



7 June 2018

Guy Barnett, Minister for Energy

Report confirms Tasmania can deliver lowest cost energy in nation

Tasmania is the nation's renewable energy power house and the Hodgman Liberal government has plans to unlock our energy potential, keep energy costs down and create more jobs.

A Report released today confirms Tasmania can deliver the lowest cost energy in the nation and Tasmania's strategic advantages should make pumped hydro investment a national priority.

The Battery of the Nation – analysis of the future National Electricity Market released today by the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) highlights that Tasmania can deliver reliable renewable energy supply at the lowest cost to consumers both in Tasmania and the mainland.

The report states “the cost to develop Tasmania's pumped hydro opportunities is very competitive with over 4800 MW ...of opportunity at a cost to construct from \$1.05 to \$1.5 million per MW.”

The report confirms that Tasmania's “flexible hydro power...could translate to a 20% reduction in energy costs and an additional reduction of up to nine million tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions per year”

“ The coordinated development opportunity of Tasmanian pump hydro wind and interconnection is cost competitive against all other realistic options for the future energy system” the report states.

The Report confirms Tasmania's natural topographical advantages and existing infrastructure makes it a very attractive location to develop large-scale pumped hydro.

The report supports the Tasmania First Energy policy to have the lowest regulated energy prices in Australia and be fully self-sufficient with renewable energy by 2022.

If pumped hydro development proceeds it could more than double our energy capacity, with an investment of up to \$5 billion over the next 10 to 15 years, creating 3000 jobs in regional Tasmania.

To download the report, visit arena.gov.au or hydro.com.au