


Not relevant



607 MOU ON CLIMATE CHANGE COOPERATION WITH CALIFORNIA (Michael Rann) - NOTED

Appointments to Boards and Committees

Not relevant



607
TO: THE PREMIER FOR CABINET TO NOTE

RE: MOU ON CLIMATE CHANGE COOPERATION WITH CALIFORNIA

1. PROPOSAL

That Cabinet note:

- 1.1 The proposal to progress discussions with California on a possible Memorandum of Understanding on Climate Change Cooperation.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 California and South Australia are both sub-national governments, which have adopted leadership positions within their respective regions and internationally on climate change.
- 2.2 I will be travelling to Los Angeles between 15th to 18th May and it is anticipated there may be an opportunity to raise discussions with California on possible cooperation on Climate Change between the jurisdictions during his visit.
- 2.3 The purpose of this note is to provide Cabinet with advice on a preliminary draft MOU that might form the basis on which the two jurisdictions could progress cooperative efforts in this Climate Change field.

3. DISCUSSION

- 3.1 On 4th May 2007 the Victorian State Government signed an MOU with California for the two jurisdictions to work cooperatively on Climate Change.
- 3.2 South Australia and California, while having a significant difference in scale of their respective economies, do share many common economic sectors such as wine growing and manufacturing, automotive and emerging markets such as renewable energy.
- 3.3 Both jurisdictions have taken a leadership position on the issue of Climate Change within their respective regions. This leadership position has also been acknowledged internationally.

- 3.4 Both jurisdictions have a demonstrated history of being prepared to be innovative in their policy responses on dealing with sustainability and climate change issues. California is one of the few US Jurisdictions to have introduced a Bottle Bill (ie CDL) and have ambitious waste reduction targets, which also assist in meeting Climate Change objectives. South Australia is the only jurisdiction in Australia to have Container Deposit legislation and also has set itself a waste reduction target under the State Strategic plan.
- 3.5 A review of Californian Climate Change programs by the Sustainability and Climate Change Division of DPC has highlighted a number of areas where the two jurisdictions share similar current climate change initiatives.
- 3.6 Four of these areas are recommended to be a priority for discussion with California as potential areas for cooperation and for possible inclusion in an MOU between the two jurisdictions.
- Support for the Development of Renewable Energy Technologies
 - Industry Sector Agreements, Cooperative Industry Programs
 - Energy Efficiency and Building Performance
 - Government leadership in reducing own emissions

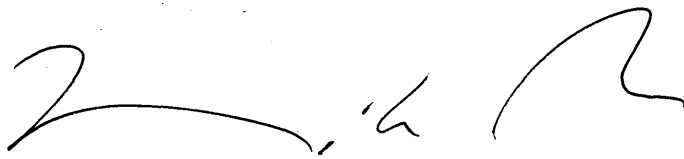
4. MOU PROPOSAL

- 4.1 A Draft MOU has been prepared and is attached for noting.
- 4.2 The South Australian draft MOU has been prepared based on an initial analysis of areas of common leadership and innovation in the area of climate change action. Both jurisdictions are leading their regions with the following climate change initiatives:
- Feed-in-Laws to support the growth of the renewable energy industry and assist promote community change behaviour
 - Legislated targets to reduce Climate Change emissions reductions
 - Regionally based voluntary programs with industry sectors to reduce climate change emissions
 - Investments in energy efficiency, renewable energy and energy reduction in infrastructure in public buildings and within the broader community.

- Emission reductions in state owned transport infrastructure and vehicle fleets.
 - Significant efforts to progress the development of geothermal, solar and wind renewable energy resources are occurring in both jurisdictions.
- 4.3 The areas selected provide an opportunity for both Jurisdictions to share experiences and knowledge of policy formulation. Program development and implementation and possible areas of commercial importance such as in the growth of the renewable energy industry in each jurisdiction.
- 4.4 Discussions are continuing to make arrangements to progress the MOU during the visit to Los Angeles and San Diego from 15 to 18 March 2008.
- 4.5 The MOU would not be legally binding on either Jurisdiction.
- 4.6 The MOU would be delivered out of existing resources and budgets and ongoing cooperative efforts would be led by the Deputy Chief Executive, Sustainability and Climate Change Division of DPC.

5. SUMMARY

- 5.1 For Cabinet to note the proposal to progress an MOU with the State of California on cooperative efforts on Climate Change actions between the two jurisdictions during the forthcoming business and investment mission to the United States.



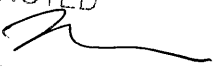
MIKE RANN

PREMIER

In Cabinet

Date: 12/5/08

12 MAY 2008

NOTED

PREMIER

*Memorandum of Understanding
between
The State of South Australia
and
The State of California
for collaboration on climate
change action*

PREAMBLE:

- A) This agreement represents an important step in the evolution of global climate change action. In creating practical linkages between jurisdictions in both hemispheres, this agreement builds a platform for regional integration in response to a global challenge.
- B) This agreement exemplifies the leadership role of sub-national jurisdictions in driving global climate change solutions.
- C) The State of South Australia, a member of the Council for the Australian Federation, and the State of California, one of the United States of America, recognising the importance of acting on climate change, and the importance of proactive States working together, hereby agree through this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to collaborate on climate change initiatives where it is in our interest to do so.
- D) This collaboration is intended to further the economic, social and environmental goals of both jurisdictions and further position both Parties as regional and global leaders in climate change policy.
- E) This MOU:
- reflects the importance that both California and South Australia place on the development of international relationships;
 - embodies the intentions of both States to take a regional leadership role on climate change; and
 - recognises the value of collaboration in pursuing best-practice policies and technologies for greenhouse gas emissions reduction and adaptation to climate change.

AREAS OF AGREEMENT:

Nature of collaboration

California and South Australia agree to collaborate on climate change initiatives, particularly in areas where both jurisdictions are establishing leadership positions internationally.

The following areas have been identified for initial joint action:

- **Support for the Development of Renewable Energy Technologies**

California and South Australia are committed to supporting the renewable energy sector. Both are amongst the world's leading jurisdictions for hosting a variety of renewable energy technologies.

Collaboration will contribute to the development of an effective suite of policy initiatives, such as feed-in bonuses, supporting the development and deployment of decentralised renewables.

Both jurisdictions will explore opportunities to share experiences in hosting centralised renewable energy and policy development aimed at furthering their international standing in supporting existing and new renewable energy technologies, particularly wind, solar and geothermal, which form important parts of the sustainable energy mix in both jurisdictions.

- **Industry Sector Agreements, Cooperative Industry Programs**

Both California and South Australia are developing cooperative models in an effort to bring industries along with them in their efforts to tackle emission reductions.

California and South Australia will explore opportunities to share emissions reduction policy development, program formulation and operation and the measurement and reporting of industry emissions and reduction activities. Particular attention will be given to key industry sectors common to both California and South Australia, including Agriculture, Food, Wine and Waste sectors.

- **Energy Efficiency and Building Performance**

California and South Australia have implemented a number of initiatives to promote energy efficiency and enable better performance of the building stock, which was constructed prior to a carbon-constrained economy. The jurisdictions will share their experiences in developing the best practice policies and initiatives with the view to develop a low or carbon neutral built environment.

- **Government leadership in reducing own emissions**

California and South Australia are pioneers in legislating greenhouse gas emissions targets. Both jurisdictions recognise the role of regional governments in leading by example and will co-operate in policy development and implementation to reduce emissions from government operations.

LIMITATIONS OF AGREEMENT

California and South Australia acknowledge that this MOU is not intended to create any legally binding rights or obligations, and will not be enforceable in any court of law in Australia or in the United States of America.

California and South Australia commit themselves in good will to implement this MOU to the fullest extent practicable, subject to any changes in policy that they may adopt.

SIGNED on this XXX day of XXX in the year 2008.

For the Government of California
Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor of California State of
California
United States of America

For the Government of South Australia
The Hon. Mike Rann MP
Premier of South Australia
Australia