

## Guy Barnett MP

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Minister for Energy and Renewables  
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### Tasmanian Government **Media Release**

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Guy Barnett, Minister for Energy and Renewables

## Delivering downward pressure on cost-of-living for Tasmanians

The Tasmanian Liberal Government understands that many Tasmanians are facing cost-of-living concerns and that keeping downward pressure on electricity bills is very important.

As recently confirmed by the Independent Economic Regulator, we continue to deliver the lowest, or among the lowest, regulated electricity prices for households and businesses in Australia.

The TasNetworks 2021-22 annual report shows that in a difficult inflationary environment, network charges were kept to about the level of CPI.

TasNetworks made an after-tax profit of \$39.7 million with a further \$226 million invested back into upgrading and maintaining the network.

TasNetworks is also at the front line of the Tasmanian Government's target to double our renewable energy output to 200 per cent by 2040 by supporting Marinus Link infrastructure.

Network charges make up about 40 per cent of a typical Tasmanian power bill and it is pleasing that TasNetworks has managed to reduce network charges over several consecutive years.

Aurora Energy's 2021-22 Annual Report highlights its continued focus on its customers, staff and the Tasmanian community during a challenging trading period.

Aurora Energy recorded an underlying net loss before tax of \$11.9 million, which has been attributed to widespread volatility in the wholesale market.

Aurora Energy has continued to deliver reliable and affordable electricity for Tasmanian customers and

provide options for those who might be struggling.

In 2021-22 Aurora continued its support for residential and small businesses through its COVID-19 Customer Support Fund which included more than \$400,000 in direct bill credits to assist over 850 local businesses.

The aurora+ product service fee was also removed from July 1, 2022, which should also encourage more Tasmanians to better manage their energy use and reduce bill shock.

Aurora Energy also extended the Your Energy Support (YES) program to help those customers keeping up with their scheduled payment plans and assisted more Tasmanians than ever to buy energy efficient appliances through the No Interest Loans (NILS) Energy Saver Loan and Subsidy program.

Given the volatility in the Australian, and world, energy markets it has never been more important to make investments in long term national energy infrastructure like Marinus Link, Battery of the Nation and Green Hydrogen at Bell Bay which will put downward pressure on energy prices.

To view TasNetworks 2021-22 annual report see <https://www.tasnetworks.com.au/TasNetworks-Annual-Report-2021-22>

and Aurora Energy's 2021-22 annual report can be viewed at [auroraenergy.com.au/about/who-we-are/our-annual-reports](https://auroraenergy.com.au/about/who-we-are/our-annual-reports)