



13 March 2019

Guy Barnett, Minister for Energy

## Powering up the Battery of the Nation

The Hodgman Liberal Government is continuing to drive the state and nation-building Battery of the Nation and Marinus projects, which have the potential to inject up to \$5 billion into the Tasmanian economy and deliver 2,000 local jobs.

Today, Hydro Tasmania, has confirmed three sites have been identified as being the most promising for pumped hydro development.

The sites at Lake Cethana and Lake Rowallan in the North West, and near Tribute Power Station on the West Coast, will now undergo an intensive feasibility study and community engagement process, costing up to \$30 million.

The Tasmanian Government and the Australian Government have committed to progressing the first of these sites to a final investment decision, subject to final commitment to the second interconnector. An estimated 300 to 400 local jobs are expected during the construction phase.

Tasmania has what the rest of the nation needs, and the Hodgman Liberal Government is committed to using this advantage to ensure Tasmanians continue to see low cost, reliable and clean energy in their homes and businesses.

Today's announcement follows the Australian Government's commitment to work with the Tasmanian Government to underwrite the first phase of Battery of Nation through the Federal Underwriting New Generation Investments program.

The Australian Government has also announced \$56 million to fast-track delivery of the 'Marinus Link' project, following the release of an initial feasibility report.

Tasmania is well on the way to achieving 100 per cent self-sufficiency in renewable generation and securing the nation's lowest regulated power prices by 2022.