



New South Wales

**MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES  
MINISTER FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES  
MINISTER FOR MINERAL RESOURCES**

**MEDIA RELEASE**

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**NSW exploring Clean Coal technologies**

The lemma Government is leading the way in developing clean coal technologies Minister for Mineral Resources, Ian Macdonald said today.

The Minister said the Government had formed a new partnership with the CO2 Cooperative Research Centre (CO2CRC) at the opening of their annual greenhouse emissions research symposium in the Hunter Valley.

Mr Macdonald said the Symposium brought together leading experts from Australia and overseas to look at ways of reducing greenhouse gas emissions with a focus on geosequestration – the storage of emissions permanently in underground geological structures.

"It's just one step in a suite of solutions that the NSW Government is currently researching to cut emissions including renewable energy, carbon sequestration and energy efficiency, which are all needed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions," he added.

"Reducing greenhouse emissions will be a major issue facing all jurisdictions in the coming decades, and NSW is tackling it head on.

"That's why I'm pleased to say that the NSW Government is an active partner in the Coal21 National Action Plan that will identify a number of emerging technologies that hold the key to reducing or even eliminating emissions from coal," Mr Macdonald said.

"These include technologies that will capture carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions from power stations and permanently store them in underground geological structures, a strategy the Action Plan identifies as the pathway to achieving near zero emissions from coal.

"This plan links directly with the NSW Government's Exploration NSW and New Frontiers' exploration initiative that is working to identify potential geological formations for the disposal of CO<sub>2</sub>," he said.

"The NSW Government has also established the NSW Clean Coal Technologies Working Group to identify priorities and projects in NSW that would bring about reduced carbon emissions from coal.

"The Department of Primary Industries is also working closely with the NSW Greenhouse Office and the NSW Minerals Council to identify fugitive emissions of greenhouse gases from coal mines and develop strategies to reduce these into the future.

"These initiatives demonstrate the lemma Government's commitment to supporting the development of clean coal technologies as a means of reducing carbon dioxide emissions.

"There's more to do but we're getting on with the job."

Mr Macdonald said solving this problem will require cooperation between Government, industry and research organisations in implementing viable targets and technological solutions.

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