



**26 October 2018**

**Guy Barnett, Minister for Energy**

## **COAG Update**

Deliberations at the COAG Energy Ministers meeting in Sydney today support progress of Tasmania's Battery of the Nation and further Bass Strait interconnection.

Reliability of the national electricity market was a key focus, with Ministers agreeing to progress work on the retailer reliability obligation, with a final draft bill to be presented in December 2018.

The COAG Energy Council also noted that additional measures are required to support future reliability including further transmission and interconnection.

One of Tasmania's great attributes is access to reliable electricity and COAG's agreement to advance national reform in this area is a boost to both Tasmania and our Battery of the Nation project.

I am pleased that Ministers have agreed to develop a work program to make the Integrated System Plan operable. I look forward to concrete decisions at the next COAG Energy Ministers meeting in December.