



## Meeting Brief

MB25-000849

### FOR INFORMATION – Data Centres x Energy Roundtable with Tech Council members [21/11/2025]

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**TO:** Assistant Minister for Science, Technology and the Digital Economy

**CC:** Minister for Industry and Innovation; Minister for Science

#### PURPOSE OF MEETING

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- On Friday 21 November, you will host an Energy Roundtable at the Tech Council of Australia (TCA) headquarters in Sydney. You will hear from members on how Australia can lead in the energy technology sector and how artificial Intelligence (AI) and quantum technologies can support the transition to net zero. Biographies of attendees are at [Attachment A](#).
- The discussion will focus on the following themes:
  - The emerging requirements and solutions to power the digital economy.
  - Alignment with the Albanese Government’s energy transition goals.
  - How the sector can work with government to deliver innovative and sustainable energy solutions.
- Discussion points to assist you facilitate the conversation are at [Attachment B](#).

#### KEY MESSAGES

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- The surge in AI and digital innovation is driving new opportunities for the Australian economy which will be primarily powered by data centres. In 2024 – 25, Australian data centres consumed approximately 4 terawatt-hours (TWh) of electricity, accounting for 2 per cent of total grid-supplied electricity. This is expected to grow to up to 6 per cent by 2030 (AEMO Scenarios Report, 2025).
- **S 47C**
- The department is working with other agencies, such as the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW), to develop draft data centre principles (the principles).

- The 8 principles articulate the Government’s vision and encourage development that aligns with the national interest (see Attachment C). S 47C

- The Government’s National AI Plan highlights the role of sustainable digital infrastructure in achieving the Government’s vision for an AI-enabled economy. The Plan will be released by the end of 2025.

## BACKGROUND

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- In September 2025, the Government released the Electricity and Energy Sector Plan to set out a pathway for how the sector will help Australia reach net zero emissions by 2050. The Plan identifies data centres as an example of the electricity system needing to expand to meet demand from electrification and new industry growth. Government actions include:
  - \$2 billion for the Clean Energy Finance Corporation to scale up emissions reductions,
  - \$1.1 billion to support the production of low carbon liquid fuels,
  - \$85 million to accelerate energy performance.
- S 47G

**SENSITIVITIES**  
S 47C**DATA REFERENCED**

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- AEMO, [2025 Inputs, Assumptions and Scenarios Report](#), August 2025, p110.

**CONSULTATION**

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- DCCEEW; Technology and Digital Policy Division – Critical Technologies Branch.

Clearance Officer

Jessica Foote  
A/g Head of Division  
Technology Policy and Digital Division  
Mob: s 22  
Clearance date: 20/11/2025

Contact Officer

s 22  
Manager, AI Infrastructure  
s 22

**ATTACHMENTS**

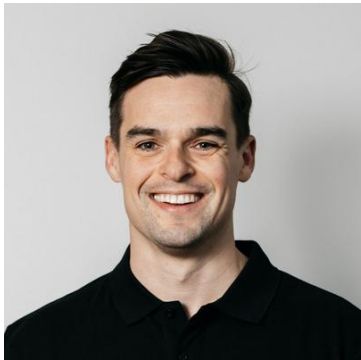

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- A: Biographies  
B: Discussion Points  
S 47C  
D: Roundtable Agenda

**Attachment A**

**Biographies**

s 22

	<p><b>Tim Rosenfield</b> <b>Co-Founder &amp; co-CEO – Firmus</b></p> <p>Mr Rosenfeld co-founded Firmus (along with co-CEO Oliver Curtis) in March 2020.</p> <p>Firmus was initially founded as a bitcoin mining company before pivoting into data centres and AI infrastructure. Their signature initiative, Project Southgate, includes scaling up to 1.6GW of compute capacity across the country. Firmus recently announced a significant investment from NVIDIA.</p>
	<p><b>Bec Turner</b> <b>Government Affairs and Public Policy – Google</b></p> <p>Ms Turner joined Google in November 2021. Prior to this, she served the Coalition Government from July 2018 to November 2021 as Deputy Chief of Staff to the Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney and Minister for Trade and Industry, and as a Senior Advisor to the Minister for Cities, Urban Infrastructure and Population.</p>

s 22







## Attachment B

## Assistant Minister Charlton - Discussion points and key facts

<p><b>Opening remarks (5 minutes)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Acknowledge</b> the Traditional Custodians of the Sydney area - the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation.</li> <li>• <b>Outline</b> scope of discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- how we can ensure Australia is positioned as a leader in energy technology to power the digital economy and capitalise on our natural advantages.</li> <li>- how we can embrace the advancements in AI and quantum to support transition to net zero.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Note</b> that the Government will soon be releasing a National Plan for AI that articulates its ambition for an AI-enabled economy.</li> <li>• <b>Highlight</b> the importance of the energy transition to achieving the Government’s agenda and the National AI Plan.</li> <li>• <b>Seek insight</b> from organisations on what they are doing, current barriers and future opportunities to meet the requirements of powering the digital economy.</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hand back to s 22</b> to kick off the conversation.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Issue</b></p>	<p><b>Building a common understanding of the emerging requirements and solutions to power the digital economy</b></p>
<p><b>Key facts:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Energy availability and reliability are key determinants of data centre-related investment decisions. Australia’s grid capacity, regulatory environment, and energy mix will influence competitiveness. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A recent survey of investors by Barclays found that power was a key factor impacting investment decisions. 16.4 per cent of respondents cited availability of secure power as the top factor, followed by the cost of power (13.3 per cent) and access to renewable energy (11.5 per cent).</li> </ul> </li> <li>• AEMO forecast data centres will grow from consuming 2 per cent of electricity in the National Electricity Market in 2024-25 to 6 per cent in 2029-30 and 12 per cent in 2049-50. AEMO also expect this demand will continue to be highest for Sydney and Melbourne.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Energy demand and grid stability could become social licence issues in the future, particularly for larger AI factories.</li> <li>• AI and quantum computing can help address the computational challenges associated with energy grid management and energy use within data centres. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ In the long term, quantum computing may moderate the energy demand needed for large computational problems in data centres.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The Energy and Climate Change Ministerial Council is currently preparing advice on options for energy ministers to support harnessing opportunities to facilitate data centre investment, while managing electricity system impacts.</li> </ul>
<b>Issue:</b>	<b>Highlighting the efforts being made by the sector to align with the Government’s energy transition goals</b>
<b>Key facts</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• According to Mandala research, supported by AirTrunk, AWA, CDC, Microsoft and NextDC, major data centres in</li> </ul>

	<p>Australia have committed to 100% renewable electricity by 2030.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In 2022, Microsoft entered a 15-year power purchasing agreement (PPA) with Fotowatio Renewable Ventures (FRV) for the Walla Walla Solar Farm in New South Wales. The solar farm became fully operational this year and has 300MW of power capacity.</li> <li>• In 2023, Google, AirTrunk and OX2 announced a long-term PPA to develop a new solar farm in the Riverina region with 25MW of renewable energy generation capacity.</li> <li>• Firmus’s flagship Project Southgate is expected to support up to 5.1GW of new renewable energy projects across the country by 2028.</li> </ul>
<b>Issue:</b>	<b>Discussing the opportunities for the sector to collaborate with the government to deliver innovative and sustainable solutions</b>
<b>Key facts</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Government has developed NABERS Energy rating tools for data centres, providing an independent, certified and transparent Power Usage Effectiveness (PUE)</li> </ul>

	<p>measurement for assessing energy efficiency. Note voluntary uptake has been relatively low (only 15 data centres certified in 24-25).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• In October 2025, the Australian Government released the Commercial Building Disclosure (CBD) roadmap to expand the CBD Program. It includes the potential to expand mandatory disclosure of energy ratings to data centres.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ S 47C</li></ul></li><li>• DCCEEW is working with NABERS to investigate the feasibility of incorporating water use in the NABERS data centre tools.</li><li>• The Critical Technologies Challenge Program has awarded funding to six energy-related projects across both funding rounds.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ La Trobe University received \$382,000 to work with NextDC on quantum-enhanced optimisation for energy efficient data centre operations.</li></ul></li></ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ SQC was awarded \$452,000 for quantum machine learning projects focused on predictive optimisation of energy resources.</li><li>○ Diraq received \$500,000 to investigate quantum solutions that improve the performance, sustainability, and security of energy networks.</li></ul>
<b>Closing remarks and wrap up (10 minutes)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Thank everyone for their contributions.</li><li>• Summarise key points and insights from the meeting.</li></ul>



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Industry,  
Science and Resources**

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## EVENT BRIEF

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**Event Title:** Technology, AI and Energy Roundtable with Assistant Minister Dr Charlton

**Date:** Friday 21 November 2025

**Time:** 11.30am – 1.30pm

**Location:** ACS Boardroom, Level 27, Tower 1, 100 Barangaroo Avenue

## KEY CONTACTS

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- s 22 Head of Brand and Experience, s 22
- s 22 , Policy Manager, s 22

## EVENT OUTLINE

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Australia’s tech sector is driving innovation to support our energy transition. This roundtable will explore how tech and innovation is delivering positive outcomes for the nation, including AI, quantum and consumer energy resources. It will provide an opportunity for the Minister to hear first hand how Australia’s energy technology sector can be a leader, as well as some of the ways in which AI and quantum can support the transition to net zero.

This roundtable discussion will enable leaders in the technology sector to:

- Build a common understanding of the emerging requirements and solutions to power the digital economy.
- Highlight the efforts being made by the sector to align with the Government’s energy transition goals.
- Discuss opportunities for the sector to collaborate with the Government to deliver innovative and sustainable energy solutions.

## RUN SHEET

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#	Time	Item	Lead
1.	11.30am (15 mins)	Arrivals	TCA team
2.	11.45am (5 mins)	Guests take seats	TCA team
3.	11.50am (5 mins)	Introduction, welcome to TCA and Acknowledgment of Country	s 22
4.	11.55pm (5 mins)	Opening Remarks	Assistant Minister Charlton
5.	12.00pm (10 mins)	Invite round the table introductions	s 22



6.	12.10pm (50 mins)	Facilitated conversation	s 22	+ TCA reps
7.	1.00pm (10 mins)	Closing remarks, wrap up and photo	Assistant Minister Charlton, s 22	
8.	1.10pm (20 mins)	Lunch served and networking		
9.	1.30pm	Event close		

## ROUNDTABLE ATTENDEES

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	First name	Last name	Company	Title
s 22				
5	Alexander	Smith	Google	Principal, Global Infrastructure & Energy

s 22

14	The Hon Dr Andrew	Charlton MP	Federal Government	Assistant Minister for Science, Technology and the Digital Economy
15	s 22		Office of the Hon Dr Andrew Charlton MP	Senior Adviser
16	Dan	Quinn	DISR	General Manager AI Policy

s 22



**The Hon. Dr Andrew Charlton**

**Cabinet Secretary**

**Assistant Minister for Science, Technology and the Digital Economy**

**MEETING REQUEST**

Meeting	Data Centres x Energy Roundtable with TechCouncil members
Date:	Friday 21 November 2025
Time:	11:30am – 1:30pm
Location:	Tech Council Sydney Office - Level 27 Tower 1, 100 Barangaroo Avenue
Contact:	Contact DLO
Attendees:	Please see in AMO comments

Bios:	Y
Discussion Points:	Y
Sensitivities/Issues	Y
Prior meetings	N

Departmental Repi:	Y
Record of Meeting:	N

Speech Notes:	N
Speech (full text):	N
Q&A	N
Media Release:	N
Shell Release:	N

Gift: (bilat/international only)	N
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AMO Comments:	<p>Please see attendee list mentioned below – AM Charlton will be hosting the roundtable. The roundtable is to hear first hand how Australia’s energy technology sector can be a leader, as well as some of the ways in which AI and quantum can support the transition to net zero.</p> <p>Key areas of discussion include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Build a common understanding of the emerging requirements and solutions to power the digital economy.</li> <li>• Highlight the efforts being made by the sector to align with the government’s energy transition goals.</li> <li>• Discuss opportunities for the sector to collaborate with the government to deliver innovative and sustainable energy solutions.</li> </ul>
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3	Tim	Rosenfield	Firmus	Co-founder & Co-CEO
4	Bec	Turner	Google	Government Affairs and Public Policy

s 22

12	The Hon Dr Andrew	Charlton MP	Federal Government	Assistant Minister for Science, Technology and the Digital Economy
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iii Departmental Representatives should attend in person. If the line area drafting the brief does not have a staff member located, or already visiting the town of the meeting, please send an AusIndustry representative as the first alternative. If there is no staff member who can attend in person, the phone number of a departmental officer who will be available to be dialled in should be included in the brief. To seek an AusIndustry Representative, the Line Area Manager is to email the s 47E(d) [@industry.gov.au](mailto:@industry.gov.au) who will coordinate for an appropriate officer from AusIndustry to attend.



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Industry,  
Science and Resources**

**Meeting Brief**

MB25-000736

**FOR INFORMATION - Meeting with Michael Punke, Amazon Web Services (AWS) – 28/10/2025**

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**TO:** Assistant Minister for Science, Technology and the Digital Economy

**CC:** Minister for Industry and Innovation; Minister for Science

**PURPOSE OF MEETING**

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- You are meeting with Mr Michael Punke, Vice President for Global Public Policy, AWS.
- The meeting is an opportunity to update Mr Punke on the likely priorities of the Albanese Government's National AI Plan. Mr Punke is keen to discuss:
  - the direction of the Plan,
  - the productivity opportunities of AI,
  - the proposal for national interest principles on data centres, as discussed at the Economic Reform Roundtables.

**KEY MESSAGES**

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- The Government's National AI Plan is due to be released at the end of the year. It will signal Australia's AI ambitions and set strategic direction. It is anchored by 3 priorities:
  - capturing the opportunities of AI,
  - spreading the benefits, and
  - keeping Australians safe.

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## BACKGROUND

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- In August 2025, AWS and NBN Co announced a partnership to replace elements of existing wholesale fixed broadband infrastructure with Amazon’s Project Kuiper Low Earth Satellite technology.
- You met with AWS, including Mr Punke, during your trip to the United States in August 2025. Topics you discussed included:
  - AWS’ infrastructure investments in Melbourne and Sydney, s 47(1)(b), s 47G
  - s 47(1)(b), s 47G
  - Project Kuiper’s satellite rollout, with NBN as a key partner.
- In June 2025, AWS announced alongside the Prime Minister that it plans to invest A\$20 billion by 2029 to expand data centre infrastructure in Australia, strengthening Australia’s cloud and AI capabilities.
  - Three new solar farms in Victoria and Queensland will support the infrastructure expansion.
- s 47G

## SENSITIVITIES

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S 47C

## DATA REFERENCED

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- Nil.

## CONSULTATION

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- IP Australia, Attorney-General's Department.

Clearance Officer

Dan Quinn

General Manager, AI Policy

Technology and Digital Policy Division

Mob: s 22

Clearance Date: 27/10/2025

Contact Officer

s 22

Manager, AI Infrastructure

Technology and Digital Policy Division

s 22

## ATTACHMENTS

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A: Biography

B: Discussion Points

**Attachment A**

**Biography**



**Mr Michael Punke**

Vice President for Global Public Policy, AWS

Mr Punke has worked at Amazon since 2017. Prior to that, he was the Deputy United States Trade Representative and US Ambassador to the World Trade Organisation in Geneva, Switzerland.

From 2003 to 2010, Mr Punke worked as a writer, consultant and adjunct professor at the University of Montana.

Mr Punke is the author of the novel, *The Revenant*, basis for the award-winning film, as well as 2 works of narrative nonfiction and several screenplays. *The Revenant* has been translated into more than 20 languages and was an international bestseller.

## Attachment B

## Discussion Prompts

Issue	AWS's interest in Australia's national AI plan
<b>Prompts:</b>	<p>Congratulate AWS on its upcoming data centre and renewable energy investments in Australia.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is your view of where government can have the greatest impact in facilitating effective, sustainable AI adoption across the economy?</li> <li>• What do you see as the productivity opportunities that government can work with industry on to unlock?</li> <li>• How do you see investments like AWS's spreading tangible benefits to Australians?</li> </ul>
<b>Context:</b>	<p>In July 2025, the Prime Minister and AWS's CEO Matt Garman announced that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amazon plans to invest AU\$20 billion to expand data centre infrastructure by 2029, strengthening Australia's cloud and AI capabilities.</li> <li>• Three new solar farms in Victoria and Queensland will support the infrastructure expansion.</li> <li>• AWS has trained 400,000+ people in Australia since 2017 to develop digital skills, and will continue to support generative AI programs like AWS AI Spring Australia and AWS Generative AI Accelerator.</li> </ul> <p>From 2020 to 2022, Amazon invested an estimated AU\$467 million in renewable energy projects in Australia.</p> <p>Amazon already invests in eight solar and wind projects in New South Wales, Queensland, and Victoria. These help power Amazon's Australian operations, including Amazon data centers and fulfilment centers.</p>

	In 2024, Amazon was the third-largest corporate purchaser of renewable energy in Australia and remains the largest corporate purchaser of renewable energy globally.
<b>Prompt:</b>	As discussed at the Economic Reform Roundtable, the government is considering the development of national interest principles for data centres.  What would you like to see reflected in the principles?
<b>Context:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The principles are intended to articulate the government’s vision and guide the development of data centres in ways which align with the national interest.</li> <li>S 47C</li> </ul>
<b>Issue:</b>	<b>Copyright</b>
<b>Recommended talking point:</b>	I understand you will be meeting with the Attorney-General later today. I suggest you discuss copyright with her.
<b>Context:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Attorney-General has made statements to the media that Australia will not introduce a text and data mining exception to Australia’s copyright laws.</li> </ul>



The Hon. Dr Andrew Charlton

Cabinet Secretary

Assistant Minister for Science, Technology and the Digital Economy

MEETING REQUEST	
Meeting	Meeting with Michael Punke (Amazon Web Services)
Date:	Tuesday 28th October
Time:	12:15PM
Location:	APH – Suite R1.89
Contact:	s 22
Attendees:	Michael Punke - Amazon Web Services (AWS) Vice President for Global Public Policy

Bios:	Y
Discussion Points:	Y
Sensitivities/Issues	Y
Prior meetings	N

Departmental Rep <sup>i</sup> :	N
Record of Meeting:	N

Speech Notes:	N
Speech (full text):	N
Q&A	N
Media Release:	N
Shell Release:	N

Gift: <i>(bilat/international only)</i>	N
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AMO Comments:	Continued conversations from Seattle. Mentioned Michael is keen to discuss the direction of the AI strategy, the productivity opportunities of technology, and the proposal for national interest principles on data centres that emerged from the recent Economic Reform Roundtable.
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<sup>iii</sup> Departmental Representatives should attend in person. If the line area drafting the brief does not have a staff member located, or already visiting the town of the meeting, please send an AusIndustry representative as the first alternative. If there is no staff member who can attend in person, the phone number of a departmental officer who will be available to be dialled in should be included in the brief. To seek an AusIndustry Representative, the Line Area Manager is to email the **S 47E(d)** [@industry.gov.au](mailto:industry.gov.au) who will coordinate for an appropriate officer from AusIndustry to attend.

## Meeting Brief

MB25-000859

**FOR INFORMATION - Joint ministerial meeting with Google Vice President of Global Infrastructure, Mr Bikash Koley  
5pm, Tuesday 25 November 2025**

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**TO:** Minister for Industry and Innovation, Minister for Science

**TO:** Assistant Minister for Science, Technology and the Digital

### **PURPOSE OF MEETING**

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- Together with the Treasurer and Minister Gallagher, you are meeting with Mr Bikash Koley, Vice President of Google Global Infrastructure. Mel Silva, Managing Director and Vice President of Google Australia and New Zealand may also be attending with Mr Koley.
- Mr Koley will seek to discuss:
  - perspectives on Australia's digital infrastructure and future
  - the Australia Connect and Pacific Connect subsea cable initiatives
  - Google's approach to scaling clean energy solutions in support of its digital infrastructure initiatives.
- Biographies are at [Attachments A and B](#).

### **KEY MESSAGES**

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- The Albanese Government is about to release a National AI Plan. It will outline the Government's ambition to position Australia as a leading destination for data centre investment.
- The Government is developing national data centre principles (the principles). They aim to encourage data centre development that aligns with the national interest. s 47C  
s 47C
- You may wish to seek an update on Google's Australia Connect and Pacific Connect subsea cable initiatives, including the recent announcement of Dhivaru, a new Trans-Indian Ocean subsea cable system.

## BACKGROUND

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### *Data Centres*

S 47C

- The Attorney-General announced on 26 October that the Government is not considering a text and data mining exception as part of the consultation on Australia's copyright law.
- The Attorney-General's Department is consulting the Copyright and Artificial Intelligence Reference Group (of which Google is a member) on:
  - encouraging fair, legal avenues for using copyrighted material in AI through examination of licensing arrangements
  - improving certainty on the application of copyright law to material generated by AI
  - making it easier to enforce existing rights through a potential new small claims forum to efficiently address lower-value copyright infringement matters.
- A speech by Deputy Commissioner Rebecca Saint delivered to the PacRim Conference on 14 June 2024 outlined that the ATO was reviewing tax arrangements used by data centre operators, and that the ATO was yet to form a final view.
- S 47G

### *Subsea cables*

- Google Cloud's Australia Connect and Pacific Connect initiatives will deliver new subsea cables to increase the reliability, resilience and reach of digital connectivity in the Pacific.

- Pacific Connect, announced in October 2023, connects Fiji, French Polynesia, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Hawaii to Australia, Japan and mainland United States. Australia Connect, announced in November 2024, connects Darwin, Melbourne and Perth to Christmas Island.
- On 18 November 2025, Google Cloud announced plans to build on the Australia Connect initiative by connecting Christmas Island to the Maldives and Oman.
- In addition to Dhivaru, Google will be investing in creating a connectivity hub and data centre on Christmas Island.
- Google Cloud is partnering with several Australian companies on Australia Connect and Pacific Connect, including NextDC, Subco, Vocus and Telstra, plus state, territory and local governments in Western Australia, Northern Territory and Queensland.
- Pacific Connect includes pre-installed branching units across the subsea cable system to enable other Pacific nations to connect in the future.

#### *DISR Grants*

- Google does not currently hold any grants through the Business Grants Hub, although is a project partner in a number of active grants including under the Medical Research Future Fund. Google Australia Pty Ltd is approved under the R&D Tax Incentive.

#### **SENSITIVITIES**

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**S 47C**

- Google may be critical of the News Bargaining Incentive. Consultation opened on 13 November 2025 and closes on 19 December 2025.
- In July 2025, the Minister for Communications announced that Google’s YouTube would be an age-restricted social media platform in Australia from 10 December 2025, when new Social Media Minimum Age obligations apply. However, YouTube Kids will not be age-restricted.
  - The eSafety Commissioner has undertaken extensive consultation to determine which social media platforms pose the largest risk to young Australian. YouTube was identified as the most prevalent platform where young Australians experienced harm.

**S 47G****CONSULTATION**

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- Chief Counsel and Integrity Division; Business Grants Hub; Treasury; Finance; Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport, and the Arts; Department of Defence; Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water.

Clearance Officer

Jessica Foote

A/g Head of Division

Technology and Digital Policy Division

**s 22**

Clearance Date: 20 November 2025

Contact Officer**s 22**

Manager, AI Infrastructure

Technology and Digital Policy Division

**s 22****ATTACHMENTS**

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A: Biography - Mr Bikash Koley

B: Biography -Mel Silva

**S 47C**

**Bikash Koley**  
**VP, Global Infrastructure**

Bikash is currently the Vice President of Google Global Infrastructure (GGI)



As the Vice President of Global Infrastructure, Bikash oversees the physical infrastructure powering and connecting all of Google's consumer services, AI services, and Cloud services globally. This team is responsible for the strategy, operations, technology roadmap, delivery, and optimization for Google's global footprint of datacenters, energy and network infrastructure, across design, power, space, and fleet-wide demand planning.

The high performing infrastructure team drives Google's global energy, location, data center, and network strategy and acquisition. A key objective is to achieve our [ambitious net-zero emissions and 24/7 carbon-free energy goal](#). The networking team designs, develops, and operates Google's advanced, intent-driven global network, which extends across more than two million miles of lit terrestrial and subsea fiber and over 3,000 edge locations in more than 200 countries and territories. Working alongside them, the capacity and demand planning teams develop and execute the portfolio strategy for our global infrastructure, ensuring adequate power, space, networking, and machine resources to support Google's current and future growth.

Prior to this, Bikash was the Executive Vice President and Chief Technology Officer of Juniper Networks. In this role, Bikash charted Juniper's technology strategy and led the execution of the company's critical technology innovations. Specifically, Bikash was responsible for Juniper's telco cloud and virtualization, multicloud enterprise datacenter and software defined enterprise networking products and technologies.

Prior to Juniper, Bikash spent close to ten years at Google, where he was a Distinguished Engineer and the Head of Network Architecture, Engineering and Planning.

Prior to Google, Bikash was the CTO of Qstreams Networks, a company he co-founded. He also spent several years at Ciena Corporation in various technical roles developing DWDM and Ethernet technologies.

He is an industry-leading expert on network function virtualization, intent driven networking (IDN), multi cloud networking, warehouse-scale computing, and hyperscale network infrastructures.

Bikash received a BTech from IIT, India; and MS and PhD degrees from the Clark School at the University of Maryland, all in Electrical & Computer Engineering.

## Attachment B

**Biography - Mel Silva**

*VP and Managing Director, Google Australia and New Zealand*

Mel Silva is the VP and Managing Director for Google Australia and New Zealand.

She is responsible for ensuring the organisation delivers on Google's mission for users and the community, supporting the amazing teams in both countries, and overseeing the work it does across sales, partnerships and platforms to help businesses grow.



Since joining Google in 2007, she has held a number of senior roles in Australia and APAC region. Prior to coming home to Sydney in 2018, Mel and her family spent two years in Singapore, where she was responsible for Google's Go to Market Strategy & Operations team across APAC.

Before joining Google, she was the General Manager at Fairfax Digital's Direct Access. She also has an extensive product and marketing background in the Financial Services sector with organisations including Citibank, ING Direct and AMP.

Mel is a strong advocate for Reconciliation and diversity. She helped launch Google Australia's third Reconciliation Action Plan, aiming to enable and encourage every Googler to become active contributors to Reconciliation and, as chair of the Google Australia and New Zealand Diversity Council, is helping drive initiatives to improve diversity, equity and inclusion at Google and across the industry.

Ms Silva is also on the board of the Business Council of Australia and a member of the Board of Trustees for the Sydney Opera House.



## Senator the Hon Tim Ayres

### Minister for Industry and Innovation | Minister for Science

MEETING REQUEST	
Meeting	Joint Ministers meeting with Google Global Infrastructure, Vice President Bikash Koley
Date:	Tuesday, 25 November 2025
Time:	5:00 PM-5:30 PM
Location:	APH M1.49
Contact <sup>i</sup> :	Contact DLOS
Attendees <sup>ii</sup> :	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vice President Bikash Koley</li> <li>• Treasurer Chalmers</li> <li>• Minister Gallagher</li> <li>• Assistant Minister Charlton</li> </ul>

Bios:	Google has provided bio, please use that as an attachment
Discussion Points:	No
Sensitivities/Issues	Yes
Prior meetings (with min or department)	Yes
Current or previous grant	Yes
Local Economic Profile <a href="#">PDF Local Economic Profile User Guide.pdf</a>	No

Departmental Rep <sup>iii</sup> :	No
Record of Meeting:	No

Speech Notes:	No
Speech (full text):	No
Q&A	No
Media Release:	No
Shell Release:	No

Gift: <i>(bilat/international only)</i>	No
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MO Comments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint meeting brief for Charlton and Ayres</li> <li>• Please include sensitivities and issues. Please also use the bio attached provided by Google</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mr Koley will discuss perspectives on Australia's digital infrastructure and future and also speak to the Australia Connect &amp; Pacific Connect (Subsea Cables) initiatives and our thinking around AI infrastructure, data centres and Google's approach to scaling clean energy solutions in support of our digital infrastructure initiatives</li></ul>
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<sup>i</sup> If a contact is listed by the Minister's Office, please contact them to confirm any necessary details of the meeting.

<sup>ii</sup> If an adviser is not listed, there is no need to contact the Minister's Office as this is generally resolved closer to the meeting. However, if an adviser is listed here, please ensure they are on the list transcribed to the brief, including any notes about them representing the Minister.

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<sup>iii</sup> Departmental Representatives should attend in person. If the line area drafting the brief does not have a staff member located, or already visiting the town of the meeting, please send an AusIndustry representative as the first alternative. If there is no staff member who can attend in person, the phone number of a departmental officer who will be available to be dialled in should be included in the brief. To seek an AusIndustry Representative, the Line Area Manager is to email the **s 47E(d)** **s 47E(d)** [@industry.gov.au](mailto:@industry.gov.au) who will coordinate for an appropriate officer from AusIndustry to attend.

s 22

ATTACHMENT C

s 22	/NextDC	Discussion	Discussed proposal concerning data centres S 22 s 47C	Discussed on 4 September 2025	[TBC]
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s 22

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