

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**

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Guy Barnett, Minister for Energy and Renewables

Anti-renewables Labor and Greens show their true colours

With Tasmania on the cusp of a historic intergenerational clean energy opportunity in Marinus Link, Tasmanian Labor and the Greens showed their true anti-renewables colours in State Parliament today.

Tasmanian Labor has opposed Marinus Link and the jobs and business opportunities it offers for nearly 6 years so they must be truly embarrassed that Federal Labor and the Prime Minister are backing it 100 per cent.

We welcome the co-operative approach taken by the Prime Minister Albanese and Energy Minister Bowen to deliver affordable, reliable, and clean energy for Tasmania and the rest of Australia for decades to come.

It is little wonder that Tasmanian Labor is in receivership from its federal executive when they are so out of touch with unlocking the next wave of renewable energy development in Tasmania, driving job creation and future economic growth.

Prime Minister Albanese, Minister Bowen and the Tasmanian Government share a renewable energy vision and understand that we need vital national infrastructure to achieve this – State Labor has no plan, no vision and are on the record as opposing any job-creating infrastructure in Tasmania.

And, the Tasmanian Greens remain complete hypocrites – they oppose dams and hydro power, they oppose mines to help build solar panels and electric cars and now they oppose Marinus Link that will help Australia transition away from fossil fuels.

We have been clear that through accessing the Commonwealth Clean Energy Finance Corporations low-cost financing under Rewiring the Nation, the annual cost of Marinus for electricity customers will

be reduced by up to half.

This is a significant reduction which will reduce the overall cost burden on Tasmania. The Tasmanian Government is absolutely committed to Tasmanian consumers receiving a benefit from Marinus Link and energy bills will be lower with Marinus than without.

Detailed work will contribute to the Final Investment Decision in late 2024, and with the options available to the Tasmanian Government we will continue to ensure Tasmanians are net beneficiaries from this project.

Marinus Link means more jobs for Tasmanians, 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.

More than 600 direct jobs will be supported through Battery of the Nation projects, with hundreds more direct and indirect jobs created through unlocking increased investment. This Partnership also cements Tasmania as the head office for Marinus Link.

It will deliver reductions of at least 140 million tonnes of CO₂ by 2050, the equivalent of taking a million cars off the road and there will also be telecommunications benefits, with Marinus Link carrying 150 times the existing Bass Strait capacity.

The Tasmanian Government is proud of its Partnership with the Australian Government under its Rewiring the Nation initiative to take the next steps in a Tasmanian energy package comprising of Marinus Link, the North West Transmission Development and Battery of the Nation.

It beggars belief that Tasmanian Labor and their anti-everything Greens colleagues could front up to Tasmanian Parliament today and oppose one of the most significant renewable energy decisions in Tasmanian and Australian history.