

Submission on the future of the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA).

I am disappointed to hear that the federal government has begun the legal process to scrap the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA).

In two years ARENA has aided in the establishment of almost \$1 billion worth of clean energy projects and thousands of jobs.

ARENA is essential to supporting renewable energy R&D and removing roadblocks to the adoption of renewable energy.

If ARENA goes Australia will lose its advantage as a global centre of excellence for solar research.

I submit that ARENA has done/is doing an excellent job and the Government must do all in its power to enable ARENA to continue in its present form.

ARENA is a vital part in the effort to bring about necessary structural change towards a renewable energy economy. History is littered with failed examples of attempts to resist structural change.

Australia was once a serious actor in the global development of renewable energy. We are rapidly slipping from a leader to a laggard. I am ashamed of the negative stance Australia has adopted towards renewable energy and climate change mitigation in general - both at home and internationally. We are now widely regarded internationally as the "village idiot" in this field.

Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission.

Bill Gresham