

Clean Coal Victoria Director

The Minerals Council of Australia Victorian Division today warmly welcomed the appointment of Mr Charlie Speirs as the inaugural Director of Clean Coal Victoria – the State Government’s new body dedicated to maximising the value of Victoria’s brown coal resources.

Mr Speirs has had a long and successful career in the Latrobe Valley’s coal industry, and has lived in the region for many years. He is the retiring Chair of the Victorian State Council of the Minerals Council of Australia and has been intimately involved in advocating the sustainable development of Victoria’s natural resources.

“Mr Speirs is an outstanding choice to run Clean Coal Victoria, which will be instrumental in the long term development of the Latrobe Valley’s brown coal reserves at a time when Australia is committed to reducing its greenhouse gas emissions,” Executive Director of the Minerals Council of Australia Victorian Division, Mr Chris Fraser, said.

“There can be no solution to the climate change challenge without the development and deployment of low emissions coal technologies and nowhere is this more important than in Victoria. The development and deployment of clean coal technologies will be critical to ensuring Victoria’s long-term energy security while reducing greenhouse gas emissions.”

The Latrobe Valley coal deposits are among the world’s largest, producing more than 60 million tonnes of coal per year and providing more than 85 per cent of Victoria’s electricity. The mines and energy sector are a major employer in the Gippsland region, which is an emerging hub for the development of clean coal technologies.

“The MCA looks forward to working closely with Mr Speirs and the Victorian Government in ensuring the long term prosperity of the brown coal industry and therefore the prosperity and economic growth of Victoria,” Mr Fraser said.

Clean Coal Victoria is tangible demonstration of the Victorian Government’s commitment to a low emissions future that includes coal-fired power.