

# Media Release

**The Hon Lily D'Ambrosio MP**  
Minister for Climate Action  
Minister for Energy and Resources  
Minister for the State Electricity Commission



Tuesday, 1 October 2024

## HYDROGEN HUB POWERS VICTORIA'S CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE

The Allan Labor Government is leading the way on renewable hydrogen development, with Australia's first purpose-built hydrogen research, testing and training facility now up and running.

Minister for Energy and Resources Lily D'Ambrosio today officially opened the new Hycel Hydrogen Technology Hub at Deakin University in Warrnambool.

The Hycel Technology Hub is a 4.5-hectare precinct that's co-located with South West TAFE and features a new product engineering development laboratory, three laboratory bays, associated offices, and a dedicated community and multifunctional space.

The Hub will increase Victoria's testing and manufacturing capabilities in hydrogen technologies, with a focus on developing fuel cells for transport and heavy vehicles, as well as trains or boats.

The Hub will also support up to 200 jobs in regional Victoria over the life of the project, including around 50 construction jobs and 16 in the energy sector.

The project was supported by a \$9 million investment from the Allan Labor Government's Victorian Higher Education State Investment Fund in addition to a \$9 million investment from the Commonwealth Government.

These facilities will not only drive hydrogen fuel research, but also equip the future workforce with the skills and knowledge needed to deliver the Labor Government's world-leading renewable energy agenda.

The Hub's pioneering work will support Victoria's goal of net zero emissions by 2045 and help decarbonise energy intensive sectors like long haul transport, shipping, aviation, and high-heat industry.

The Labor Government is supporting the development of Victoria's emerging renewable hydrogen sector and will publish the *Renewable Gas Directions Paper* later this year.

### **Quote attributable to Minister for Energy and Resources Lily D'Ambrosio**

*"The Hycel Hydrogen Technology Hub will be critical to accelerating the development of a Victorian renewable hydrogen sector, as we seize the regional jobs and economic opportunities this emerging technology presents."*

### **Quote attributable to Minister for Skills and Tafe Gayle Tierney**

*"This world-class facility in Warrnambool demonstrates yet again that regional Victoria stands to benefit most from our ambitious renewable energy agenda."*

### **Quote attributable to Member for Western Victoria Jacinta Ermacora**

*"Renewable hydrogen will be critical to reaching our net zero targets, and the Hycel Hydrogen Technology Hub is a vital step in that journey."*