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MEDIA RELEASE

NEW ALLIANCE BRINGS SURGE OF HOPE TO CO₂ EMISSION REDUCTIONS

A viable solution to ease some pressure on Australia's energy producers is closer than they realise, according to the heads of two new technology firms that have joined forces to advance the field of carbon dioxide capture and storage.

WA-based Cool Energy Limited and national geoscience company Greenhouse Gas Storage Solutions (GGSS) signed a Memorandum of Understanding today that will see them collaborate on more sustainable and economically sound methods for CO₂ management.

Cool Energy Chief Executive Officer, Jessie Inman, said high CO₂ levels existed in more than half the nation's oil and gas reserves, as well as being a by-product of using vast deposits of brown and black coal to generate electricity.

"Energy consumption around the world has hit an all time high," she said.

"We can't rely on current methods of simply emitting large volumes of CO₂ forever, at least not without seriously harming our global environment. If industry wants to keep delivering energy to the Australian people at such a massive rate, and exporting it around the world, it must look more critically at carbon dioxide capture and storage technologies."

Ms Inman said the natural gas and coal industries in particular desperately needed a way to capture and store CO₂ on a scale that matched the exhausting production levels they were trying to cope with."

GGSS Chief Executive Officer, Dr John Bradshaw, believes the geological storage of greenhouse gas has the potential to bring sweeping emission reductions for both the energy and industry sectors including oil and gas, coal, power and even cement.

Dr Bradshaw was a substantial contributor and Lead Author for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) which received the Nobel Peace Prize in October 2007 for their extensive work over the last two decades.

"It's time to move carbon dioxide capture and storage from the realm of theoretical research to industrial deployment," he said.

"What we need is a collective approach of appropriate CCS technologies together with increased energy efficiency, less carbon intensive fuels and renewable energy."

"Ultimately everybody has a role – governments, scientists, businesses and consumers - to be responsible and respond to the world's increasing energy demands whilst avoiding the climate and pollution impacts associated with high CO₂ emissions."

Cool Energy has already developed its first award-winning technology, a highly cost-effective and eco-friendly way to capture CO₂ from natural gas at the wellhead. Its point of difference is to use a cryogenic gas “sweetening” process that extracts CO₂ contaminants in a form suitable for geological storage and industrial applications.

Ms Inman said a key benefit of CryoCell[®] for producers is that natural gas feedstocks with higher concentrations of CO₂ can eliminate dedicated solvent processes and their supporting utilities, making it possible to function with substantially lower capital and operating costs.

Other advantages over alternate ways of processing high CO₂ natural gas include:

- CO₂ component delivered in liquid form ready for immediate underground storage
- less maintenance with water removed in front of the process, which also eliminates corrosion in the process plant
- no chemical use, therefore lower operating costs
- gives natural gas production valuable ‘green’ credentials in carbon aware world.

GGSS is already involved with a number of national and international projects examining sites for geological storage in the deep sub-surface. Dr Bradshaw said the technology, which emerged through the oil and gas industry, is mature and well proven.

“Applied to sites with the appropriate geological characteristics, it is a safe, reliable and very effective solution,” he said.

The alliance between Cool Energy and GGSS will explore both domestic (Australia) and international project opportunities across a range of relevant industries including natural gas, power, cement and other industries.

Combining extensive experience and know-how in their respective fields of expertise, the two companies plan to make a significant impact in the development of CCS by combining CO₂ capture with geological storage technologies

To find out more about CryoCell[®], go to www.coolenergy.com.au

To find out more about GGSS, go to www.ggss.com.au

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About Cool Energy

Cool Energy is a high-tech clean energy company that has pioneered a revolutionary new type of CO₂ capture technology called CryoCell[®]. Its key objective is to commercialise high CO₂ gas fields globally, using a technology that dramatically cuts capital and operating expenses for gas operators, whilst providing significant environmental advantages by extracting CO₂ from gas feedstocks in liquid form. Two months ago, the Perth-based company broke onto the international scene after signing a major Joint Study Agreement with Indonesian oil and gas company, Pertamina EP, to assess the feasibility of installing a CryoCell[®] gas processing plan in West Java.

About Greenhouse Gas Storage Solutions

GGSS is a division of MBA Petroleum Consultants. The company has merged MBA's extensive conventional oil and gas and coal seam gas industrial experience and practical CO₂ storage knowledge, with the world's leading geological storage experts. It also provides geoscience advice for the geological storage of greenhouse gases with the aim to assist in the uptake of geological storage at an industrial scale.