

BIOGRAPHY: JOHN RYAN

John Ryan has been a Deputy Secretary of the Commonwealth Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources since August 2001. His current responsibilities cover energy, environment, minerals and petroleum policy. The scope of activities range from mineral and petroleum exploration to downstream processing. Mr Ryan is the Chair of the Commonwealth/State government officials group on energy.

Prior to his current appointment, Mr Ryan was head of the Canberra Office of the Allen Consulting Group (1999-2001), which is one of Australia's leading private economic policy advisory practices. His work covered strategic advice and economic impact studies of major projects, particularly resource projects. The work also covered evaluation of government programs relating to research and development and technology transfer.

Mr Ryan was an Australian Public Service Fellow working at University of London and Royal Dutch Shell Group in London between 1997 and 1999. At the University, he analysed modern industry policy in Europe with particular focus on the high economic growth experienced in Ireland. He was a corporate adviser to Shell on the Asia Crisis, development of a strategic investment model and on global prioritisation of gas projects.

Between 1993 and 1997, Mr Ryan was a Division Head of the Commonwealth Department of Industry, Science and Resources, responsible for general industry policy issues including taxation, investment, venture capital, import tariffs, competition policy, research and development, and small business. Mr Ryan led the taskforce for the Prime Minister's Industry Policy Statement.

Prior to 1993, John was deputy director of Australia's leading industry economic public research agency, the Bureau of Industry Economics. He specialised in productivity, investment and taxation research areas. He was responsible for a number of international benchmarking studies which were primary inputs into the micro-economic reform process in Australia.

Also in his career, John has worked for the Productivity Commission and the Department of Trade and Industry. He has lectured in economics for a Masters Program at the Australian National University.

Mr Ryan has a Bachelor of Economics from Monash University and a Master of Economics from the Australian National University. He has been the Chair of the OECD Industry Committee (1996-1997) and Chair of the APEC Group for Small Business (1995-1996).