**Information Sheet for Hydrogen projects in tasmania**

# Information for businesses planning hydrogen projects in Tasmania

**DECEMBER 2022**

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This document provides general information, contacts and references for hydrogen proponents to seek further detailed assistance.

### Who do I talk to in the Tasmanian Government?

The Tasmanian Government is highly supportive of the development of a renewable hydrogen industry in Tasmania, both for domestic and export applications. Renewables, Climate and Future Industries Tasmania (ReCFIT) is the lead government agency in establishing a Tasmanian hydrogen industry.

ReCFIT is actively working with – and welcomes - proponents interested in renewable hydrogen industry development in Tasmania and will work to assist these projects in their early stages of planning including:

* assisting with issues and barriers that may arise for projects, where possible;
* coordinating across government to ensure consistency in approach; and
* referring proponents to relevant government agencies, regulators and other key decision makers.

Proponents with proposals for hydrogen are encouraged to contact ReCFIT as early as possible.

**Contact details:**

* Hydrogen Project Team
	+ hydrogen@recfit.tas.gov.au

### Where do I go for energy?

There are a number of retailers operating in Tasmania offering products to commercial and industrial customers. Depending on your scale, smaller pilot projects may be catered for by those retailers. Some contact details are provided below.

If a retailer is unable to offer supply due to project scale, it is the Tasmanian Government’s expectation the proponent will work with prospective renewable generation proponents, likely wind and solar farms, seeking to establish operations in the State. The new renewable generators may not provide a packaged firming service to balance their intermittent supply and in this case the proponent can contact Hydro Tasmania regarding the availability of firming capacity.

### ReCFIT is aware of the following retailers selling to Tasmanian customers:

* [Aurora Energy](http://www.auroraenergy.com.au/)
* [1st Energy](https://1stenergy.com.au/tas/)​(1st Energy offers standard and market contracts to residential customers and some business customers in Tasmania)
* [Shell Energy​](https://shellenergy.com.au/) (Shell Energy offers market contracts to all contestable business customers in Tasmania)
* [Flow Power](https://flowpower.com.au/) (Flow Power has advised that it does not sell to Tasmanian customers consuming less than 160MWh of electricity per year)
* [CovaU Energy​](https://covau.com.au/)
* [Energy Locals](https://energylocals.com.au/)
* [Elysian Energy](https://www.elysianenergy.com.au/)
* [Glowpower​](https://myglowpower.com.au/)

### Contact details for Hydro Tas

* + contactus@hydro.com.au
	+ 1300 360 441

### How do I connect to the electricity network?

TasNetworks is a state-owned company and the owner and operator of the electricity transmission and distribution systems within Tasmania. TasNetworks will work with potential proponents of renewable hydrogen production to ensure a full understanding of what is required by both parties to supply the loads involved with producing hydrogen. It is important to engage early as changes to the electricity network can take time and an exchange of information early on will ensure all options can be fully explored.

For more information on opportunities, network pricing guidelines and attributes of the Tasmanian power system please see “A Renewable Hydrogen Connections” at:

<https://www.tasnetworks.com.au/config/getattachment/b1ebfaf0-9061-4c51-846a-3efb26c57eb6/hydrogen-brochure_v4.pdf>

### Contact details:

* transmission.connections@tasnetworks.com.au

### What planning processes do I have to go through?

The planning process regulates how land is used and developed in Tasmania. Land use and development can include using land or buildings for a purpose different from their current allocated use, adding additional uses or buildings to the currents ones and developing land. Planning approval will be required.

In Tasmania the key Act for planning processes is the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*. It sets out the various requirements and timeframes that apply, for example, for making an application for a permit or requesting an amendment to a planning scheme.

The Major Projects process has also been introduced in Tasmania to make the process more efficient and provides for three types of assessments:

* Project of State Significance (POSS)
* Major Projects
* Major Infrastructure Development Approvals

Each of these processes is tailored for different types and scales of development and has its own processes and procedures. Further details can be found at [Planning Reform: Major projects assessment](https://planningreform.tas.gov.au/planning/major-projects-assessment).

Proponents are also encouraged to contact their relevant local council. A list of Tasmania’s 29 local councils can be found on the Local Government Associate Tasmania website at: <https://www.lgat.tas.gov.au/tasmanian-councils>.

### What environmental regulations do I need to comply with?

The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) is responsible for assessing the potential environmental impacts of certain activities under the *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994* (EMPC Act). The EPA assesses proposed activities that are classified as Level 2 activities or that are otherwise determined to be environmentally relevant under the EMPC Act.

Project proponents should contact the EPA directly, and as early as possible, to discuss their proposal. After some initial steps, the EPA will provide project-specific guidelines to help proponents prepare a document describing the proposal and its environmental impacts (known as a 'case for assessment').

Further information about the process, including which activities are assessed, is available in the Guide to Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) on the EPA’s Guidance Documents page at https://epa.tas.gov.au/business-industry/assessment.

The EPA can be contacted as follows:

* Telephone: (03) 6165 4599​
* enquiries@epa.tas.gov.au

### What safety requirements are there in Tasmania?

Amongst other legislative requirements, every hydrogen project should specifically be assessed for applicability under the *Gas Safety Act, Occupational Licencing* and the Work Health and Safety Acts including Major Hazards Facility provisions.

#### Who is responsible for assessing each project?

Proponents need to engage with both the Office of the Director of Gas Safety and WorkSafe Tasmania to determine how individual legislation influences their own distinct project development and approvals pathway.

In circumstances where a project is deemed a gas pipeline facility and Major Hazard Facility for the purposes of the Gas safety and Work Health and Safety Acts respectively, the Director of Gas Safety and WorkSafe Tasmania works closely together to reduce preventable compliance duplication.

#### What does the Director of Gas Safety do?

The Director of Gas Safety (DoGS) is responsible for the monitoring and regulation of safety and technical standards with respect to gas infrastructure, regulated activities and associated works and this includes a gas pipeline facility, gas pipeline, gas storage, gas consuming equipment (appliances), gas dispensing equipment, automotive gas installations and gas consumer pipework installations.

Noting, the DoGS operates with the Department of Justice branch, Consumer, Building and Occupational Services, which also incorporates the Administrator of Occupational Licencing.

#### What does WorkSafe Tasmania regulate?

WorkSafe Tasmania administers the Work Health and Safety (WH&S) and Dangerous Goods (Road and Rail Transport) legislation, among others, that apply to the operation of a workplace.

The WH&S legislation is based on the Model harmonised legislation and applies to the safe operation of Major Hazard Facilities, Manifest Quantity Workplaces and minor storage of chemicals as well as plant registration and design.

The Dangerous Goods (Road and Rail Transport) legislation applies to the safe transport of dangerous goods on public roads and includes container design and vehicle and driver licensing requirements.

#### Contacting Emergency Services?

Proponents are encouraged to engage with emergency services in relation to safety and emergency management.

All Major Hazard Facilities must consult with the following agencies to establish emergency plans and subsequent reviews:

* Tasmania Fire Services (TFS) - fire@fire.tas.gov.au
* Tasmania police (Taspol) - tasmania.police@police.tas.gov.au
* Ambulance Tasmania (AT) - ATemergency.management@ambulance.tas.gov.au.
* State Emergency Services (SES) - ses@ses.tas.gov.au

#### When should proponents seek guidance about a potential project?

Project proponents should make contact with the Office of the Director of Gas Safety and WorkSafe Tasmania on any given development **as early as possible** so that they are able to provide specific guidance and material tailored to the project scope and technicalities.

### Who should I contact if I need further information?

* Gas Safety
	+ 1300 654 499
	+ cbos.info@justice.tas.gov.au

Work Safe

1300 366 322 or 03 6166 4600 outside Tasmania

wstinfo@justice.tas.gov.au

### What if I need water?

**TasWater** is responsible for approving any relevant water and sewerage infrastructure related aspects of planning, building and plumbing applications in Tasmania.

Proponents should contact TasWater to discuss their water requirements**.**

TasWater can be contacted as follows:

* Telephone: 136 992

### Hydrogen vehicles on Tasmanian roads?

The Australian Government maintains jurisdiction over road vehicles up to the point of first supply to the Australian market. State and territory governments are responsible for continued regulation after this point (e.g. vehicle registration, roadworthiness, the approval of modifications to vehicles in-service).

In order for any vehicle to be eligible for registration, it must comply with all relevant Australian Design Rules, applicable ME class vehicles and the Transport Commissions requirements for a vehicle that is used to provide a “Passenger Transport Service”.

Compliance with the Australian Design Rules is demonstrated by the vehicle manufacturer with entry of the Vehicles VIN on the Register of Approved Vehicles.

**Heavy vehicles**

The National Heavy Vehicle Regulator is responsible for heavy vehicle compliance and enforcement in Tasmania to which provides:

* On-road education and compliance for heavy vehicles (over 4.5 tonnes gross vehicle mass). This includes mass, dimension, vehicle standards, load restraints, route compliance and driver fatigue.
* Investigations and prosecution of offences under the HVNL.

If you have any queries you can contact either State Growth or the NHVR directly:

**State Growth – Transport Safety and Investigation Unit**

Phone: (03) 6777 1936

Email: transport.safety@stategrowth.tas.gov.au

OR

**NHVR**

Phone: 1300 MYNHVR (1300 696 487)

Email: tasmania@nhvr.gov.au

### Who do I talk to about shipping or other marine vessels?

**Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA)**

AMSA is a statutory authority established under the *Australian Maritime Safety Authority Act 1990*(AMSA Act).

Vessel owners and operators must make sure vessels are compliant with Australian standards and regulations. Mandatory safety requirements must be fulfilled and there are certain fees and levies which you must pay.

AMSA have Memoranda of Understanding with WorkSafe Tasmania as the state regulators which set out the guidelines for how regulators respond to health and safety issues on vessels and wharves.

AMSA is the one point of contact for most services for domestic commercial vessels and crew.

**Contact details:**

* 1800 627 484 (Hobart)

**TasPorts** is a state-owned company responsible for eleven Tasmanian ports and the Devonport Airport.

Tas Ports provides a range of port and marine operations and services around Tasmania.

**Contact:**

* Telephone: 1300 366 742
* Email: reception@tasports.com.au