



**THE HON JOSH FRYDENBERG MP**  
**TREASURER**

**THE HON ANGUS TAYLOR MP**  
**MINISTER FOR ENERGY**

**MEDIA RELEASE**

Friday, 8 February 2019

### **CHAIR OF THE AUSTRALIAN ENERGY REGULATOR**

Today the Australian Government announces Ms Paula Conboy has advised she will not be pursuing a second term as the Chair of the Australian Energy Regulator (AER).

The Government recognises Ms Conboy's leadership in the role over the past five years.

During her time as Chair, Ms Conboy has maintained a clear focus on outcomes for everyday Australians, particularly those who are doing it tough.

This includes driving improved hardship guidelines for vulnerable customers and helping empower Australians through the redevelopment of the Energy Made Easy website, making it easier for consumers to get lower, fairer energy bills.

Ms Conboy has led important work by the AER to develop a default market offer and reference bill, which will protect customers from excessively high power prices and empower them to negotiate better deals with energy retailers.

Ms Conboy has also overseen the development of the Consumer Challenge Panel, ensuring network companies focus on engaging with consumers.

As Chair, Ms Conboy has ensured the AER is well positioned to advance Australia's evolving energy sector.

The AER is now better placed than ever before to drive improved regulatory outcomes on behalf of the Australian community. This includes the effective

monitoring of the wholesale energy markets, and enforcing the national market rules, to help encourage effective competition in these important markets.

Ms Conboy will complete her term as Chair which ceases in September 2019. The process of finding a suitable replacement will commence shortly.

The Government thanks Ms Conboy for her dedication and leadership and wishes her well in her future endeavours.

**ENDS**