



Media Release
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ENERGY IN TASMANIA 2016-17 REPORT

The Tasmanian Economic Regulator today publishes its annual report on the performance of the energy supply industry, the *Energy in Tasmania 2016-17 Report*.

Mr Joe Dimasi, the Tasmanian Economic Regulator, noted that the energy supply industry in Tasmania experienced minimal disruption in 2016-17, particularly in comparison to a very challenging 2015-16 that saw the Basslink Interconnector out of service and record low rainfall during spring, resulting in Hydro Tasmania's water storages falling to historically low levels.

In contrast to 2015-16, Hydro Tasmania's storages remained above 30 per cent for nearly all of 2016-17. The Tamar Valley Power Station's availability and generation capacity also improved due to the completion of repairs to several units that were offline for periods during 2015-16.

Tasmanian electricity demand differed only slightly in 2016-17 compared to 2015-16, increasing by roughly 0.4 per cent. The output from Tasmanian generators in 2016-17 also increased in comparison to 2015-16, rising 2.6 per cent. This increase was evident across all major Tasmanian generation sources, with gas, wind and hydro generation output all slightly above 2015-16 levels. Although Tasmania was a net importer of electricity via Basslink during 2016-17, Mr Dimasi noted that this was likely due to favourable market conditions rather than to any shortfall in Tasmania's generation capacity.

Overall, there were no significant electricity transmission or distribution reliability issues in 2016-17, with overall performance levels either the same or slightly better than in 2015-16.

Similarly, the State's natural gas distribution network and gas pipeline linking Tasmania with Victoria did not experience any major reliability issues, with performance levels matching or improving on those seen in 2015-16.

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