

Gas Infrastructure Research Australia

Research Update and Transition from FFCRC

20 October 2025 – APGA Convention

- **David Norman** (CEO, Future Fuels CRC)
- **Douglas Proud** (Research Manager, GIRA)

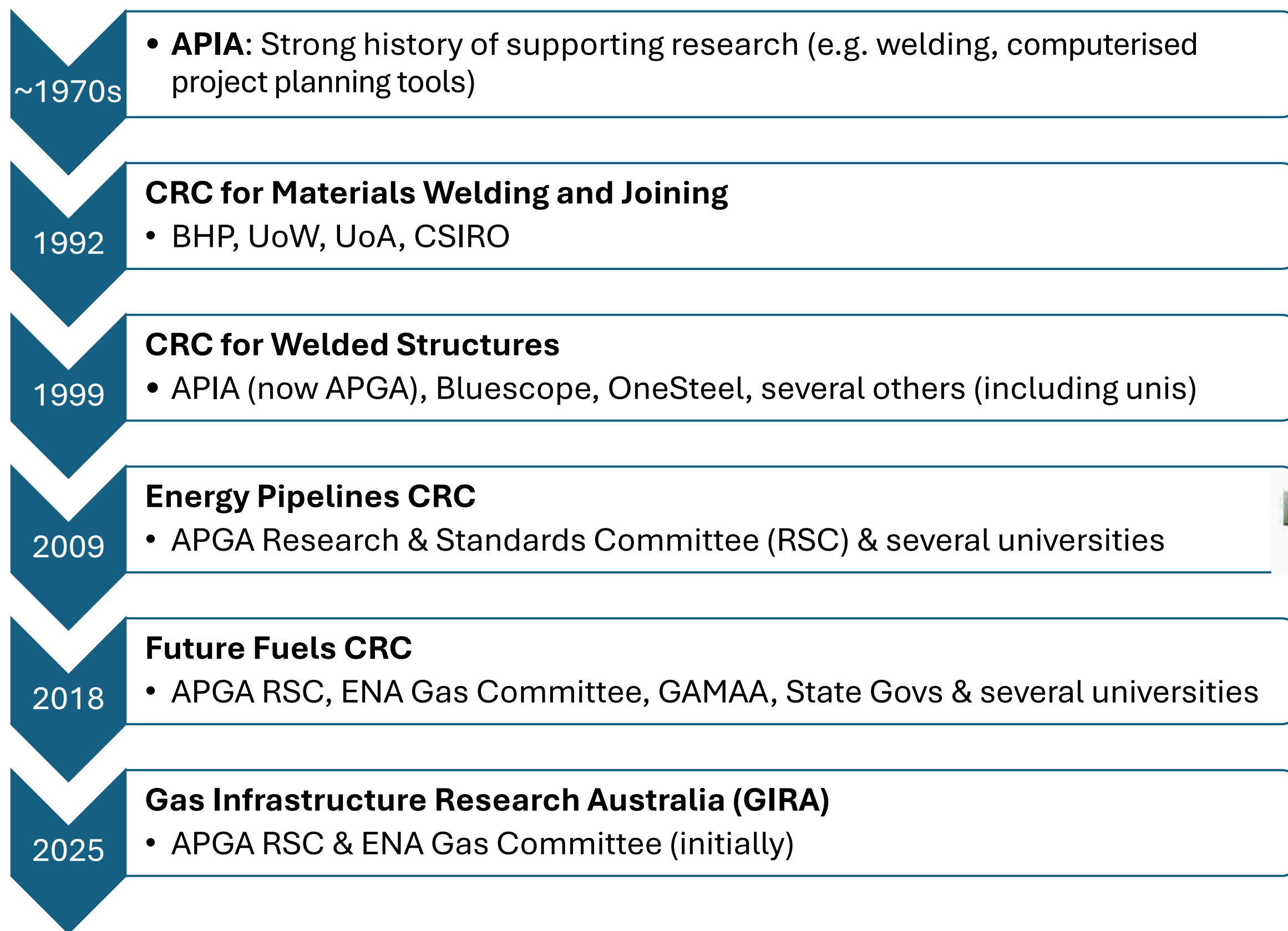


1. History of collaborative research in the industry
2. Overview of Future Fuels CRC
3. Highlights and examples from Future Fuels CRC



4. What is GIRA?
5. Scope and structure of GIRA's research program
6. Next steps and opportunities for industry

History of collaborative research in the pipeline industry



What is Future Fuels CRC?

Addressing the challenges to transition Australia's energy infrastructure to future fuels:

- Collaboration between industry, academia & government (>100 member orgs)
- 118 projects and 50 PhD and Masters scholarships focussing on hydrogen, biomethane, and derivatives
- ~AUD 48M cash funding over 7 years (commenced 2018)
- Industry-led, impact-oriented research

Key Research Areas



**Future Fuel Technologies,
Systems and Markets**



**Social Acceptance, Public Safety
and Security of Supply**



Network Lifecycle Management

What is Future Fuels CRC?

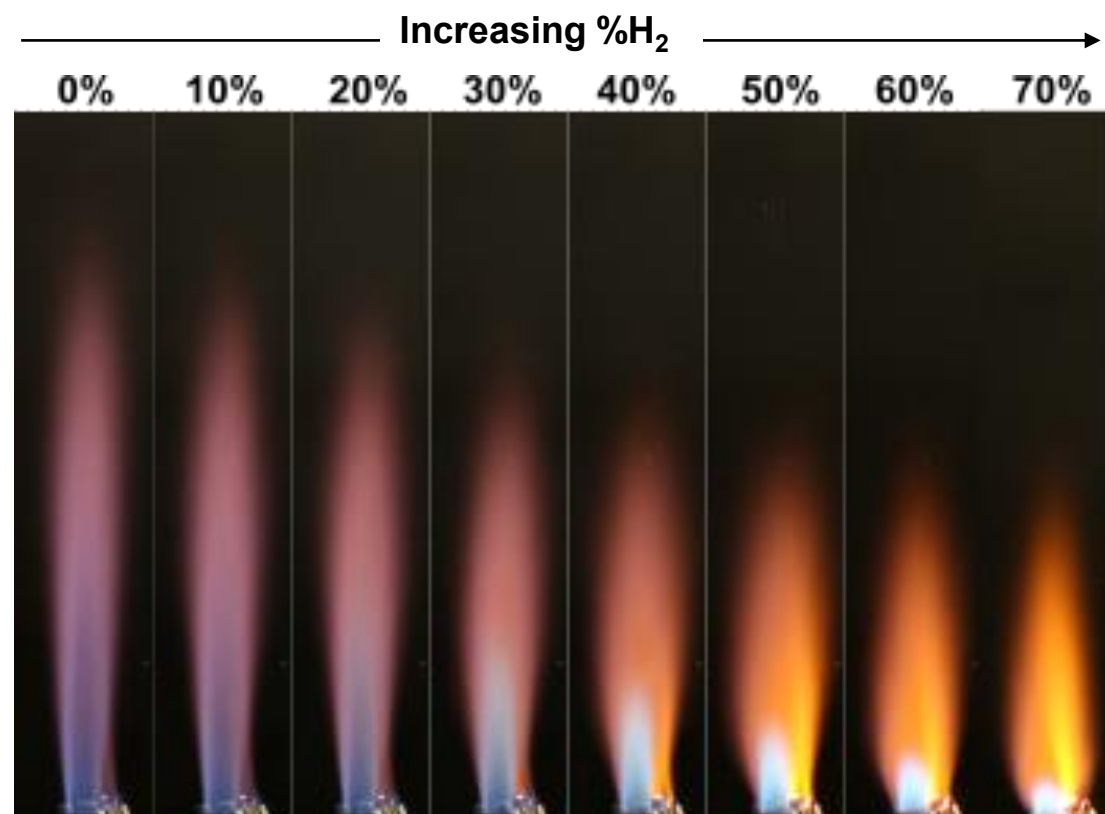
Partner Organisations



Highlights from FFCRC Research

Over 100 projects → VERY small snapshot:

1. World-class **hydrogen embrittlement test facility:**
H₂SAFE(TI) lab – now operated by **ROSEN**
2. **End-use appliance testing** (hydrogen blending)
3. **Biomethane:** economic viability, policy pathways & technical challenges (e.g. impurities)

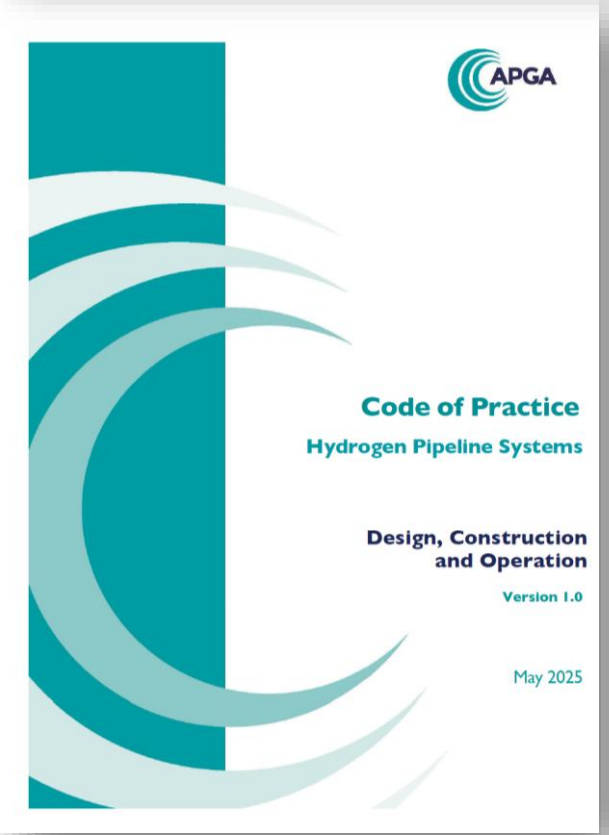
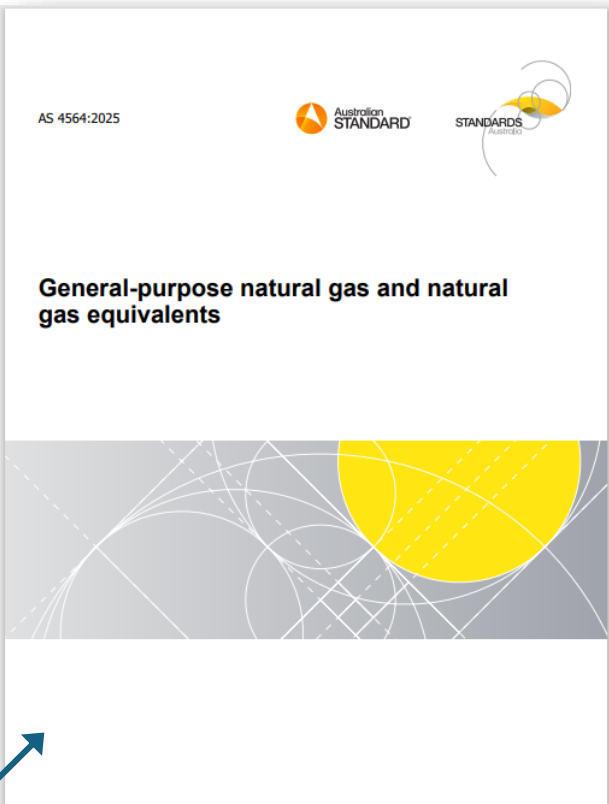


H₂SAFE(TI)
LAB

Research to support trials and demonstrations

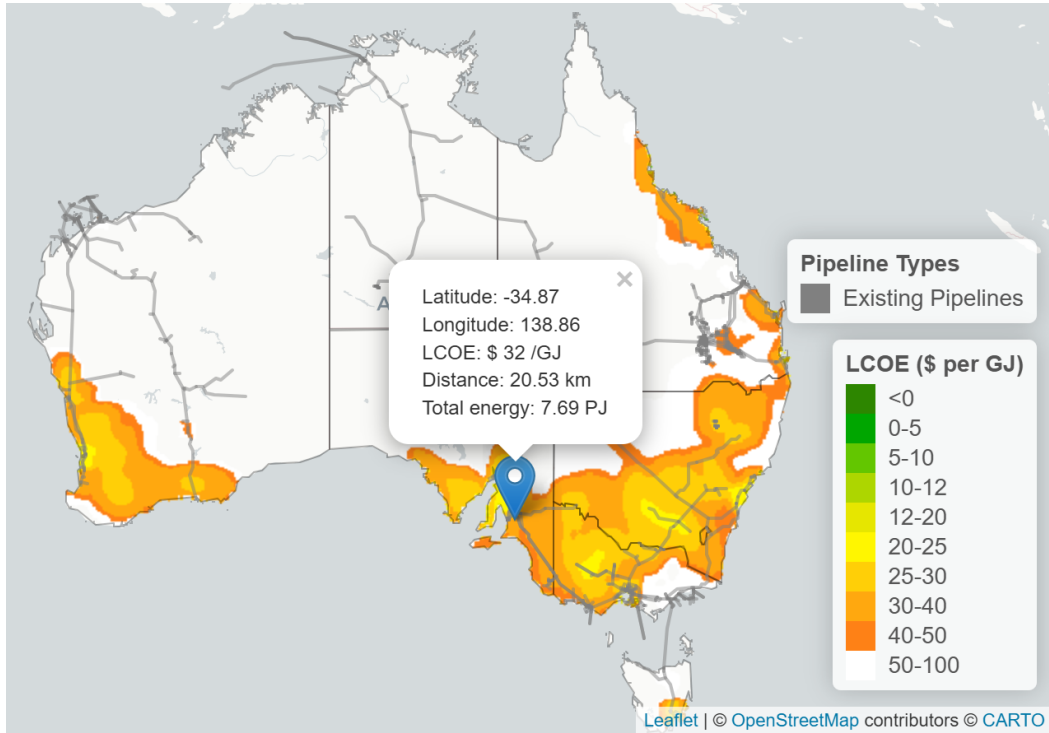


Australia's first renewable gas blend supplied to existing customers



Industry guidelines, codes and standards

Tools and models (e.g. biomethane assessment)



Focus of last 6–12 months:

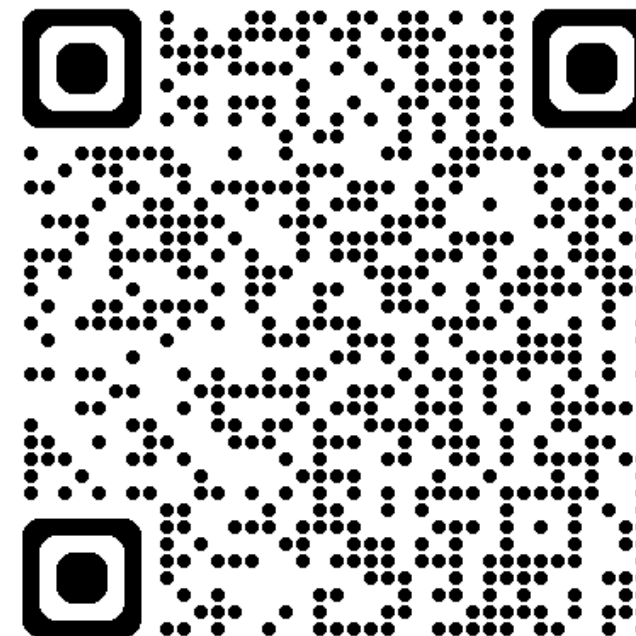
- Completion and dissemination of research activities
 - Capital city roadshows to bring the research to industry and government in Brisbane, Sydney, Perth, Adelaide and Melbourne
- Close-out activities: government reporting, statutory reporting and audit, archiving, research summaries
- Smooth transition and supporting the establishment of GIRA
- Overseas presentation of work including at San Diego JTM with APGA on the 8 visits during US Study Tour
- Detailed quantification of impact of the portfolio of work and updated value assessment. \$300+mln, meaning more than \$5 for each dollar invested by industry
- Professional wind-up of the organisation and smooth baton change to GIRA

End of FFCRC... but not the end of collaborative research

- GIRA established as a new, **enduring and industry-led** research body
- Funding based on a **rolling 3-year commitment** of members
- Initiated by **APGA-RSC and ENA Gas Committee**

GIRA formally established in July 2025 as the successor entity of FFCRC

Link to website



www.gira.org.au



GIRA Management



Douglas Proud
Research Manager
Doug.Proud@gira.org.au
0430 999 420



Stevan Green
Executive Director
Stevan.Green@gira.org.au
0419 583 461

GIRA Board of Directors



Suzie Jakobovits
(Chair)
GM Renewable Gas
Jemena



Ed De Prinse
Exec. GM Distribution
Operations
AGIG



Caroline Beattie
Chief of Staff (CEO
Office)
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Jim Richardson
GM Renewable
Fuels
ATCO Gas Australia

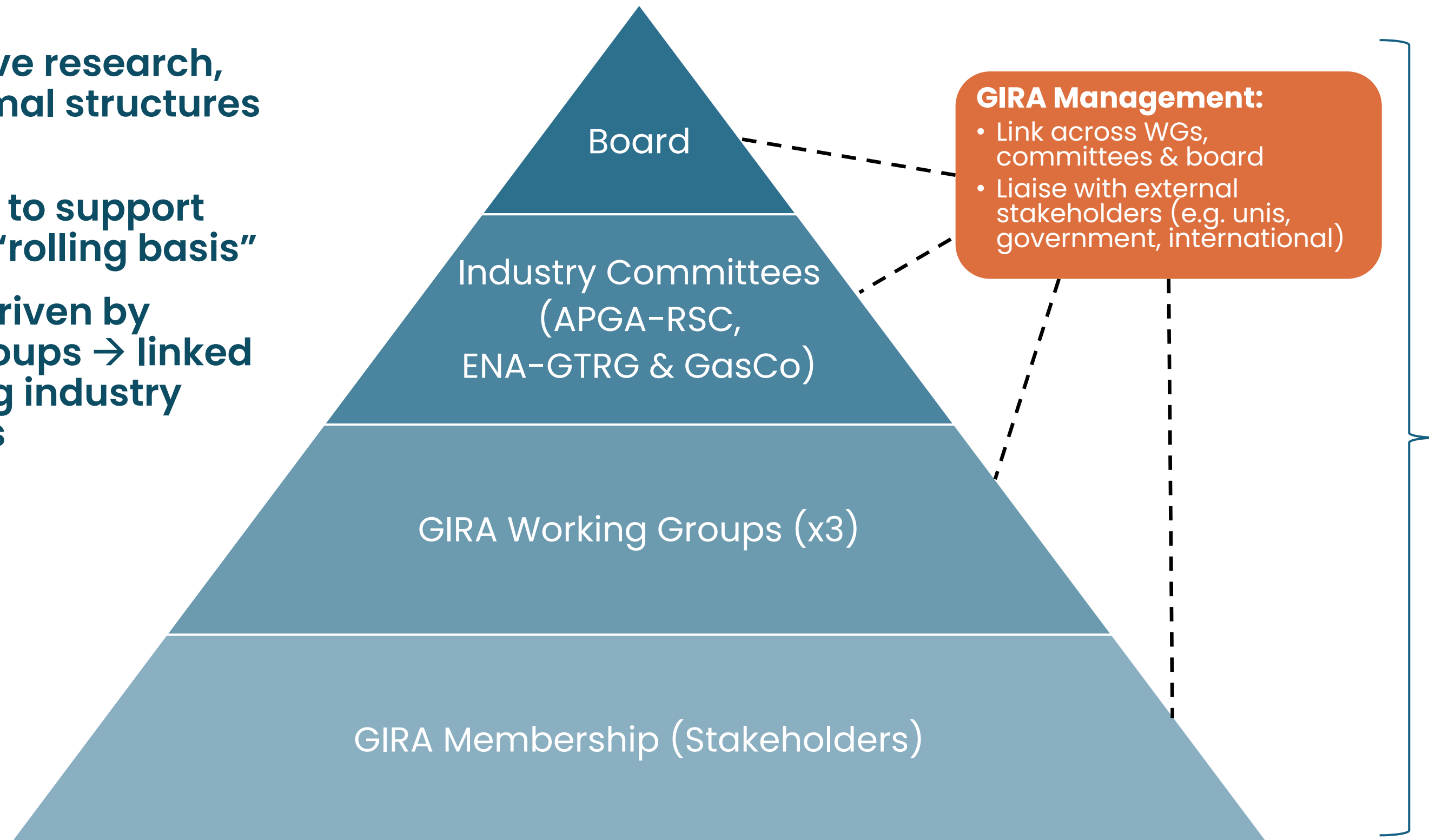


Steve Davies
CEO
APGA

Innovative research on the role of gas infrastructure in the energy transition.

Structure and Approach: Industry-led Research

- Collaborative research, without formal structures of a CRC...
- 3-Year Plan to support funding on “rolling basis”
- Proposals driven by Working Groups → linked with existing industry committees



Recent stakeholders' workshop

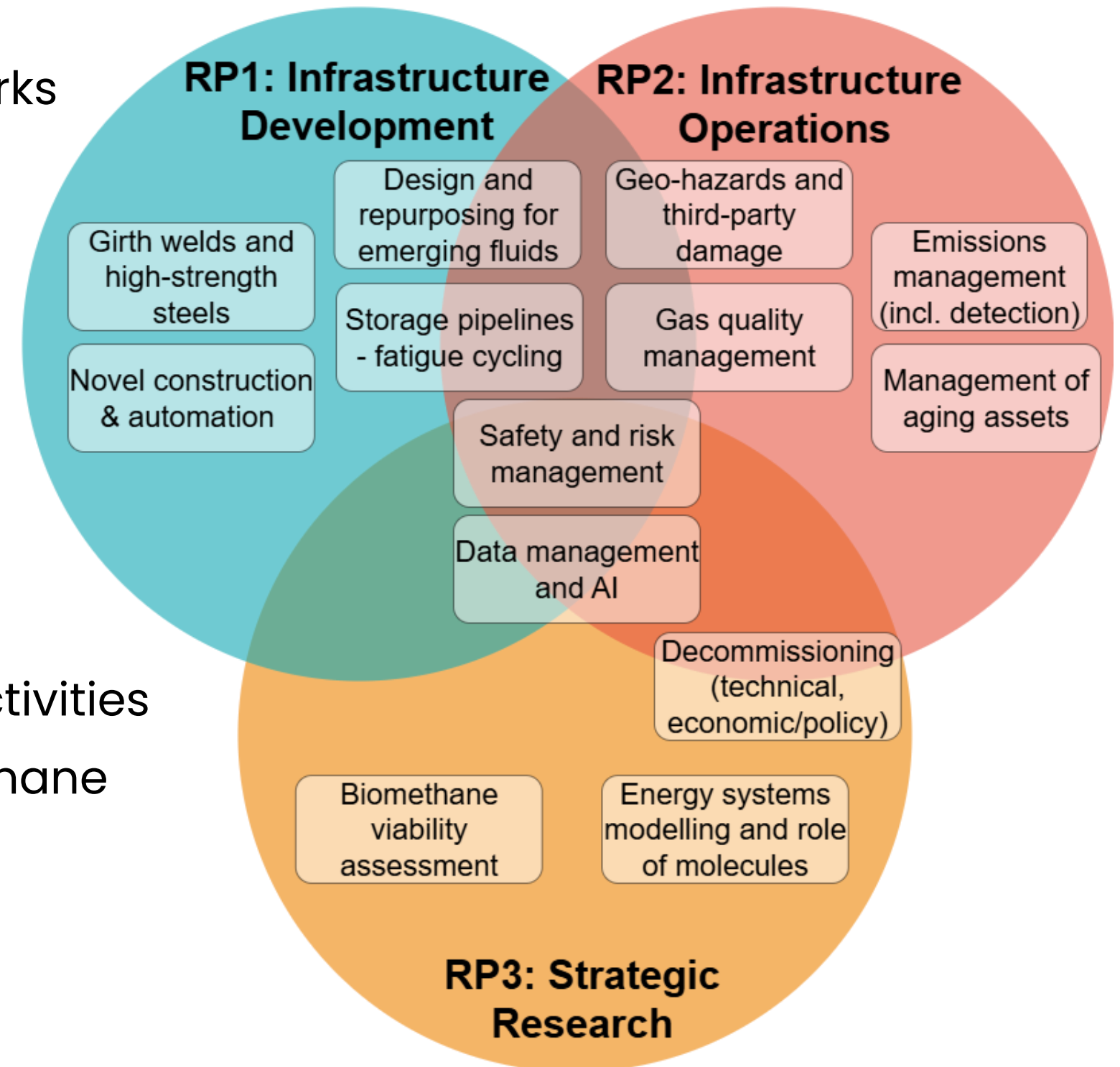
Priority topics identified (sample for illustration)

Scope of research activities:

- Transmission pipelines to distribution networks
- Design to decommissioning
- Natural gas and “emerging fluids” (e.g. H₂, CO₂, biomethane)
- New infrastructure, existing assets and role in an uncertain future

Early projects approved by GIRA board:

- Continuation and extension of key FFCRC activities
- e.g. “Plastic Pipes H₂ Test Beds” and “Biomethane Viability & Mapping Tools”



Training, Education & Professional Development

- Value of research → beyond direct project outcomes
- Facilitate engagement between industry and academia
- Research as a possible pathway into industry
- Site tours, study tours, conferences and networking



Near term: Working Groups → Proposals Q1 2026 (and kick-off early projects)

Medium term: Refinement of 3YP and member feedback

- Research seminar and members workshop → May 2026

Longer term / ongoing: Grow membership, university partnerships, dissemination

- Hosting international “Joint Technical Meeting” (JTM) in 2027

Key messages:

1. **Establishment of GIRA is a change for the industry, but builds on a strong history**
2. **Opportunity for industry to drive and maximise value of research**
3. **GIRA will build on FFCRC’s strong legacy of bringing people together and helping to develop future workforce**

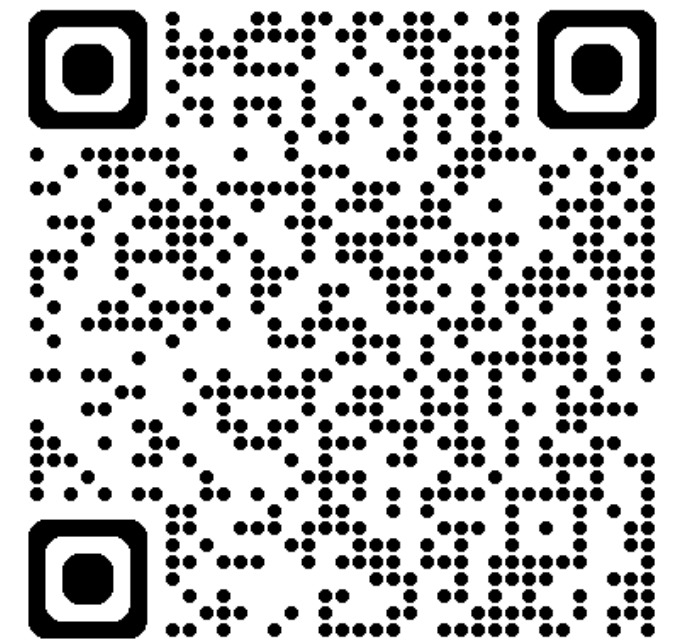


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Thank you!