THE AUSTRALIAN *

SE Business

HD RBA board member joins EnergyAustralia

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RESERVE Bank of Australia board member Catherine Tanna is returning to executive work after two years as chairwoman of BG Group's local operations, as the Melbourne-based head of EnergyAustralia.

Ms Tanna will replace EnergyAustralia managing director Richard McIndoe on July 1.

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Mr McIndoe announced his intention to leave in December after eight years at the helm of the business formerly known as TRUenergy.

Ms Tanna's appointment comes at a challenging time for EnergyAustralia, whose parent, **Hong Kong**-owned CLP Holdings, abandoned an initial public offering last year amid poor Australian **equity**markets, reduced electricity demand and increased competition.

Chairman Graham Bradley said Ms Tanna had been appointed to **lead** the **company** through a phase of consolidation and growth.

"The strong leadership Catherine has shown in previous roles, coupled with a deep understanding and experience across the **energy** sector, will stand her in good stead for navigating us through the challenges we face in the external market, including the complex regulatory and market forces at work in our sector," Mr Bradley said.

After a long stint overseas as an oil and gas executive, Ms Tanna returned to Australia in 2009 as managing director of BG's Australian operation to oversee development of the \$US20 billion (\$18.7bn) Queensland Curtis LNG plant being built at Gladstone.

Ms Tanna stepped back from executive duties to take the role of non-executive chairman in 2012. The move continues a turbulent time at management and board level at BG. Chief executive Chris Finlayson stepped down suddenly this month in London, while Ms Tanna's replacement as BG Australia, managing director, Derek Fisher, left last month, as did local external affairs boss Rob Millhouse.

TRUenergy acquired NSW government retailer EnergyAustralia in 2011 and retained the name.

As well as power and gas retailing in NSW, Victoria, Queensland and South Australia, EnergyAustralia owns black and brown coalmines and power stations, gas power stations and wind farms. Ms Tanna will remain on the RBA board and continue as a member of the Business Council of Australia.

brgas : BG Group PLC | chlp : CLP Holdings Ltd | sretpl : EnergyAustralia Pty Ltd | rbkaus : Reserve Bank of Australia

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