

Beat: Business

Australian Engineering Solutions Wins

Victorian Energy Minister Grants \$7MM AU

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USPA NEWS - The Victorian Government has backed hydrogen fuel cell buses and Hydrogen powered cremations with \$7m in grants.

Hydrogen refuelling infrastructures as well as hydrogen energy storage technologies will soon be trialled in Australia. Victorian Energy Minister Lily D'Ambrosio boosted the industry leader Australian Engineering Solutions (Austeng) more than \$7 million in State Government funding which will be used in the development of a range of renewable hydrogen ventures. This increase in funding is due to public and commercial support for both production and the increase of renewable hydrogen products within Victoria in line with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDG's) and greenhouse gas reduction targets of 2030.

The Victorian Government will provide additional funding support of more than AU\$600,000 across eight recipients, funded through the Renewable Hydrogen Business Ready Fund. Funding under the program may be used towards the completion of business cases and feasibility studies for projects that would involve the use of renewable hydrogen. A prototype project being spearheaded by Australian Engineering Solutions (Austeng) will see renewable hydrogen-fuelled cremations trialled for the first time.

Marcus Cowie General Manager of Austeng says "the trial would allow crematoriums to respond to the growing demand for sustainable cremations, with growing concerns about the potential environmental impacts of traditional cremation methods."

Victorian Energy Minister, Lily D'Ambrosio, said that growing the state's hydrogen industries would be a feature of the government's efforts to reduce emissions.

D'Ambrosio said, "renewable Hydrogen is a key part of our clean energy transition, ensuring we can meet our target of halving emissions by 2030 and hit net zero by 2050,"

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future. At its heart are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are an urgent call for action by all countries - developed and developing - in a global partnership. They recognize that ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth - all while tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests.

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Editorial program service of General News Agency:

UPA United Press Agency LTD

483 Green Lanes

UK, London N13NV 4BS

contact (at) unitedpressagency.com

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