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Tas Gas appoints new CEO

The Board of Tas Gas has announced it has appointed Phaedra Deckart as its new Chief Executive Officer effective 19 October.

To be based in Launceston, Ms Deckart will succeed Cameron Evans, Tas Gas's CEO for the past two years.

Phaedra has been a senior executive with AGL since 2015 and has been part of the transformation of the company's energy supply portfolio across gas, power, fuel and logistics while navigating the transition to renewables across solar, wind and battery technology.

She has extensive experience in the gas and energy sector having held various commercial positions at Santos across the domestic gas and global LNG market.

Ms Deckart said: "I am delighted to be joining Tas Gas, a business that has Tasmania at its heart and provides gas distribution and gas supply to Tasmanians to heat their homes and provide energy to their businesses.

"It is a privilege to take up this role and ensure we continue to provide this essential service to customers and grow the business from its solid foundation," she said.

"As we look to the future and to getting the Australian economy moving again, I believe the energy sector can play a key part in the recovery."

Ms Deckart is passionate about the customers' need for new gas supply to increase competition and to ensure the availability of affordable and secure gas to business and the community.

She led the industry on that market need and was pivotal in developing AGL's LNG import terminal project in Australia.

Tas Gas chair Paul Adams said the board was pleased to have appointed someone with Phaedra's reputation and experience to lead Tas Gas through the next phase of its growth.

"We're excited to have someone who has built such a strong reputation for advocating for the continuing role of gas as the natural partner in Australia's energy transition and for providing a voice for the customer's and communities that she's served," he said.

“We look forward to working with Phaedra and we are confident she will help to achieve the company’s full potential over coming years.”

Mr Adams acknowledged departing CEO Cameron Evan’s leadership through the sale of Tas Gas to Infrastructure Capital Group and through the challenging conditions during the pandemic in 2020. Cameron has overseen a period of growth for the Tas Gas business, including the establishment of the business in Victoria through the Energy for the Regions Program, the integration of Gas Pipelines Victoria and the recent sale of Enwave.

Phaedra will continue to serve on the Australian Gas Industry Trust Board.

Ms Deckart and her family will relocate to Launceston from Melbourne.

Tas Gas is owned by funds managed by the Australian company Infrastructure Capital Group including Energy Infrastructure Trust, one of Australia’s largest dedicated portfolios of energy assets. Tas Gas Networks comprises an 837km network of gas pipelines across Tasmania and is one of the youngest gas distribution networks in Australia. Tas Gas is also the largest gas retailer in Tasmania, supplying gas to more than 14,000 industrial, commercial and residential customers.

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