



Media Release
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ENERGY IN TASMANIA REPORT 2021-22

The Tasmanian Economic Regulator published its annual performance report for Tasmania's energy sector, the *Energy in Tasmania Report 2021-22*, today.

The Tasmanian Economic Regulator, Mr Joe Dimasi, noted that there were no significant electricity transmission or distribution reliability issues in 2021-22. Electricity consumption on mainland Tasmania increased to the highest level since 2018-19. There was a 12.9 per cent increase in electricity generation, driven by an increase in hydro-electric generation, and Tasmania exported more energy across Basslink than it imported during the year.

Mr Dimasi also noted the growing contribution of rooftop solar to Tasmania's energy supply. Exports of electricity from rooftop solar to the grid grew by 13.5 per cent in 2021-22, due to growth in the number of solar installations and their average generating capacity. For the third year in a row, rooftop solar contributed more to Tasmania's generation mix than generation from gas at the Tamar Valley Power Station. However, wind generation in 2021-22 was slightly lower than the previous year due to wind farm outages during the year.

The national energy market experienced supply issues and price volatility during the year, and Tasmania experienced similar spot price volatility. However, Tasmania did not experience electricity supply issues. Basslink Pty Ltd operated under voluntary administration for much of 2021-22, but energy continued to flow across Bass Strait during the period of administration.

Compared to the national gas market, which experienced supply issues and price volatility, Tasmania did not face any natural gas supply issues during the year and the State's natural gas transmission network did not experience any major reliability issues. However, Weston Energy Pty Ltd ceased trading in Tasmania and surrendered its Tasmanian gas retail licence. Each of Weston Energy's small number of business customers transitioned to alternative retailers.

Small electricity retailers continued to increase their share of the Tasmanian retail market in 2021-22, although their customer numbers are low compared to Aurora Energy. Several new retailers also entered the Tasmanian market during the year.

There was an increase in the number of electricity customers repaying a debt in 2021-22, but the number of customers on voluntary payment plans declined. The number of residential and business gas customers entering into a payment plan fell in 2021-22, after rising in 2020-21 as a result of the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The number of small business gas customers fell by 3.4 per cent in 2021-22 and total gas consumption fell by 98 TJ. However, the number of residential gas customers did not change significantly.

The Regulator also noted the announcement of a number of additional large-scale wind farm generation projects and, on the demand side, hydrogen production projects which have the potential to affect Tasmania's electricity supply and demand balance over the medium-term.

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