



equip

Media Release

29 January 2018
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Equip becomes the first super fund to join the Clean Energy Council

Equip has become the first super fund to join the Clean Energy Council (CEC), the peak body for the clean energy industry in Australia.

Equip's Executive Officer, Strategic Marketing and Communications, Geoff Brooks, said the fund's involvement with the CEC naturally aligned with its heritage in the energy sector and would greatly assist Equip to understand and get much closer to the major transition taking place in one of its main industry sectors.

"In 2017, we were among the first responders to the closure of the Hazelwood power station in Victoria, rapidly deploying teams of relationship managers, educators and financial planners into Latrobe Valley to support and advise both the employer and our members affected by the change. The experience underscored to us the importance of staying on top of the issues affecting our employers and members.

"Investment in the renewables sector is now in full swing. As the preferred fund for many in the sector, we have to not only keep communications channels between Equip and our stakeholders transparent and frequent, but also engage at an industry level through organisations like the CEC to gain that vital helicopter view of employment patterns and trends," Mr Brooks said.

Equip has not adopted a policy to divest of fossil fuel investments, believing this is not the right answer for addressing the issues of climate change and environment. The fund points out that many of its major participating employers with existing assets in fossil fuel generation and resources are also among the leaders in Australian investment in renewable energy.

"There is no doubt the transition to more sustainable forms of power generation now has significant momentum and we are fully supportive of an orderly transition that takes into account impact on employment, communities and maintenance of power supply, as well as on climate and environment," he said.

From a strategic perspective, the fund also recognises the changing dynamics of employment in the energy and related sectors.

“Many of the technical skills employed by traditional power generators and distributors are obviously transferrable and highly valued by new entrants to the sector. We’re keen to maintain our presence and connection with these individuals as they progress their careers throughout the sector.

“While many of our existing employers are CEC members, our active involvement also provides us with a platform to build awareness of our long heritage in the sector with new entrants,” Mr Brooks said.

For more information:

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Equipsuper manages assets of over \$14 billion for over 75,000 members and their employers. The fund is multi-sector, servicing employers and members from the energy, resources, water, infrastructure, manufacturing, health, legal and services sectors.