

9 January 2020

Department of State Growth
4 Salamanca Place
HOBART TASMANIA 7000

To Whom It May Concern,

RE: Draft Tasmanian Renewable Hydrogen Action Plan

The Cradle Coast Authority (CCA) is jointly owned by the nine Councils of west and north-west Tasmania to help them achieve regional outcomes and maintain strong local government, by working together, and we welcome the Government's plans to encourage the development of renewable hydrogen in Tasmania.

We are aware of a number of potential hydrogen development opportunities within the Cradle Coast region and seek their inclusion in the final Tasmanian Renewable Hydrogen Action Plan and any associated initiatives.

Project Marinus, Battery of the Nation and various wind farm developments are already driving interest and investment which could be leveraged for hydrogen development. Our region boasts substantial port, rail, road and transmission network assets that would be advantageous for hydrogen production facilities, as would our world-class wind resource and abundant water and land. Many of these assets are highlighted in the Cradle Coast Regional Investment Prospectus and in TasNetworks' North West Tasmania Strategic Transmission Plan.

CCA is well positioned to assist the Government with its efforts, having recently established a Renewable Energy Working Group as part of our ambitious new "Futures Plan" approach to joined-up economic development. The Group includes representatives from UTAS, TasNetworks, Hydro Tasmania and various windfarm proponents and is already implementing several initiatives across our region, in collaboration with our Member Councils. One of these initiatives is the Cradle Coast Future Energy Hub, launched by Minister for Energy, Guy Barnett MP, late last year.

Co-located in our Burnie offices, the Hub provides a "one stop shop" to involve the community and industry in renewable energy development. TasNetworks has funded a fulltime CCA employee to support the Hub, and that person commences next week.

We appreciate the Department considering our submission and invite a Departmental representative to attend a Renewable Energy Working Group meeting in the near future to discuss these matters further.

Yours sincerely,



Daryl Connelly ^{MBUS}
Chief Executive Officer