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**

29 September 2022

Guy Barnett, Minister for Energy and Renewables

Labor finally supports Liberal clean energy future plans for Tasmania

Tasmanian Labor has finally revealed their position to support Marinus Link and the jobs and investment this renewable energy project will bring to the State.

Marinus Link is an urgently needed and critical energy project that will put downward pressure on energy prices for customers, including Tasmanians.

Marinus Link will provide a two-way flow of energy that will enhance Tasmania's energy security and is complementary to the development of green hydrogen and green manufacturing in Tasmania.

Marinus Link means more jobs for Tasmanians for decades to come, attracting billions of dollars of investment in regional areas of Tasmania, including 1400 jobs in Tasmania and more than $7 billion in additional economic activity to the State.

Marinus Link will deliver a cleaner world with savings of at least 140 million tonnes of CO_2 by 2050, the equivalent of taking a million cars off the road.

As I have said many times, the project will only go ahead if it is in the best interests of Tasmanians. The Tasmanian and Australian Governments have collaboratively held discussions over time about funding for the Marinus Link and Battery of the Nation projects and we make no apologies for fighting for the best deal for Tasmania, including for fair cost allocation.

We are working closely and strategically with the Australian Government as we advance this important project and acknowledge the continued and positive support including from the Prime Minister and Minister Bowen for this nationally significant and urgently needed project.

We welcome the Tasmanian Labor party finally supporting our clean energy future plan and their support to get the best deal for the Marinus Link project.

But it poses the obvious question, is state Labor's sudden change of tune on Marinus Link more evidence of their local operations being run out of Canberra due to them being in federal administration?