



TASMANIAN GREENS

ENERGY STRATEGY

**A Renewable and
Secure Energy Supply
for Tasmania**



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The damage to the Basslink cable and the extreme drought conditions have exposed Tasmania's dependence on dirty coal-fired electricity from the mainland, and the vulnerability of our energy supply.

This vulnerability extends beyond just electricity. Our transport sector is also highly exposed to supply risks, as we're totally reliant on imported liquid fossil fuels.

The world is in a global warming emergency. To stabilise warming at 1.5 degrees, the world must achieve net zero pollution by 2040. We need a secure and renewable energy future.

The government has no plan to improve the state's energy security beyond further entrenching our reliance on energy sourced from Victoria's coal fields. But we can be self-sufficient in clean power.

The Tasmanian Greens have a comprehensive plan for our energy future. It will ensure Tasmania remains a leader in renewable energy generation and at the forefront of Australia's response to the challenge of climate change.

This Energy Strategy makes sure the community can be involved in power generation. It will lead to a dramatic increase in investment and jobs. Most importantly, it will guarantee that our lights stay on, our transport continues to run, and our clean green brand is protected.

The Arguments for Action

Climate Change

Tasmania faces real challenges in maintaining its status as a clean green state. From 1990-2013 our carbon emissions increased by nearly 28% across the construction, manufacturing, energy and transport sectors. We continue to be dependent on coal-fire power imported from Victoria: before the Basslink cable broke it was supplying up to 40% of our electricity. Almost all our transport is powered by liquid fossil fuels imported from South East Asia.

The Paris Agreement ushers in an era where we will see rapid investment in renewable energy and divestment away from fossil fuels. There will be massive opportunities in the renewable revolution in jobs, investment, energy security and lower energy bills.

Insecure Supply

The extended failure of the Basslink power cable highlights the other benefits of generating more renewable power to meet our energy needs. Hydroelectricity is subject to water availability. No water means no power.

Hydro water storage levels were only 18% in January 2016, with estimates declining even further depending on future rainfall. Consistent with long-term projections for a drier southern Australia, Hydro can expect a continuing trend of reduced rainfall. Extreme drying is no longer an "exceptional circumstance".

Investment Potential

South Australia and the Australian Capital Territory are leading the way by attracting investment in renewables. South Australia's dramatic increase in renewable capacity has already translated to investments of \$6.6 billion. Recognising these economic benefits, the South Australian government has committed to an investment target of \$10 billion in low carbon generation by 2025.

Tasmania is in an enviable position. We have decades of experience in renewable energy generation. We have abundant wind, solar, wave and other forms of renewable resources to diversify our energy mix. Those can be used to complement one of the world's largest batteries – our Hydro water storage. Unlike baseload thermal power stations, Hydro is exceptionally responsive. It can capture intermittent energy from other renewable resources and supply controlled output to match the changing power demands of the community.

Vision and Targets

Tasmania needs a vision that places increased renewable energy generation at its heart, not at the periphery

The government's vision in its 2015 Energy Strategy – to maximise Tasmania's renewable energy opportunities – lacks the detail it needs to be credible, inspirational, and drive investment in our energy system.

The Tasmanian Greens have a long-term vision for a secure, clean, fair and prosperous energy future for our state.

Tasmania should move quickly from fossil-fuel reliance and embrace a renewable transformation.

We need to have a reliable, affordable energy supply from a range of renewable sources that exceeds our needs and allows us to export surplus clean power interstate. Our energy supply must be resilient in a changing climate.

Investment in new renewables will create thousands of new jobs and attract new businesses that can take advantage of our low-carbon brand.

Everyone will have the opportunity to participate in building a secure and renewable energy supply, and in benefiting from the reduced power and fuel costs it will bring.

Tasmania can be a leader in Australia's transition to a low-carbon future.

Tasmania needs a clear and strong target for renewable energy generation to make this vision tangible.

The government's 2015 Energy Strategy has no concrete outcomes beyond Tasmania continuing "to contribute significantly to renewable energy nationally, reinforcing its reputation as the renewable energy state". It is a leadership-free approach, which leaves the market to determine Tasmania's energy future.

The urgency of climate change, and the continuing cost and security issues associated with our dependence on imported liquid fuels and dirty electricity, means the government has to take an active role in changing the current paradigm.

Target 1: RENEWABLE GENERATION

Tasmania produce at least 100% of our net electricity needs from renewable energy and be a net exporter of renewable electricity by 2022.

Target 2: LIQUID FUEL REDUCTION

Reduce Tasmania's use of liquid fuels by 30% on 2015 levels by 2025.





ROSALIE WOODRUFF

MEMBER FOR FRANKLIN

7 Franklin Wharf, Hobart, Tas 7000
(03) 6212 2228
rosalie.woodruff@parliament.tas.gov.au



Authorised by Rosalie Woodruff MP, 7 Franklin Wharf Hobart 7000.
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