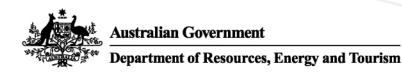
Australian Government Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism



## Global Methane Initiative Coal Sub-Committee Webinar Meeting 20 June 2011

## **Australian Update**

John Karas/Nicole Thomas Low Emissions Coal Policy Clean Energy Division Department of Resources Energy and Tourism





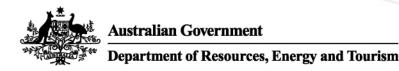
## Australia's Methane Emissions

Fugitive emissions from coal mines:

- 29 Mt CO2 equivalent during 2009
- 5% of Australia's total greenhouse gas emissions.

Consists of:

- Underground mining 61%
- Open-cut mining 31%
- Post mining emissions 3%
- Decommissioned underground mines 5%





## Australia's Climate Policy

- The Australian Government is working with other political parties to finalise by mid-2011 the design of a carbon price mechanism.
- Key features announced by the Prime Minister in February 2011
  - Start on 1 July 2012
  - Fixed price initially, transitioning to cap and trade
  - Broad coverage (including fugitive emissions)
  - No international linking until cap and trade
- Yet to be determined how fugitive methane emissions will be treated under the new mechanism.