



25 July 2018

Guy Barnett, Minister for Energy

Battery of the Nation information sessions kick off

Tasmania is in an enviable position to become the renewable energy battery of the nation.

With the potential to double Tasmania's renewable energy capacity, these projects will create jobs in regional areas of Tasmania, stimulate the economy, and most importantly provide renewable, reliable, and affordable energy.

Six information sessions, run by Hydro Tasmania in locations in North and North-West Tasmania, are designed to inform the local communities of the great benefits the Battery of the Nation initiatives can deliver to local communities.

The information sessions follow the identification of 14 'high potential' pumped hydro energy storage sites in a joint report by Hydro Tasmania and the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) released in June.

Pumped hydro projects would require local tradespeople, contractors and construction workers to build this nation-leading infrastructure.

Expanding Tasmania's on-island generation by doubling our Hydro capability and increasing transmission capacity is estimated to create 3000 jobs, and provide hundreds of millions of dollars in revenue for Tasmania.

By harnessing Tasmania's hydro resources, the State will underpin our own supply, and sell excess power at a premium price to other mainland states, which will require further Bass Strait interconnection.

The Hodgman Liberal Government has set a target for Tasmania to be 100 per cent self-sufficient in renewable energy generation by 2022, and our Tasmania-First Energy policy target is to have the lowest regulated electricity prices in Australia.

Further information can be found on Hydro Tasmania's website:

<https://www.hydro.com.au/clean-energy/battery-of-the-nation>

Information sessions:

- Cressy: 25 July from 11:30am at the Cressy Community Centre;
- Bothwell: 26 July from 10:00am at the Castle Hotel, Old Bookies Hall;
- Rosebery: 1 August from 2:00pm at the Rosebery Community House;
- Queenstown: 2 August from 3:00pm at the West Coast Community Services Hub Training Room;
- Sheffield: 8 August from 3.30pm at the Sheffield Town Hall Supper Room; and
- Lorinna: 30 August from 2:00pm at the Lorinna Community Hall.