

ENERGY IN TASMANIA REPORT 2022-23

The Tasmanian Economic Regulator published its annual performance report for Tasmania's energy sector, the *Energy in Tasmania Report 2022-23*, today.

The Report provides an overview of Tasmania's electricity and gas supply industries and presents key performance information for the entities that provide electricity and gas to Tasmania businesses and residents.

Key themes to emerge in 2022-23 include a fall in total electricity consumption, a continuation of the growth in rooftop solar installations, some consolidation of electricity retailers offering services in the Tasmanian market and an increase in the number of electricity customers repaying a debt.

There was a 1.3 per cent reduction in electricity consumption on mainland Tasmania in 2022-23 and a 11.2 per cent reduction in on-island generation. This fall in generation was primarily driven by reduced hydroelectric generation, which fell by 13.9 per cent, and was largely offset by an increase in net imports across Basslink.

While rooftop solar only makes up a small part of Tasmania's generation mix, the amount of electricity exported to the network grew by 15.3 per cent in 2022-23. There was a 10.2 per cent increase in the number of solar installations and an increase in the average generating capacity per system. For the first time in five years the amount of electricity generated from gas at the Tamar Valley Power Station increased, although gas generation contributed only 0.7 per cent of total generation.

Small electricity retailers continued to increase their share of the Tasmanian retail market in 2022-23, although Aurora Energy still serves approximately 94 per cent of residential and small business customers. A number of small retailers ceased trading during 2022-23 or did not have any Tasmanian customers at the end of year. Most significantly, Elysian Energy, which had 444 customers at the end of 2021-22, entered voluntary administration and had its retailer authorisation revoked by the Australian Energy Regulator on 2 September 2022.

The number of electricity customers repaying debts increased in 2022-23, as did the average amount of debt, which may reflect the cost of living pressures on customers in 2022-23.

Tasmania did not face any natural gas supply issues in 2022-23. Total gas consumption increased by 4.7 per cent and the number of residential and business customers served by gas retailers grew in 2022-23.