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Guy Barnett, Minister for Energy

Tasmania signs up to National Energy Guarantee

The Tasmanian Government will vote in favour of the proposed National Energy Guarantee at COAG on Friday and calls on other states and the ACT to back it.

This is not the time to play politics with an issue that Australians want resolved. The NEG delivers lower power bills, reliability of supply while working towards a clean energy future.

Labor states will play politics with this historic resolution at their peril.

The Government believes the National Energy Guarantee will deliver significant benefits for Tasmania.

The Australian Government's NEG framework brings together climate and energy policy for the first time and provides policy certainty to lower power prices and drive investment in the energy sector.

Tasmania is extremely well placed to maximise benefits under the NEG as the nation's renewable energy powerhouse, by providing low cost, clean and reliable energy in abundance.

Our State has a natural advantage with world-leading wind and hydro resources. Both current and un-tapped opportunities are primed and ready for development.

The NEG also strengthens the case for further Bass Strait interconnection, which would unlock Tasmania's renewable potential.

The NEG is consistent with the Government's *Tasmania First* energy policy, where the State will be 100 per cent self-sufficient in renewable energy generation, while delivering the lowest regulated electricity prices in Australia by 2022.