

Guy Barnett MP

Minister for Primary Industries and Water
Minister for Energy
Minister for Resources
Minister for Veterans' Affairs
Liberal Member for Lyons



TASMANIAN GOVERNMENT MEDIA RELEASE

Elise Archer, Minister for Building and Construction
Guy Barnett, Minister for Energy
3 February 2021

New gas industry framework to commence

A new regulatory framework for the gas industry which will ensure contemporary and effective regulation across the sale and supply of gas, gas infrastructure, gas installations and gas appliances will commence today, namely 3 February 2021.

The new *Gas Industry Act 2019*, *Gas Safety Act 2019* and *Gas Safety Regulations 2021* were the result of an industry framework review and provide:

- improved administrative efficiency within government;
- regulatory consistency for the LP gas industry, the automotive gas fitting industry and other emerging fuel gases;
- removal of unnecessary regulatory burden on the Tasmanian gas fitting industry;
- alignment of similar functions relating to the design, construction, commissioning and operational integrity of gas distribution and transmission gas infrastructure; and
- strengthened and diversified regulator powers with regard to unsafe gas installations and gas appliances for the continued protection of Tasmanians.

This new framework replaces the outdated *Gas Act 2000* and *Gas Pipelines Act 2000*, which have regulated the Tasmanian gas industry for more than 15 years.

Where there are new developments in areas of non-traditional gas supply and usage such as hydrogen and biogas, the new Act provides flexibility while maintaining safety outcomes to enable more effective monitoring of these activities.

The gas industry is a significant contributor to Tasmania's economy, providing a viable and cost effective energy source for industrial, commercial and domestic gas users.

Our Government continues to provide enhancements for Tasmanians, through effective and appropriate regulation, greater public protections and allowing flexibility to appropriately regulate the safety of emerging fuel gases and technologies.