

MEDIA RELEASE

10 JULY 2019

VISION FOR THE FUTURE OF RENEWABLES IN THE CRADLE COAST REGION

The Cradle Coast Authority is pleased to announce that a workshop held in Burnie has brought together key industry stakeholders to develop a vision for the future of renewable energy development in the region.

Supported by CCA and its Member Councils as part of its new Futures Plan approach, leaders from TasNetworks, Hydro Tasmania, UTAS, UPC Renewables, and Blue Economy CRC came together to begin the process of collaboration and coordination.

The draft vision is taking shape around three key principles:

- Create and energise regional prosperity through a pipeline of jobs
- Build on the region's hydro legacy, with investment in next generation renewable energy that is done well and supported by the community
- Deliver a regionally driven, generous contribution to the nation

CCA appreciates this investment of time and commitment by industry, as a first step toward activating the Cradle Coast Regional Futures plan.

The group seeks to chart a way forward that will maximise the social, economic and employment opportunities for our region from further development of the renewables sector. Key energy projects discussed as part of the workshop were Marinus Link, Battery of the Nation and world class wind farms, among other emerging energy technologies.

"This can be a game changer for our region" said CCA CEO, Daryl Connelly. "In addition to creating thousands of new jobs for tradies, professionals and others, this will allow us to say to the rest of Australia 'Look at us, we're providing you with clean energy and we are very good at it'. In fact, we have a very rich history in the energy game, beginning with hydro, and we have been great at it for many generations now".

The forum today committed to meet again in the coming weeks to shape up tangible actions including engagement with the community and a broader set of industry and business partners. In the meantime, CCA will continue to work with the group to ensure that decision makers around Tasmania and across the country, fully appreciate the importance of supporting the renewables sector in our region.

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