

Guy Barnett MP

Minister for State Development, Construction and Housing
Minister for Energy and Renewables
Minister for Veterans Affairs
Liberal Member for Lyons



Tasmanian Government **Media Release**

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Guy Barnett, Minister for Energy and Renewables

Bass Strait wind energy project partnership welcomed

The Rockliff Liberal Government welcomes the announcement by Nexsphere and Equinor on their partnership to progress the Bass Strait Offshore Wind Energy project.

It is exciting to see the State's offshore wind resource attracting high calibre renewable energy proponents.

The Bass Strait Offshore Wind Energy Project is proposed to be located off the North-East Coast of Tasmania. The project has potential to scale up to multiple gigawatts of installed capacity across multiple stages.

Guy Barnett, Minister for Energy and Renewables said the Rockliff Liberal Government is committed to promoting and developing Tasmania's ocean and tidal renewable energy resources under the Tasmanian Renewable Energy Action Plan.

"Tasmania is well placed to support the development of offshore wind energy leveraging our world class wind resource, as well as our experience with Basslink and plans for Marinus Link," Minister Barnett said.

"We also have world-leading international marine experience with the Australian Maritime College and the Blue Economy CRC, both based in Launceston.

"Bass Strait has been named as one of the top options for offshore wind energy generation in the country by the national Blue Economy Cooperative Research Centre."

The Commonwealth has highlighted the Bass Strait region off Northern Tasmania as one of the next five areas that will be considered for an offshore zone declaration under the Federal Offshore Electricity Act 2021.

Offshore wind developments have the potential to be an important contributor to meeting the State's legislated target to double renewable energy generation by 2040 and our green hydrogen plans.

Meeting Tasmania's renewable energy target is important if we are going to keep growing our economy and for access to affordable, reliable and clean energy in our State and keeping downward pressure on electricity prices.