



11 October 2019

Guy Barnett, Minister for Energy

Northern councils sign onto hydrogen plan

The Hodgman majority Liberal Government is powering ahead with Tasmania's hydrogen strategy and development opportunities through our Battery of the Nation plans for the benefit of Tasmanian businesses and consumers.

I am pleased to advise the three northern councils of Launceston, West Tamar and George Town have been briefed on our plan, and they have acknowledged the amount of work already underway to secure investment in hydrogen production.

Our state has a bright future in hydrogen and we are receiving significant interest from a range of companies looking to Tasmania for hydrogen production on a commercial scale.

While other states are relying on coal-fired energy to produce hydrogen, Tasmania has the unique opportunity to use hydro and wind energy to split water, producing emissions-free hydrogen. This gives Tasmania an unparalleled competitive advantage.

With emerging industries in Japan, South Korea and China, Tasmania has received significant interest from a range of proponents seeking emissions-free hydrogen at competitive rates. Recently, an international consortium visited to discuss Tasmania's hydrogen future.

Globally Australia's hydrogen export market is estimated to rise to between \$2.6 billion and \$13.4 billion by 2040 and Tasmania is expected to be a major player.

While the Hodgman majority Liberal Government is getting on with the task of creating jobs by investing in Tasmania's hydrogen potential, Labor has nothing to do but snipe by the sidelines.