

11 November 2021

Tasmanian Climate Change Office Department of Premier and Cabinet <u>climatechange@dpac.tas.gov.au</u>

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: Hydro Tasmania's feedback on the draft Climate Change (State Action) Amendment Bill 2021

Hydro Tasmania welcomes the opportunity to comment on the draft Climate Change (State Action) Amendment Bill 2021 (the draft Bill).

Hydro Tasmania strongly supports the Tasmanian Government's decision to legislate a net zero emissions target from 2030. We look forward to working with the State Government to maintain Tasmania's net zero status and deliver the target. The proposed 2030 emissions target, complemented by the recently legislated Tasmanian Renewable Energy Target (TRET), offers a significant opportunity for Tasmania to maintain its leading role in emissions reduction and renewable energy, nationally and internationally. Hydro Tasmania is continuing to progress the Battery of the Nation initiative which can support further emissions reductions within the electricity sector and underpin further renewable electrification of activities in the Tasmanian economy.

Hydro Tasmania supports specific proposed amendments to the *Climate Change (State Action) Act 2008* (Climate Change Act) to include the following:

- establishing a framework for sector-based emissions reduction and resilience plans;
- requiring the Tasmanian Government to have a Climate Change Action Plan in place; and
- requiring a state-wide climate change risk assessment be completed every five years.

As Australia's largest generator of renewable energy, Hydro Tasmania is exposed to the long-term risks and impacts of climate change, and our climate research program continues to work to understand its impacts on our electricity generation and associated infrastructure. Given our experience, Hydro Tasmania would strongly welcome the opportunity to be involved in the development of both the state-wide climate risk assessments and the sector-based emissions reduction and resilience plans (particularly for the energy and agriculture sectors). The government's response to the Independent Review of the Climate Change Act indicates working groups will be



established to develop the emissions reduction and resilience plans. Hydro Tasmania looks forward to participating in these working groups.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft Climate Change (State Action) Amendment Bill 2021. Should you have any queries or require further information, please contact Carolyn Maxwell.

Yours sincerely,

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Caroline Wykamp Executive General Manager Commercial