

16 December 2022

Renewables, Climate and Future Industries Tasmania
Department of State Growth
Salamanca Building Parliament Square
10 Murray Street Hobart TAS 7001

Sent via email to gas.strategy@recfit.tas.gov.au

ENA Submission to Draft Future Gas Strategy for Tasmania

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission on the Draft Future Gas Strategy for Tasmania.

Energy Networks Australia (ENA) is the national industry body representing Australia's electricity transmission and distribution and gas distribution networks. Our members provide more than 16 million electricity and gas connections to almost every home and business across Australia.

ENA is supportive of the Draft Future Gas Strategy for Tasmania. The Strategy recognises that during the period of transition to renewables, it is advantageous to ensure that Tasmania has access to secure and affordable gas. ENA agrees that natural gas should remain available to Tasmanians while renewable alternatives mature.

The Draft Future Gas Strategy for Tasmania also generates certainty for market participants which enables them to make informed choices and investment decisions at a time of rapid transition. ENA notes that the Government will continue to support the development and take-up of alternative renewable gases, address barriers to gas users switching to low emissions fuels, encourage energy efficiency and examine options to replace the Government's own gas consumption with low-emission alternatives.

ENA agrees that the role that renewable gases will play in a net zero emissions environment is considerable. It is important to maintain existing gas infrastructure through the transition period. Continued Government support of gas-reliant industries to develop and adopt new technologies, including hydrogen is an important piece in reaching climate goals. Additionally, decarbonisation creates an opportunity for on-island generation of renewable gases such as hydrogen and biogas. It also increases Tasmania's energy security and creates a buffer for Tasmania against price and supply fluctuations.

If you would like to discuss the contents of this submission, please contact Terese Weber at tweber@energynetworks.com.au

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