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15 June 2020

Mr Don Challen AM

Chair

Premier's Economic and Social Recovery Advisory Committee

Via [adrian.christan@treasury.tas.gov.au](mailto:adrian.christan@treasury.tas.gov.au)

Dear Mr Challen,

I am writing to you bring to your attention the proposed Marinus Link, and to ask your committee to consider recommending that it be "fast-tracked" as part of Tasmania's post-COVID recovery.

**Fast-tracking Marinus will provide certainty for renewable energy investors such as us, and unleash a wave of on-ground construction in Tasmania, currently estimated at over \$6.3 billion and more 15,500 job years for our state.**

By way of background, UPC is currently progressing two renewable energy projects in north-west Tasmania, representing around \$1.5 billion in private investment into Tasmania and 400 construction jobs at its peak. When complete, the projects will provide around 1000 MW of new renewable energy, which is equivalent to 30 per cent of Tasmania's current energy usage.

However, the second stage of these projects (around 500MW) is dependent upon Marinus. Potential further opportunities in Tasmania's north-east are also contingent upon Marinus, as is Hydro Tasmania's "Battery of the Nation" project.

A number of studies have been undertaken into Marinus Link and it now has bipartisan support from both Liberal and Labor, at both State and Federal level.

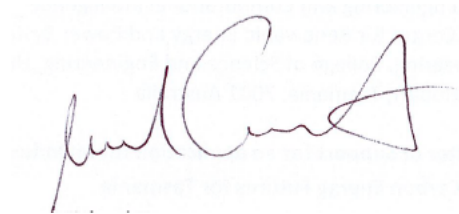
However, while the project is pencilled in for completion in 2026 it has not been given formal go-ahead. **This delay is causing uncertainty in the renewable energy community and potentially driving investment and jobs to other jurisdictions.**

On the flip-side, an agreement between the State and Federal Government that the project is certain to proceed (even if final financial close has not been reached) would provide renewable developers with much needed certainty to invest here.

I have attached two documents which provide more detail about both our projects, and the important value of the Marinus Link to Tasmania's renewable sector.

I would be keen to have a direct conversation with either yourself or one of your fellow Committee members to explain directly the benefits to Tasmania of certainty on Marinus.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael Connarty". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent 'C' at the end.

Dr Michael Connarty  
Manager, Strategy and Stakeholder Engagement  
UPC\AC Renewables Australia