But also know you can come back and take the opportunity to network with everyone.
3.30pm to 4.30pm	Review meeting outcomes. Next steps.	All (Victorian Hydrogen Hub, NERA, DELWP, Mallee Hydrogen Cluster Steering Committee, Mallee Regional Innovation Centre, Melbourne Design Factory and GHD).
4.30pm	Day 2 - Close of Forum - finish proceedings	

Meeting attendee information

Please see below for individual and organisational profile information for those attending meetings.

Mallee Hydrogen Technology Cluster Virtual Visit

Participant and organisational profiles for visitors, hosts and meeting attendees

Victorian Hydrogen Hub

Led by Swinburne University of Technology, working in partnership with CSIRO and Germany's ARENA 2036, the Victorian Hydrogen Hub will bring together researchers, industry partners and business. Testing, trialling and demonstrating new and emerging hydrogen technologies, the Victorian Hydrogen Hub will support sustainable manufacturing practices and the ability to store clean energy from renewable sources, striving to create a sustainable future for all.

Hydrogen is emerging as a clean fuel and important feedstock (raw material for industrial processes) for the future, that could make significant contributions to decarbonisation of fossil fuel intensive industries. Australia has resources and skills to:

- build an economically sustainable domestic hydrogen industry, as well as;
- create an export industry for hydrogen.

The partnership between Swinburne and CSIRO will build on existing knowledge and joint strengths in digitalisation and Industry 4.0. Through the Victorian Hydrogen Hub we will lead the way, furthering research and development of the hydrogen sector, working closely with industry to enhance understanding of what hydrogen can deliver.



Dr Victor Pantano

Director, Strategic Programs
Swinburne University of Technology

Victor Pantano is Director, Strategic Programs at Swinburne University. Victor works with senior leaders at Swinburne to develop the university's refreshed Industry 4.0 Strategy and the development of strategic applied research and translation initiatives, playing a key role in the development of new international and industry research initiatives and oversee funding proposals in priority areas such as hydrogen and space science and technology. Victor also advises and recommends on the management of intellectual property, knowledge translation and commercialisation activities.

Victor has over 20 years of experience in business development, transformation and growth at the intersection of research and industry. He has raised several hundred million dollars in equity and research / technology funding across multiple domains and is one of Australia's most highly regarded leaders in this area.

Formerly, he was Chief Executive Officer of the Digital Health Cooperative Research Centre, Associate Vice President, Innovation and Strategy at the University of Canberra, General Manager at FEI Company (a subsidiary of Thermo Fisher Scientific), Chief Operating Officer at Lithicon AS, Chief Executive Officer at Digitalcore Pty Ltd, Director of Commercialisation at the Australian National University and Investment Director at ANU Connect Ventures. Victor is currently Founding Director of Liquid Instruments Inc and formerly Director of the Canberra Innovation Network and Epicorp Venture Fund Limited.



Dr Sally McArthur

Director, Manufacturing Futures Research Institute
Regional Director, Victoria - Medical Device Partnering Program (MDPP)
CSIRO Research+ Science Leader, Biomedical Materials
Swinburne University of Technology

Sally McArthur is one of Australia's leading biomedical engineers. Sally was the founding Director of the Swinburne Innovation Precinct; she is Victorian Regional Director of the National Medical Device Partnering Program (MDPP) and the leader of the Biointerface Engineering Hub of the Australian National Fabrication Facilities Victoria.

To date, she has obtained over \$22 million in funding from research councils, industry, and government within the UK and Australia. Sally's career has always been a balance between fundamental materials and surface engineering and the application of this knowledge to solve problems and develop new products that operate in biological environments.

As Director of the Manufacturing Futures Research Institute, Sally will focus on research-led innovation and the translation of fundamental and applied research into industrial applications. This will involve significant work in supporting the development of new, commercially focused enterprises as well as driving the PhD program at Swinburne. Looking forward, Sally aims to widen the reach of the Manufacturing Futures Research Institute across the full breadth of manufacturing sectors including health, food, and renewable energies.



Gordon Chakaodza

Director, Victorian Hydrogen Hub
Swinburne University of Technology

The Victorian Hydrogen Hub (VH2) has been designed to bring researchers, industry partners and businesses together to test, trial and demonstrate new and emerging hydrogen technologies.

As Director, and working closely with our partners, CSIRO and ARENA2036, and the VH2 Industry Advisory Board, Gordon will launch, operationalise, and grow the VH2 precinct as a nationally recognised centre of hydrogen development excellence. This will include setting in motion the initial programs and activities funded by the Victorian Government under the Victorian Higher Education Strategic Investment Fund, as well as developing a pipeline of national and international opportunities leading to sustainable funding for VH2 beyond 2022.

Gordon has previously worked alongside mining services, technology companies, universities, and government agencies, including roles with Austrade both onshore and overseas.



Fiona Knowles

Head of Learning Design and Innovation
Swinburne University of Technology

Fiona is a technical vocational education and training specialist with over twenty-five years' experience in the Australian education and training sector. Fiona currently holds the position of Head of Learning Design and Innovation and is responsible for managing a multi-functional team of instructional designers and digital learning specialists, project managers and support staff.

The projects span diverse initiatives including design and development of customised workforce training and education solutions and collaborative industry projects across rail, aviation, civil infrastructure sectors. Fiona is the lead executive responsible for key collaborations with project partners LXP and Aviation Aerospace Australia.

In recognition of her experience in working with industry partners in Australia and internationally, Fiona was awarded an International Partnership Award from the International Partnership Network, the first individual award presented by the Network.

Fiona has held a number of positions at Swinburne and within the sector that include Business Development Manager, Course Coordinator, Teacher, Curriculum Designer, Resource Developer and Manager of Teaching and Learning for the School of Sustainability Futures.



Eve Martin

Manager, Strategic Programs
Swinburne University of Technology

Eve Martin is the newly appointed Manager, Strategic Programs and works on all VHESIF programs. With a background in corporate, commercial, and intellectual property law Eve has extensive experience in commercial and legal roles ranging from start-ups through to major international corporations. She has been in-house legal counsel for private and publicly listed organisations and runs a small private boutique legal firm working with a select number of Australia's fastest growing companies.

Eve has advised a number of universities (in Canberra and Melbourne), investment managers and start-up companies on a wide range of issues including legal due diligence, subscription arrangements, non-disclosure, collaborative research and development, Corporations Act compliance and commercialisation of product developments. She also has significant experience structuring and establishing new entities and advising in relation to grant funding.

Eve has also been Commercial Manager and COO of multiple organisations and brings a depth of management and organisational capacity that will assist in Swinburne's engagement with industry to establish commercial partnership arrangements and speed the spin-out and commercialisation of Swinburne IP.



Design Factory Melbourne

The Design Factory Melbourne team embedded in the VH2 program explores with partners and end users typically at early-stage development what might be possible and how the technology or research adoption could be relevant to business and community now and impact on future. DFM aims to facilitate decision making, explore options without bias and empower teams to work towards solutions.



Professor Anita Kocsis

Director, Design Factory Melbourne
Swinburne University of Technology

Professor Anita Kocsis is Director of Design Factory Melbourne, a transdisciplinary platform that creates the conditions for design led innovation by brokering collaborative university industry-engaged research. DFM is a founder member of the Design Factory Global network of 24 design factories worldwide. Anita has 15 years' experience in the commercial and corporate sectors and now leads DFM in a key role developing innovation capability with partnerships across diverse university sectors and local and global research centres including Stanford and Aalto universities, CSIRO, ANSTO and CERN.

DFM is an innovation hub. Students, researchers, business partners, entrepreneurs and unicorns work together through the language of prototyping and design inspired innovation methods to solve multidisciplinary complex problems, generate solutions and forecast future scenarios. We work local and global founded on a passion-based culture, shared among 30+ Design Factories (born at ADF, Helsinki) across the globe.



Pauliina Mattila

Coach & Lecturer, Design Factory Melbourne
Swinburne University of Technology

Pauliina's role at DFM is wide-ranging including teaching, research, strategy development and workshops. Pauliina brings international and interdisciplinary expertise from Finnish industry and academia.

Specifically, fostering an innovation culture for a wider community across faculties and disciplines, including students, staff, and external stakeholders to facilitate front-end design innovation process and providing high quality, personalised and future-relevant education and engage with industries and universities both within Australia and globally.

Pauliina has conducted research on the role of design and facilitation in joint R&D and Product Development projects between industry and research organisations in the Finnish health technology sector, which served to underpin her thesis.



Jon Callander

Business Partner Victorian Hydrogen Hub
Swinburne University of Technology

Jon has worked as the Centre Manager for the DFM and is an experienced senior manager with a record of success in leading multi-disciplinary teams in complex organisations and higher education. His knowledge and experience in operating at the intersection of university and industry will enable him to support and unite students, academics, researchers and the community in the delivery of the VH2 suite of programs.

Milorad Cerovac

Researcher, Learning Design and Innovation
Swinburne University of Technology

GHD

Working across key hydrogen sectors to decarbonise power generation, transportation, and industrial applications. Globally, we partner with universities, industrial companies, associations, vendors, consultants, and laboratories to conduct leading-edge research in hydrogen deployment, production, distribution, and use.

GHD has initiated many of these collaborative studies, provided in-kind services and helped apply for government funding where needed: – Hydrogen generation from organic waste – Hydrogen generation from landfill gas – Conventional and renewable hydrogen generation technologies – Hydrogen storage technologies – Industrial hydrogen/fertilizer production – Novel hydrogen land and water transportation modes – Synergies and integration with renewable energy operations – Supplement to diesel and other fuels.



Rory Quinn

Technical Director - Plant and Process – GHD

Rory is a Chemical Engineer working within our Melbourne Office. Rory has over 24 years design, construction and project delivery experience across a broad range of bulk fuels storage (MHF), chemical and pharmaceutical manufacturing industries in Australia and Europe.

Representing GHD on the Australian Hydrogen Council and involved at a technical and project director level on a wide range of hydrogen and alternative fuels/biomass projects. Rory has a strong understanding of the emerging and established technology, risk, planning and capex requirements across the future energy supply chain.

National Energy Resources Australia (NERA)

NERA is an independent not-for-profit company funded through Federal Government grants and collaborative programs by state/territory governments, industry and the science and research community, uniquely positioned to support sector-wide transformation and unlock **+\$10 billion of new value for the Australian economy**.

NERA is an industry broker and the source of insight into challenges, solutions, skills and regulation that will ensure Australia maximises its huge energy resources advantage and becomes a global energy powerhouse.



Leigh Kennedy

National Cluster Development Manager - NERA

Leigh is focussed on working collaboratively with regional clusters to build an Australian hydrogen technology cluster that can be promoted around the world.

Leigh has significant experience in working with all Australian state and territory governments along with key Australian Government agencies clients, as well as with investors across the industry and the world. At Austrade for almost a decade, Leigh worked with international network and government partners to drive Austrade's global resources and energy investment attraction and facilitation strategy and assist clients (developers, capital and technology companies) deliver on their Australian expansion plans. Aligned to many global companies' transitions to becoming green and announcing net-zero emission targets, the focus honed in on renewable energy and hydrogen investment opportunities.



Richard Reilly

Victorian Hydrogen Cluster Network Lead - NERA

Richard brings to the role his experience in stakeholder management and industry development. Richard works with the Victorian hydrogen clusters to develop their networks and skills and to progress opportunities in the emerging hydrogen industry.

Previously, Richard worked with the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions (DJPR) in the Victorian Government developing several COVID-19 related business assistance programs. He has been chief executive officer of the national industry associations, the Australasian Corrosion Association (ACA) and the Federation of Automotive Products Manufacturers (FAPM). This followed a nine-year career with professional services firm, Deloitte, advising leading Australian and multinational companies on their technology and R&D programs.

Mallee Hydrogen Technology Cluster Steering Committee

The Mallee Regional Innovation Centre (MRIC) has been named to lead the Mallee Hydrogen Technology Cluster.



Rebecca Wells

Chief Executive Officer - Mallee Regional Innovation Centre (MRIC)
Mallee Hydrogen Technology Cluster - Chair of Steering Committee

Rebecca Wells was born in Mildura and raised on a vineyard in Merbein, returning to the region in late 2008 after several years in a media career internationally.

Throughout the past decade, Rebecca has re-immersed herself in community and professional networks in the Mallee region.

Rebecca holds a range of leadership and advocacy roles in the region including Chair, Director and representative roles for organisations including Merbein and District Community Bank Branch of Bendigo Bank and formally Bendigo and Adelaide Bank's Community Bank National Council, Victorian State Government's Mallee Regional Partnership and as communications manager for Australian Table Grape Association.



The Mallee Regional Innovation Centre's (MRIC)

MRIC's four focal areas are horticulture, water, energy and the environment in irrigated production and natural resource management along the Murray River from Swan Hill, through to Mildura and the South Australian border.

The MRIC is striving to prioritise and fast track research projects to strategically address key challenges of the region in these focal areas. The MRIC is adding value to the region, complementing established activities and seeking opportunities to foster new areas of development and bring new capabilities to the region.

The MRIC is coordinating joint research and development projects and delivering contracts on a fee-for-service basis through pairing in-depth knowledge from the partners of the local area with the world leading research capabilities of the University of Melbourne and La Trobe University. The Mallee based SuniTAFE is also a partner of the Centre and through applied research will deliver training to address emerging skill requirements.



Ben Chatfield

Chief Financial Officer - GTS Freight & Logistics
Mallee Hydrogen Technology Cluster Steering Committee - Member

GTS Freight Management

Operating from Mildura in the North West Region of Victoria, GTS is a family owned business that has grown from humble beginnings in 1980 to become one of the largest wine and beverage transport distributors nationwide.

Backed by an ever expanding fleet of vehicles and a team of dedicated staff, GTS is committed to servicing their large national client base with the highest level of excellence.





Peter Forbes

Manager Regional Planning and Coordination Loddon Mallee - Regional Development Victoria
Mallee Hydrogen Technology Cluster Steering Committee - Member

Having lived and worked in Bendigo and Mildura over the past 30 years, Peter's heart belongs to north west Victoria.

Peter currently works for Regional Development Victoria with responsibility for supporting the Mallee and Loddon Campaspe Regional Partnership Committees. Through this role Peter works to discover what is important for the Community and Economic Development of the region and helps to realise these ideas.

With a background in Agricultural Science and a Social Sciences Masters, Peter has had a varied career in Agricultural Science, Natural Resource Management, Environmental Management and now Regional Development.



Brian Pang

Senior Business Development Manager, Melbourne School of Engineering
The University of Melbourne
Mallee Hydrogen Technology Cluster Steering Committee – Member

Brian is a senior business development manager with the School of Engineering.

He brings to his role diverse experience across engineering, finance and entrepreneurship, and has worked in multinational corporations, government organisations and start-ups in 6 different countries.

Innovation has been a big part of Brian's career. He was an investment manager in a strategic Singapore venture capital Fund, where he managed early-stage venture-backed companies in the chemicals and renewables sectors. He was also a business development manager in a tech commercialisation firm focused on agritech for South East Asia.

Prior to that, Brian was a research engineer at Rio Tinto, working with high-temperature smelting pots and heavy machinery in the French Alps to produce the world's finest aluminum. This was a contrast to his stint as a PhD student when he spent 3 years in a cleanroom suit trying to make the world's smallest superconducting microchip.

Brian has a PhD in Materials Engineering from Cambridge University, and an MBA from Ecole de Management Grenoble specializing in the management of technology and innovation.

Brett Millington

Chief Executive Officer - Mildura Regional Development (MRD)
Mallee Hydrogen Technology Cluster Steering Committee - Member

Brett has over 15 years' experience at an executive level in the utilities industry and was an inaugural Board member of MRD. He was previously Program Director with Intelligent Water Networks, a partnership between VicWater and 17 Victorian Water Corporations plus the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning.



Brett has a Bachelor of Science with honours from the University of Melbourne and post Graduate qualifications in Business Administration from the University of Queensland and the Australian Institute of Company Directors.



Mildura Regional Development

MRD is the peak economic and tourism organisation for the Mildura region. They work collaboratively to build on the region's strengths and opportunities in the tourism, agribusiness, horticultural and related education and technology spaces.

Mildura's warm climate, innovative irrigation infrastructure and transport links has helped position Mildura as a 'powerhouse' in the food and manufacturing industry sectors.

Key industries include dryland farming, irrigated horticulture (table grapes, wine grapes, dried grapes, citrus, vegetables and nuts), tourism, food and beverage manufacturing, transport and logistics, retail, health and community services.



Sharon Morrell
Economic Development Officer

Sharon has a long history working in community advocacy roles and has worked in economic development and industry liaison since 2014. She has relationships with both external and internal investors and delivers valuable outcomes for Mildura. Sharon oversees various programs that support the growth and viability of business in the region.

Mallee Regional Innovation Centre



Leonie Burrows
Chair of Strategic Advisory Panel - Mallee Regional Innovation Centre (MRIC)

Leonie Burrows is the inaugural Chair of the Strategic Advisory Panel. Leonie is a Mildura based professional manager and consultant. She is currently Chair of Sunraysia Community Health Service and is a member of the Loddon Mallee Regional Development Australia Board. She has 25 years' experience in Local Government, including time as CEO at Mildura Rural City Council. She has held CEO positions at:

- Australian Tablegrape Growers Association
- Australian Citrus Industry
- Buloke Shire
- SuniTAFE

Previous roles include Chair of SuniTAFE, Chair of the Victorian TAFE Association, Chair of Lower Murray Water Corporation, Chair of the Mildura Transport and Logistics Cluster and involvement in numerous other community organisations. For four years she was also Executive Officer of the Alliance of Councils for Rail Freight Development.

Mildura Rural City Council

[Mildura Rural City Council](#) is the local government organisation that represents and serves approximately 53,000 people who reside in or own land within Mildura region. Located in north west Victoria, the municipality covers an area of 22,330 square kilometres.

Mildura Rural City Council was established on 20 January 1995 following the amalgamation of the former City of Mildura and the Shires of Mildura and Walpeup.



Cr Jason Modica
Mayor
Mildura Rural City Council



Cr Helen Healy
Deputy Mayor
Mildura Rural City Council



Cr Ian Arney
Councillor
Mildura Rural City Council



Cr Stefano De Pieri
Councillor
Mildura Rural City Council



Cr Mark Eckel
Councillor
Mildura Rural City Council



Cr Glenn Milne
Councillor
Mildura Rural City Council



Cr Cyndi Power
Councillor
Mildura Rural City Council



Cr Jodi Reynolds
Councillor
Mildura Rural City Council



Cr Liam Wood
Councillor
Mildura Rural City Council

Swan Hill Rural City Council

The [Swan Hill municipality](#) has experienced significant growth over the past decade, led by the expansion of horticultural/agricultural practices and supported by an innovative manufacturing sector.

This success is depicted by the fact that the region is Australia's largest producer of table grapes, pistachios and olives, responsible for one quarter of all carrots nationwide, a top contributor to the stone fruit industry and accounts for approximately 70 percent of Australia's Almonds and Olive Oil production.



Cr Bill Moar
Mayor
Swan Hill Rural City Council



Cr Jade Benham
Deputy Mayor
Swan Hill Rural City Council



Cr Chris Jeffery
Councillor
Swan Hill Rural City Council



Cr Stuart King
Councillor
Swan Hill Rural City Council



Cr Nicole McKay
Councillor
Swan Hill Rural City Council



Cr Les McPhee
Councillor
Swan Hill Rural City Council



Cr Ann Young
Councillor
Swan Hill Rural City Council

SuniTAFE

SuniTAFE has four state-of-the-art campuses - Mildura, Swan Hill, Horsham and Robinvale - with each offering specific courses to meet the needs of our diverse student body. The main Mildura Campus provides a range of trades, business, arts and other educational programs, plus the largest academic library in the region. Surrounded by an extensive agricultural region, the Swan Hill Campus has a focus on heavy automotive & mechanical engineering, alongside other trades and a new nursing training wing. Our Robinvale Campus offers horticultural students timely on-site training solutions, surrounded as it is by Australia's largest almond-growing region. SuniTAFE Robinvale also has a focus on adult education and Koorie programs.

SuniTAFE Smart Farm - The future of farming

The SMART Farm is preparing a new generation of tech-savvy growers. Our students will be capable of precision-based farming that uses broadband services, mobility and a range of measurement, monitoring and management technologies to control systems from mobile devices.

The 24-hectare site is divided into two functional areas – an economic block comprising best practice dried fruit, wine grapes and citrus, and a demonstration site for individual trials on new and emerging crops. SuniTAFE is incorporating the latest cutting edge technology, automation, innovation and practices into horticultural training

With support from MRIC and other partners, SuniTAFE also continues to seek suitable funding opportunities to further develop the SMART Farming Horticulture Training and Innovation Hub.



Greg Hutchison

Board Director - SuniTAFE

Greg Hutchison

Board Director - SuniTAFE

Greg Hutchison is a Mildura born businessman who is passionate and committed to the Sunraysia Community, in particular irrigation dependent industries.

He has extensive management experience in the horticulture industry and established and operated one of the largest irrigation companies in Australia.

Greg is the Board Chair of [Qualia Wine Company](#) and was appointed on the SuniTAFE Board in 2016.



Geoff Dea

Chief Executive Officer - SuniTAFE

Geoff Dea is an experienced accountant and leader with demonstrated experience in providing strategic and business advice to a range Small and medium sized enterprise (SMEs) and not-for-profit organisations.

Geoff's employment history also includes leadership roles in the financial services and not-for profit industries.

His 20-year career in public accounting has included roles as a client adviser, Principal in charge of a team of accountants and advisers, and Chief Executive of a large regional accounting and financial services organisation.

Geoff holds a Bachelor of Business (Accounting), is a Member of Australian Society of Certified Practising Accountants and Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

He also worked with Mallee Family Care as Director Corporate Services, before being appointed to the Chief Executive role at SuniTAFE in 2016.



David Harris

General Manager Operations – SuniTAFE

David Harris is a highly experienced Manager of large teams and a successful private business owner. Starting his career as an Electrician has given David broad practical hands on skill base and understanding of trades. After completion of his A Grade Electrical License David entered University and completed a Bachelor of Business prior to commencing as a Qualified Valuer with Knight Frank Australia.

An opportunity then arose to acquire a Real Estate Business in Mildura which David owned and successfully operated for 17 years. A desire to enter the larger corporate market saw David sell the business and move into a Senior Leadership role as a State Manager with LJHooker in 2007.

Managing over 80 offices in Victoria and Tasmania proved a great training ground for overseeing large disparate teams and when a new opportunity arose as a Commercial Manager with Crowe Horwath (Findex) David was a logical choice. Over 6 years with Findex David managed a variety of teams in multiple offices as a Regional Commercial Manager (WA, SA, Tas and NW Vic).

A desire to give back to the Community and to take on a new challenge lead to David's change to his current role as Chief Operating Officer with

SuniTAFE. Acquiring a broad range of skill sets from a wide variety of roles during his career has allowed David to assist SuniTAFE to become widely respected and efficiently run, and has contributed to SuniTAFE's recent recognition as Large Training Provider of the Year (2019).

Greg Leslie

Manager Strategy – Business Development and Strategy

Ross Humphreys

Commercial Business Development Manager

Warren Lloyd

Manager, Primary Industries – Primary Industries and Smart Farm and member of HIAG

Nicole Byrnes

Project Lead, Hort Innovation / Technology – Smart Farm and member of HIAG

Darren Minter

Owner / Manager Minter Magic and member of HIAG

Almond Board of Australia

The Almond Board of Australia (ABA) is the peak industry body for the almond industry in Australia that facilitates the development of the industry, seeks to maximise the viability of stakeholders and ensure its sustainability.

The ABA provides a platform for members to collectively respond to industry-wide issues, invest in research and market development, share knowledge and interact with the broader community.

The ABA guides the industry's development by addressing a wide range of challenges and opportunities. These include yield improvement, risk management, cost of inputs and their efficient and sustainable use, better management of pests and diseases, building domestic and export consumption and brand awareness of Australian almonds in export markets. By doing so the ABA provides an efficient and sustainable operating environment for our industry members.



Joseph Ebbage

Market Development Manager - Almond Board of Australia

Joseph is engaged by the ABA to manage the Almond Market Development Program. Based in Melbourne, Joseph has worked with the ABA since 2003 and is the principal of "Consumer Insights", a market research and consultancy agency. Joseph works with industry marketers to promote almonds on the domestic market and build awareness of the Australian almond brand internationally.



Deidre Jaensch

Industry Development Manager - Almond Board of Australia

Deidre joined the ABA in October 2019 as Industry Development Manager. She holds a Bachelor of Agricultural Science and has worked in irrigated horticulture within the government, industry and private sector for over 27 years. Deidre manages the research and development program working with growers, researchers, suppliers and service providers as well as industry collaborators to generate the knowledge, skills and technologies required to enhance industry's competitiveness and further development in line with the almond industry strategic investment plan.

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP)

The Group

To ensure Victoria is at the forefront of the Energy sector's significant transformation, DELWP has formed a dedicated Energy Group, led by Deputy Secretary, Anthea Harris. The Energy Group is playing a key role in supporting Victoria's transition away from coal-fired generation towards a clean energy future. In line with Victorian Government commitments, DELWP is working to ensure Victoria can achieve 50 per cent renewable energy by 2030, as well as leading the nation to make energy pricing fairer for Victorians.

The group consists of six Divisions - Energy Strategy, Energy Demand, Efficiency and Safety and Safety, Energy Sector Reform, Commercial and Investment Attraction, Renewable Energy Zone (REZ) Delivery and Energy Projects and Programs. Together the Divisions enable the strategic work required to take place to undertake major energy transformations whilst continuing to deliver existing priorities.

The Division

The Commercial and Investment Attraction division leads delivery of projects and programs across the energy portfolio to implement the Victorian Renewable Energy Target. The division delivers the procurement and facilitation of large-scale energy projects and explore sector development opportunities. The division applies commercial acumen and project delivery skills.

The Branch

The Industry Engagement and Development branch, led by Gabrielle Henry, works with sector participants to foster a pipeline of commercial and pre-commercial energy opportunities, addressing energy market failures, and focussing on new energy business and sector development. Functionally, this team facilitates business development in new and emerging energy technologies, such as supply chain support, market development for emerging energy technologies, business management, and skills and capability building. The Emerging Technologies team leads a work program focused on new and emerging energy projects, and on sector development activities to deliver the Victorian Government's objectives for a renewable, affordable and reliable energy system.

Gabrielle Henry

Director, Industry Engagement and Development - DELWP

David Oglesby

Senior Manager, Emerging Technologies - Renewable Hydrogen and Energy Carriers, Commercial and Investment Attraction - DELWP



David currently leads the Emerging Energy Technologies team in the Victorian Government. The team focuses on initiatives that support the development of pre-commercial energy technologies and enablers, including renewable hydrogen, energy sector digitalisation, green ammonia and biomethane, disruptive technologies, off-shore wind and marine energy, and innovative energy business models.

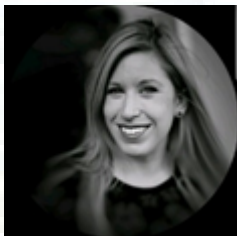
David has a Bachelor of Engineering from Monash University and is an experienced energy policy and strategy expert, having led the development of several whole-of-government energy strategies.

David has also had oversight of design and delivery of key Victorian Government initiatives including the initial design through to full operations

of the Centre for New Energy Technologies (C4NET), the Victorian Energy Data Hub Concept Study, Renewable Hydrogen Industry Development Plan and the Victorian (Green) Hydrogen Investment Program.

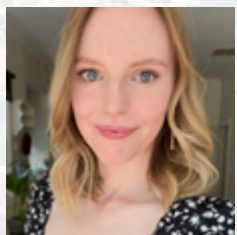
Marika Wanklyn

Manager, Emerging Technologies – DELWP



Cienna Turpie

Principle Project Officer Emerging Energy Technologies - DELWP



Gemma Hammond

Senior Project Officer, Emerging Energy Technologies Commercial and Investment Attraction - DELWP



Nicholas Barda

Senior Project Officer, Emerging Technologies – DELWP

Siobhan Bradley

Project Officer (Hydrogen) - DELWP

Siobhan work in the Emerging Energy Technologies team at DELWP looking at the development of the renewable hydrogen industry in Victoria.

She has worked in the area of renewable energy for the past 5 years and prior to that completing her PhD studies.

The projects she has worked on have been broad ranging, covering areas such as hydrogen generation, photocatalysis and solar energy conversion and battery storage. This has given her a broad technical understanding of a variety of technologies and a passion for seeing these technologies rolled out in the energy sector.

Kathleen Tonini

Project Officer, Emerging Technologies - DELWP

Jack MacCauley

Project Officer, Emerging Technologies - DELWP

Tas Gas

Tas Gas is an owner and operator of gas infrastructure and retail services in Tasmania and Victoria. Owned by Australian funds manager Infrastructure Capital Group (ICG), Tas Gas comprises an 837km network of gas pipelines across Tasmania, a 211km gas transmission pipeline in Western Victoria, and gas networks servicing 10 regional Victorian towns. Tas Gas is the largest gas retailer in Tasmania, supplying gas to more than 13,000 Tasmanian customers, as well as over 1,000 customers in regional Victoria. Tas Gas is dedicated to serving energy customers by looking into the future to anticipate their needs and shaping a cleaner energy future.



Phaedra Deckart
Chief Executive Officer – Tas Gas

Phaedra Deckart is the CEO of Tas Gas and has previously served as a senior executive at AGL and Santos. With more than 20 years' experience in domestic and global markets, Phaedra is one of Australia's strongest advocates for the role gas plays in the energy transition. She began her career in law, before moving into the business side of oil and gas.

At AGL, Phaedra managed the sourcing and origination of gas, power and coal deals while navigating the transition to firmed renewables. She played a lead role in the company's LNG import project. During her years at Santos, she held commercial, corporate, gas and LNG marketing positions.

Phaedra is the first female CEO of Tas Gas and is a vocal advocate for women in leadership. Tas Gas is the network distributor and the largest retailer of gas in Tasmania. It is currently examining the role hydrogen could play in the state's energy mix. Phaedra is a board member of the Australian Gas Industry Trust.



Will Temple-Smith
General Manager, Commercial & Business Development

Will recently joined Tas Gas as GM, Commercial & BD, having previously served as GM, Strategy & Capital Allocation at Ausnet Services. He is a senior strategic leader with a track record delivering business outcomes and results for customers, and has proven success leading growth and operational improvement in both start-up and large corporate organisations around the globe and brings with him a top tier management consulting background.



Quade Geale
Acting Manager Commercial – Tas Gas

Quade Geale is a seasoned professional working across many industry sectors over the last 25 years. Quade has held leadership, engineering and commercial roles in mining, ports and utilities with recent upstream construction plus operation of gas wellsite, compression and distribution. Prior to joining Tas Gas, Quade was an operational leader in one of Tasmanians largest gas & power consumers appliances at Rio Tinto's Bell bay aluminum smelter.



Ken McAlpine
Manager Director, Spring Street Advisory – Tas Gas

Ken McAlpine is the Managing Director of Spring Street Advisory, and has been working in various government relations and public affairs roles at a senior level since 2007 including 7 years as head of government relations in the Asia-Pacific region for wind turbine market leader Vestas Wind Systems. Prior to that I worked as a policy adviser and ministerial chief of staff in the Victorian Government for almost 6 years and have also worked as a commercial lawyer with a focus on the energy sector.