

16 September 2020

Guy Barnett, Minister for Energy

Project Marinus to create jobs for Tasmanians

Yesterday's announcement from the Australian Government confirming Project Marinus as a national priority is another leap forward for Tasmania on its renewable energy future, which will generate thousands of jobs across the state.

Already we have seen renewable energy projects like Cattle Hill Wind Farm and Granville Harbour Wind farm employ, in total, more than 350 people during construction phases, with a further 16 permanent employees hired to run the wind farms.

Marinus Link represents an intergenerational opportunity to make Tasmania a global leader and the renewable energy powerhouse of Australia, and it will play a key role as we rebuild from COVID-19 by creating billions in economic growth, significant opportunities across the supply chain and jobs – particularly in regional areas.

In addition to current jobs, it is estimated that over 200 direct and indirect jobs will be further created as the project progresses through the peak of the design and approvals phase in 2020-21.

Tasmania is ideally placed to deliver what the country needs – low cost, reliable and clean energy that delivers energy security, downward pressure on energy prices, with significant benefits to be realised across the state.

The next steps will involve finalising a Memorandum of Understanding with the Australian Government to expedite the design and approvals phase to a Financial Investment Decision, which we expect will be done in coming weeks.

We will also continue to progress work on the fair costing allocation methodology through the Council of Energy Ministers.

It is incredibly disappointing that rather than supporting this announcement, Labor chose to talk it down.

It confirms yet again that they don't care about jobs and are only interested in negativity and scaremongering.

Unlike the anti-jobs opposition, our priorities continue to be creating more jobs and rebuilding the economy, which is why we continue to back renewable energy projects and our vision to be a global energy epicentre.