



Media Release
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ENERGY IN TASMANIA 2017-18 REPORT

The Tasmanian Economic Regulator today published its annual performance report for the Tasmanian energy supply industry, the *Energy in Tasmania 2017-18 Report*.

Mr Joe Dimasi, the Tasmanian Economic Regulator, noted that all major Tasmanian generation sources showed increased output in 2017-18, with total generation nearly ten per cent higher than in the previous two years. Solar generation also increased, with more than 2 000 customers connecting solar PV systems to the network bringing the total number of solar PV customers to over 29 000, though solar PV systems provided less than one per cent of Tasmania's total electricity generation.

Mr Dimasi also noted that electricity demand increased by almost four per cent during 2017-18. However, Tasmania was able to meet the increased demand while still being a net exporter of electricity via Basslink for the first time since 2013-14. In addition, Hydro Tasmania's water storages remained at around 40 per cent capacity for much of the year.

During 2017-18, the energy supply industry experienced relatively few disruptions with the duration and frequency of outages similar to previous years, although the number of communities performing poorly against particular reliability measures increased due to the number and extent of weather related outages.

Similarly, the State's natural gas distribution network and the Tasmanian Gas Pipeline linking Tasmania with Victoria did not experience any major reliability issues, with performance levels matching or improving on those seen in 2016-17. Mr Dimasi noted, in particular, that unplanned interruptions were around a third of the number recorded for 2016-17 while the annual average interruption duration was just six minutes per customer, compared to the average of 58 minutes per customer in 2016-17.

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