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NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES TO GUIDE FUTURGAS PLANNING

Hybrid Energy Australia has been developing a detailed community consultation plan that will help fulfil the company's commitment to an open and transparent community consultation process for its FuturGas Project development near Kingston.

As a key component of that plan, the FuturGas Community Consultation Group (CCG) has now been established by the company. It will include an independent Chairperson, independent Facilitator, and four local Community Representatives who will bring a range of diverse interests and viewpoints to the FuturGas CCG for consideration.

The company is seeking community members who have a significant understanding of and interest in community issues of which they are a member. An individual's focus may include but is not limited to, environmental management, a focus on business and local industry, local government, or landowner matters.

The four Community Representatives sought will provide advice and guidance to Hybrid Energy Australia in planning for the company's FuturGas Project, enabling the company to identify local issues and viewpoints, and to gather local knowledge for project planning studies.

"Hybrid Energy Australia recognises and supports the community's right to be consulted," said the company's Managing Director Barry Ford.

"At the outset of our Feasibility Study, we publicly committed to our desire to establish an open and transparent communications process. And now, apart from our ongoing and growing discussions with local organisations and interested parties and individuals – we will be able to draw on local expertise, knowledge and feedback, to be able to fully identify and consider local community expectations," said Mr Ford.

QED Pty Ltd – a South Australian based consulting firm specialising in a range of project areas including planning and the environment – has been appointed by the company as the FuturGas CCG’s independent Facilitator. QED is to coordinate all meeting arrangements including documenting and monitoring issues raised by the FuturGas CCG.

With a comprehensive understanding of issues and interests of relevance to the local community, the Chief Executive Officer of the Limestone Coast Regional Development Board, Grant King, has been appointed independent Chair of the FuturGas CCG.

“I am pleased to support this process as Chair of the FuturGas Community Consultation Group which will assist in identifying the regional issues,” said Mr King.

The two company representatives on the FuturGas CCG will be the Managing Director Barry Ford, and Communications Manager Rachael Galwey.

The FuturGas CCG will meet on a quarterly basis in Kingston for an initial period of twelve to eighteen months, with the first meeting planned for October 2008.

Minutes of the FuturGas CCG meetings will be made available online at the company’s website (www.hybridenergyaustralia.com.au), which has a page specifically designed under the ‘Newsroom’ tab, to distribute news to the community online.

Further information on how to apply as a Community Representative for the FuturGas CCG including the *Terms of Reference, Roles and Responsibilities* and *Call for Nominations for Community Representatives* will be available online at the company’s website from Wednesday 20 August. These documents will also be available online and in hard copy from the District Council of Kingston and the Limestone Coast Regional Development Board, from that date.

The company also plans to hold its first Community Information Day in November at which the FuturGas CCG Community Representatives will be introduced. Hybrid Energy Australia will also attend the South Eastern Field Days in Lucindale in 2009 in order to meet any community members unable to attend the November Community Information Day at Kingston.

ENDS

DATE: Monday 18 August 2008

TIME: 1600 hours

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