

Guy Barnett MP

Minister for State Development, Construction and Housing
Minister for Energy and Renewables
Minister for Veterans Affairs
Liberal Member for Lyons



Tasmanian Government **Media Release**

26 August 2022

Guy Barnett, Minister for Energy and Renewables
Roger Jaensch, Minister for Environment and Climate Change

Delivering on Tasmania's renewables and emissions reduction future

In recognition of the critical role the Government's renewable energy and climate change agenda will have in Tasmania's future economic growth, job creation, brand and investment potential, the organisation charged with implementing that agenda will be supported by the Department of State Growth from the end of next month.

Renewables, Climate and Future Industries Tasmania (ReCFIT) was created to bring together the best possible advice on energy policy and energy markets; to coordinate and encourage investment in renewable energy, the hydrogen economy and other future industries; and advise on climate change issues and delivery of programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and build resilience to the impacts of climate change.

Getting the foundational policies, plans and strategies in place to secure Tasmania's future has been a core function of ReCFIT since its inception supported by the Department of Treasury and Finance, and we are now ready to move into the next phase of implementation.

From September 30, ReCFIT will transition from being supported by the Department of Treasury and Finance to the Department of State Growth, aligning our renewable energy, emissions reduction and climate policy functions, with other like policy functions, focused on jobs and business, economic development, precinct planning, investment attraction and major industrials.

With so much interest in Tasmania, especially from our renewable energy proponents, we want each of our regions to have a targeted growth strategy and the support behind them to harness their advantages.

To achieve that, we need to structure our Agencies to be more coordinated, easy to navigate for investors, and continue to cut the red tape and inefficiencies so we can get on with the job. This transition will mean we will approach this in a more coordinated way, that is easier for businesses, proponents and the community to understand and interact with.

Tasmania is in a competitive race with other Australian states and regions and globally to develop more green energy to attract new industries, and more closely aligning RecFIT with the functions of State Growth means we can seize the small window of opportunity we have to achieve our target of being 200 per cent renewable by 2040.

ReCFit will continue to focus on delivering our major energy projects including Marinus Link, Battery of the Nation, as well as rolling out Tasmania's Renewable Energy Action Plan and the Tasmanian Renewable Hydrogen Action Plan.

Tasmania's emissions profile continues to be the envy of the nation and is delivering brand benefits, investment and jobs, while strengthening everything we offer and produce here – including in advanced manufacturing, hospitality and tourism, science, irrigation, agriculture, aquaculture and resources.

The Tasmanian Government is committed to reducing emissions while we build resilience and adapt to climate change. The Climate Change (State Action) Amendment Bill 2021 currently being debated in the Tasmanian Parliament, will put in place a nation-leading target of net zero emissions, or lower, from 2030, and a framework to reduce emissions and build resilience in partnership with industry, to ensure we capture the economic opportunities of the transition to a low emissions economy.

In short - ReCFIT is a key part of our plan for Tasmania to be the smartest, cleanest and most innovative state.

RecFIT will continue to be led by CEO Anton Voss.