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Tasmanian Government **Media Release**

Guy Barnett, Minister for State Development, Construction and Housing

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Australian Government urged to engage on the future of Cradle Valley Cable Way

The Tasmanian Government has formally written to the Australian Government requesting that the \$30 million in matched federal funding committed to the Cradle Valley Cable Way project be preserved, while discussions continue between the two Governments on the best way to progress the project.

“The Tasmanian Government has completed the business case, which includes a comprehensive analysis of potential cable way routes, to determine what is technically feasible and compatible with the World Heritage status of this iconic area,” Minister Barnett said.

“The Business Case has been considered by Cabinet and has been provided to the Australian Government.

“The previous Australian Government had determined to provide its matched funding of \$30 million for this project through its Community Development Grant Program.

“However, the current Australian Government announced last year that the CDG Program would cease and while it would honour existing projects, it reinforced a condition that all moneys were required to be expended by 2026.

“The Australian Government confirmed that this date could not be extended, meaning it was no longer possible for the State to progress the project under that Program.

“However, we want to ensure that the Commonwealth’s committed funds are preserved for Tasmania while we work through the implications of the business case, which estimates the project to now total \$190 million, based on materials and other construction costs in this remote location.” Minister Barnett said.

The Tasmanian Government remains committed to a sustainable transport solution to connect the Gateway Village Precinct and Dove Lake and wants to work with stakeholders and the Australian Government on the best pathway forward, however we must also take a prudent approach to managing Tasmania's interests and we call on the Australian Government to work with us rather than put this project in doubt.