

## Guy Barnett MP

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### Tasmanian Government **Media Release**

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Guy Barnett, Minister for Energy and Renewables

## Hydro Tasmania charges up the Central Highlands

Congratulations to Hydro Tasmania with the unveiling today of its first public Electric Vehicle charger at the historic Central Highlands village of Waddamana.

Waddamana is central to Tasmania's story of electrification, with the hydro-powered turbines first turning over 100 years ago.

When you visit the Waddamana Power Station Heritage Site you take a step back in time to the beginning of the industrial age in Tasmania. Waddamana initially powered heavy industry and some 300 homes in the Hobart region. As demand for electricity grew, 'the Hydro' responded and grew.

Today, Hydro Tasmania continues to respond to the energy needs of the State.

Energy innovation is what Tasmania has always done well, and what we plan to continue doing as the nation seeks low-carbon energy solutions, creating jobs for Tasmanians and attracting new investment and confidence in our State.

Tasmania also stands ready to play its part through Marinus Link, green hydrogen, more energy from wind and through Battery of the Nation.

Tasmania's renewable energy future is bright, and electric vehicles fuelled by our renewable resources is just one example of how we're applying innovative thinking to modern challenges, just like the renewable energy pioneers did at Waddamana more than 100 years ago.

The remote Waddamana charging station will complement Tasmania's existing state-wide charging network supported in large part through the Tasmanian Government's ChargeSmart grants program,

and make it easier to travel the Central Highlands.

Once completed later this year, ChargeSmart will see 80 electric vehicle chargers installed and is a key part of our plan for more Tasmanians and visitors to see more of Tasmania, powered by our renewable electricity.

I congratulate Hydro Tasmania for this EV charger initiative and look forward to an increasing number of visitors here to not only learn more about our hydro heritage, but to enjoy charging their car with Tasmania's clean green electricity.