

OFFICIAL MINISTERIAL OVERSEAS TRAVEL Outcomes Report

The provision of the information below is consistent with the *Guidelines for Official Ministerial Overseas Travel*. This report must be sent to the Premier within 40 working days of return, and published on the relevant department website within 60 working days of the Minister's return. The published version of the report does not need to include the 'next steps / follow up' section or the signature block.

Name of Department / Agency	Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning			
Departmental / Agency Contact	Mr Scott Hamilton, Executive Director			
Telephone Number	9452 8902			
TRAVEL DETAILS				
Minister's Name	The Hon Lily D'Ambrosio			
Portfolio/s	Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change and Minister for Suburban Development			
Did the Minister's spouse accompany the Minister in an official capacity?	YES (official capacity)			
If Yes – please outline the role of the spouse in achieving the outcomes of the visit				
Accompanying Ministerial staff	Mr Ian Porter, Chief of Staff			
Countries visited	Germany, Denmark and United Kingdom			
Date of travel	17- 28 April 2017			
Number of official travel days (include day of departure and day of return)	12			
Funding source (list Department/s or Agency)	Minister's Private Office and the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning			
EXPENSES				
Include combined expenses for Minister, accompanying staff and spouse (if accompanying in an official capacity)				
Air fares (including taxes and fees)	\$22,855			

Accommodation (including taxes and fees)	\$5572		
Other expenses (including surface travel and travel allowances)	\$9800		
Travel cost for Minister and ministerial staff (and spouse or de facto partner if applicable)	\$38,227		
Are the above costs final and complete?*	YES	\boxtimes	NO 🗌

^{*}correct at the time of publication

Purpose of travel

From 17-28 April 2017, I visited Germany, Denmark and United Kingdom. The purpose of this travel was to:

- Learn about different countries approach to energy transition, discuss best practice and lessons learned.
- To meet with potential and existing investors and promote Victoria as an investment destination, particularly for renewable energy and energy storage.
- Consult with senior government and industry leaders on the Victorian Government's proposed VRET.

Importance of Europe to Victoria

Europe is Victoria's second largest source of foreign direct investment and many significant investors in Victoria's renewable energy assets are based in Europe including Siemens, VESTAS, and Acciona

Renewable energy sources made up nearly nine-tenths of new power added to Europe's electricity grids last year, in a sign of the continent's rapid shift away from fossil fuels.

My travel reinforced the importance of Victoria's relationship with Europe, promoted opportunities for increased collaboration on energy policy, reaffirmed important government ties and established new relationships.

Benefits of travel to the State of Victoria

The visit will help to inform Victoria's future energy policy development including understanding energy industry transition and energy industry investment.

Enhancing Government to Government Relations

In Germany, Denmark and the United Kingdom, I reaffirmed and strengthened relationships and established new connections with senior government officials including:

- Mrs Kirsten Haverkamp, Managing Director, Deutshce Energie Agenur. We discussed Germany's transition from nuclear and coal power and challenges they are facing with grid stability.
- North Rhine Westphalia Ministry of Climate Protection, Environment, Agriculture, Natural Conservation and Consumer Protection. We discussed the regions transition to renewable energy and potential collaboration on joint research projects.

- Mr Morten Bark, CEO, Danish Energy Agency
- Mayor Morten Kabell and City Architect, Tina Saaby from the City of Copenhagen.
- Representatives from Ofgem and BEIS

Enhancing Business Relations between Victoria and Europe

In Germany, Denmark and United Kingdom I held meetings and events to strengthen Victoria's ties with investors and business leaders in the renewable energy sector:

- Deutsche Bahn (DB) Engineering
- The CEO and Founder of Belectric GmbH
- DONG Energy
- Hosted an investor lunch with eight existing and potential investors in Copenhagen
- Roundtable with the Confederation for Danish industries with eight companies with an interest in Australia
- Hosted an investor lunch with ten existing and potential investors in London.

In total, I attended a combination of 26 meetings, site visits and roundtables. I met with representatives from 45 companies and the Danish, British and German governments.