



Andrew Wilkie MP
INDEPENDENT MEMBER FOR CLARK

The Hon Guy Barnett MP
Minister for Energy
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Via: renewableenergy@stategrowth.tas.gov.au

Dear Minister

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Renewable Energy Coordination Framework. I have consistently called for greater government leadership in renewable energy policy so I support the aims of the Framework, including the 200 per cent Tasmanian Renewable Energy Target. It's clear that Tasmania has the capacity to lead the nation in developing renewable energy infrastructure, from generation to transmission and storage. The focus should be on reliable, cost-effective measures which support the rapid phase out of fossil fuels across the country.

The Framework must deliver the long-term social, economic and environmental benefits promised to the Tasmanian community. Support for large-scale development will be contingent on tangible and sustainable benefits flowing to the region. Local communities should be given the opportunity to invest in energy projects and governments should be proactive in ensuring economic gains remain in the State.

The Government must secure a fair deal for Tasmania in all investment. In particular the Marinus Link project should not proceed if it risks saddling the state with a large debt, or consumers with increased power prices. The business case must stack up, and the Government should consider if the project will remain economically viable with clear environmental benefits well into the future. Certainly Marinus only makes sense if fossil-fuel generated energy is rapidly phased out on the mainland.

Finally, small-scale, decentralised energy generation and storage should also be investigated, particularly through support for household solar. Both energy efficiency measures across business and housing, including social housing, and localised energy storage should complement larger projects.

Your sincerely

Andrew Wilkie MP
Independent Member for Clark

3 March 2021