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Tasmanian Government **Media Release**

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Guy Barnett, Minister for Energy and Renewables

Tasmanians get the lowest electricity prices but only scare tactics from Labor

Just one day after the Tasmanian Liberal Government delivered the lowest regulated electricity prices in the country, lazy Labor continues to try and scare Tasmanians.

The independent Tasmanian Economic Regulator yesterday released its Comparison of Electricity and Gas Prices Available to Small Customers in Australia which confirmed that Tasmania has the lowest, or among the lowest, regulated electricity prices in Australia.

Since coming to office in 2014, the Government has ensured electricity prices for Tasmanian residential customers have actually decreased by 15.4 per cent in real terms.

And, for small businesses, since 2014 electricity prices have decreased by 5.8 per cent in nominal terms and decreased by 25 per cent in real terms.

The unfortunate truth that Labor tries to avoid is that under the previous Labor government electricity prices increased by a massive 65 per cent as they drove the economy into recession.

Key findings in the independent regulator's report yesterday were:

- The annual electricity charge under Aurora Energy's regulated time of use tariff is the lowest compared to equivalent regulated tariffs in all jurisdictions.
- The annual charges under Aurora Energy's regulated general usage and heating tariffs are among the lowest of equivalent regulated tariffs in all mainland jurisdictions.
- For average business customers, Aurora Energy's regulated tariff is the lowest compared to the charges under regulated tariffs in all mainland jurisdictions.

The Government understands that cost-of-living is a real issue for many Tasmanians which is why we are implementing a boosted and expanded \$50 million energy saver loan scheme for residential customers and small businesses to help families and businesses invest in energy efficiency measures to help future bill shock.

There is also no longer a charge for aurora+, which can help users better manage their electricity usage. An additional 1500 customers have now signed up for aurora+ since 1 July 2022.

Tasmania has already achieved 100 per cent renewable electricity generation and has a nation-leading target of 200 per cent by 2040, and we know the State's renewable energy vision through Marinus Link and Battery of the Nation will keep downward pressure on wholesale prices which will flow on to consumers.

The Tasmanian Liberal Government said we would deliver affordable, reliable and clean electricity for Tasmanians and we are proud to keep delivering on that commitment to help secure Tasmania's future.

It is beyond disappointing that Dean Winter and Tasmanian Labor takes every opportunity to talk down Tasmania and use baseless scare tactics when it has no plan or vision for our great State.