

**Mission to Europe and the United Kingdom by
The Honourable Matt Kean MP
Minister for Energy and Environment
23 November – 5 December 2019
Mission Report**

Purpose of travel

The Minister for Energy and Environment completed a study tour to Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium and the United Kingdom (UK). The purpose of this study tour was to learn from key market leaders in Europe and the UK about innovations in the energy sector and meet with businesses and discuss opportunities in the energy market in NSW around opportunities to reduce CO₂ emissions while growing the economy.

The energy sector in NSW is undergoing a period of significant change and it is a priority to ensure NSW is able to meet its future energy needs with sustainable, secure, reliable, affordable and best practice solutions. This trip provided an opportunity to learn from Europe and the UK about developments in their energy sectors and their activities in reducing carbon emissions and the potential to apply learnings in NSW. In addition, the trip offered opportunities to meet with European and UK businesses interested in bringing innovative energy technologies to NSW.

The Minister's visit facilitated relationships and identified opportunities of a low carbon economy and transitioning to a circular economy. There were also some valuable conversations on sustainable finance and the opportunities available to NSW. These relationships will be followed up to continue the learnings and take advantage of opportunities for NSW.

Scheduled meetings

Meetings in Europe and the UK covered topics including innovative research on renewables; hydrogen, nuclear, wind and waste to energy power generation; and fuel-efficiency in transport.

Scheduled Meetings		
Date	Organisation/Individual	Purpose of meeting
25.11.29	Meeting with the Head of Economic, Trade and Climate Protection Policies and European Policy Coordination Division, Federation of German Automotive Industries	Discuss current issues in the German automotive industry and emerging technologies to learn about the German experience in this sector.
	Australian Ambassador to Germany	Overview of German market.
	Meeting with Mr Carsten Müller MdB, Bundestag Committee for Economics and Energy	Discuss Germany's Climate Action Plan and other energy policy and programs to learn from the German experience.
	Meeting with National Organisation Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technology (NOW GmbH)	Overview of work done for the German Government on the implementation and development of hydrogen technology and strategy.

Scheduled Meetings		
Date	Organisation/Individual	Purpose of meeting
	Meeting with Andreas Kuhlmann, Chair DENA, German Energy Agency	Discuss zero net emissions policy and Germany's energy transition pathway, Powerfuels, Hydrogen and Power to Gas.
	Participate in the DENA Congress 2019	Present on the promotion of sustainable markets, focusing on the political framework in NSW.
	Meeting with Markus Fendt, CEO, Mobility House	Overview of work on operating a platform for integrating energy and e-mobility systems.
26.11.19	Tour of waste power plant of Attero and ash reprocessing plant of Inashco	Understanding of waste to energy as a generation source and an opportunity to learn about processing technologies and innovations.
	Meet with Deputy Nienke Homan, Regional Minister Province of Groningen, responsible for energy transition, and executives from Gasunie	Learn about the Dutch experience on the role of government in supporting the development of hydrogen technologies. Hear about the technology and innovations in hydrogen.
27.11.19	Visit HyStock Zuidwending - Gasunie hydrogen project site	Learn about the technologies, innovations and learnings on this project. Learn about the hydrogen investment agenda of the Northern Netherlands.
	Site visit Van Werven Plastic Recycling Specialist	Learn about plastic recycling solutions and their contribution to a circular economy in the Netherlands.
28.11.19	Waste Industry Roundtable	Discuss waste issues with Dutch technology providers and companies looking to set up in NSW.
	Meeting with Shell	Discuss energy production, investment, innovation and renewables.
	Meeting with Australian Ambassador to the Netherlands	Overview of Netherlands's energy and waste sector and discuss outcomes of the visit.
29.11.19	Meeting with Professor Jacqueline Cramer, Head of Circular Economy transition for Amsterdam and Director Sustainability Institute of the University of Utrecht	Learn about Amsterdam's transition to a circular economy.
	Tour of the Engie Electrabel Nuclear Power Plant in Doel, Belgium	To understand current issues with traditional generation in Europe, changes in generation mix in line with emissions constraint, future mix of generation and effects of change.
2.12.19	Meeting with NSW Trade and Investment Commissioner Europe and UK	Briefing about the UK market and overview of itinerary for UK visit.

Scheduled Meetings		
Date	Organisation/Individual	Purpose of meeting
	Octopus Energy	Discuss innovative use of smart technology in energy retailing to help manage energy use.
	Meeting and site visit of Energy Systems Catapult	Overview of the UK Catapult program and Energy Systems governance arrangements, and discuss new technologies, commercialisation pathways and the models of funding, with a focus on demand response technologies.
3.12.19	UK Market and Brexit Briefing with the Australian High Commissioner	Understanding of the UK market, including the energy sector, and Brexit.
	Business Roundtable	Sharing information on the energy sector in UK and NSW and possibilities for the future collaboration.
	Meeting with Sir Roger Gifford chair of the Green Finance Institute	Understand the UK experience in taking leadership on the international stage on green finance. An opportunity to understand where NSW/UK partnerships or collaborations on green finance might be possible.
	Meeting with UK Government Department of Business Energy Industrial Strategy	Discussion regarding opportunities, pathways and insights on net zero by 2050 objectives.

Delegation

The Honourable Matt Kean MP
Minister for Energy and Environment

Accompanied by:

Mr Benjamin Coles
Chief of Staff
Office of Minister for Energy and Environment

Ms Anissa Levy
Coordinator-General Environment, Energy and Science
Department of Planning Industry and Environment

Costs summary

Minister	Hon Matt Kean MP
Portfolio	Energy and Environment
Destinations(s) visited a) Countries b) Cities	a) Germany, The Netherlands, Belgium, United Kingdom b) Berlin, Wijster, Groningen, Biddinghuizen, The Hague, Rotterdam, Antwerp, London, Birmingham
Dates of travel a) Departure date b) Return date	a) Saturday 23 November 2019 b) Thursday 5 December 2019
Number of official travel days	12
Number of accompanying a) Minister's staff b) Government officials	a) 1 b) 1
Accompanied by spouse a) in an official capacity b) in a private capacity	a) No b) No
Costs	
Airfares a) Minister and Minister's staff b) Government officials	a) \$20,795.28 b) \$12,542.54
Accommodation (includes any meals/incidentals charged to room) a) Minister and Minister's staff b) Government officials	a) \$7,375.39 b) \$3,819.06
Official hospitality a) Minister and Minister's staff b) Government officials	a) Nil b) Nil
Other expenses a) Official gift presentation b) Ground transport c) Meals and refreshments d) Other miscellaneous costs	a) Nil b) \$7,446.40 c) \$2,527.50 d) \$82.00
TOTAL estimated travel cost a) Minister and Minister's staff b) Government officials	a) \$30,950.63 b) \$23,637.54

Additional Notes

Airfares include Sydney to Perth flight for the delegation to attend COAG in Perth immediately before the travel to Europe and the United Kingdom.

This report does not include costs for data roaming, official passports, visas, vaccinations, insurance, translation or printing of business cards.