

## Guy Barnett MP

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### Tasmanian Government **Media Release**

19 October 2022

Guy Barnett, Minister for Energy and Renewables

### Labor's disappointing day

On an historic day for Project Marinus with Federal Labor in Tasmania to announce a package of support which will deliver Marinus Link and the North West Transmission Developments, Labor and the Greens have joined forces and voted against a Motion recognising the importance of progressing consultation and compensation to affected land owners.

The North West Transmission Developments are critical to support and progress the proposed Marinus Link interconnector and deliver on our vision to achieve our Renewable Energy Target of 200 per cent of 2020 electricity generation by 2040.

The North West Transmission Developments are of strategic importance to Tasmania's renewable energy future and underpin significant economic opportunities for the State, as well as helping to transform Tasmania into the smartest, cleanest and most innovative State.

The North West Transmission Developments will unlock our low-cost dispatchable hydro capacity, pumped hydro storage, and high quality wind resources. They are essential to enable Marinus Link, Battery of the Nation, and our emerging green hydrogen sector.

We acknowledge there are some concerns in the community about the North West Transmission Developments – which are large scale infrastructure projects with complex and long delivery processes.

Yet despite this, Labor and the Greens voted against the Government's commitment to:

1. Ensure TasNetworks continues to provide opportunities for consultation and input by landowners, the Tasmanian Farmers and Graziers Association, and the community during the design and approvals for the North West Transmission Developments, with a view to minimising the impact of transmission line developments on agriculture.
2. Acknowledge compensation frameworks should be fair, equitable and contemporary, including in relation to any additional easements that may be required to facilitate the North West Transmission Developments.
3. Continue working with other jurisdictions in the National Energy Market to improve approaches to community consultation on transmission line developments and to develop a contemporary framework for landowner compensation payments.

Tasmanian Labor are anti-infrastructure, anti-investment and anti-growing the Tasmanian economy. They could not even bring themselves to support today's historic announcement, until a belated media release sent out at the very last minute.

It's time for Labor to abandon its relentless negativity and talk with their colleagues in Canberra. They need to get onboard with Tasmania having a lead role and benefitting from the transition to renewable energy.