

## **Press Release on Australia's Low Carbon Transition Survey Results**

September 11, 2014

**SURVEY SHOWS 77% OF CARBON PROFESSIONALS HAVE NO FAITH IN  
GOVERNMENT'S ERF, YET EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS CONTINUE IN-HOUSE  
ACROSS AUSTRALIAN ORGANISATIONS**

In mid August 2014, in the wake of the repealed Clean Energy Future's Legislation, the Carbon Management Institute of Australia and New Zealand (CMIANZ) surveyed its members as well as members of Sustainable Business Australia to identify the key issues facing Australia transitioning to a low carbon economy. CMIANZ, a not-for-profit institute founded in 2010, represents over 450 carbon management professionals reducing greenhouse gas emissions while SBA is the peak advocacy body for sustainable business activities in Australia.

A clear majority of respondents - 77% - have no faith that the Government's Emissions Reduction Fund (ERF) can generate sufficient abatement to meet Australia's emissions reduction target, while only 3% believe the ERF has the capacity to meet any current or future targets set. At the same time, when asked about carbon management activities within their own organisations, 38% of respondents' organisations are set to increase investment in carbon abatement for the next 12 months, while 32% have already increased carbon abatement and energy efficiency efforts in the last year. This is in line with 57% of respondents agreeing that the current policy vacuum, following the repeal of the carbon tax, results in a move of carbon risk from being a management risk, to a reputational risk for organisations.

When asked about any existing barriers to their organisation's continued abatement activities, a lack of policy for long-term investment decisions was identified as a leading obstacle.

Finally, despite 60% of respondents agreeing that carbon management was an important element of their role, only half had the needed support of their CEO in this. The survey also showed that 60% of respondents allocate only 50% or less of their job function to carbon management activities despite carbon management and/or energy efficiency being very important for over 50% of respondents' organizations. This demonstrates that carbon management professionals may not be utilized to their full potential and better integration of carbon management at a strategic business level is needed.