

Media release

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WHALEBACK RIDGE RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECT ADDED TO CRADLE COAST AUTHORITY'S LIST OF REGIONALLY IMPORTANT PROJECTS

Cradle Coast Authority (CCA) has today announced that "Green Hydrogen in the North West Supported by Whaleback Ridge Renewable Energy" has been added to its list of Regionally Important Projects.

Under the Cradle Coast Regional Futures Plan's Regional Investment Framework, projects may seek CCA's support in advocating for projects that support positive economic change in the Cradle Coast region. Projects are assessed under a rigorous process that considers social growth factors including addressing training, disadvantage and liveability, business growth factors such as job creation and stimulating new businesses, sustainable growth factors including the environment and community engagement, and the project's level of advancement and whether CCA's support would be useful.

Using this Framework, the Regional Economic Steering Committee (REDC) assesses projects, with a positive assessment opening the way for CCA to help advocate on behalf of projects that address the region's priorities under the Regional Futures Plan. The REDC has diverse membership across the region's industry, government, and the university sector.

"The purpose of CCA's Regional Investment Framework is to thoroughly assess proposed projects to measure how they address the Cradle Coast region's key priorities. A positive assessment allows the region to speak with one voice in support of projects that will drive positive change. Whaleback Ridge is an ambitious project that has the potential to impart significant benefits and opportunities for the Cradle Coast community", said Sheree Vertigan, CEO of Cradle Coast Authority.

"We are a local Tasmanian team committed to supporting local business and maximising the opportunity for West and North-Western parts of the state through renewable energy developments that have both social and environmental benefits. We are pleased to see Whaleback Ridge's favourable assessment, and we look forward to bringing this significant project to fruition with CCA's support", said Alan Morrell, CEO of Westcoast Renewable Energy Pty Ltd.

"Businesses, community groups, peak bodies and other organisations are welcome to make a submission for inclusion in the list of Regionally Important Projects", concluded Ms Vertigan.

CCA is jointly owned by eight councils of western and north-western tasmania, to help them achieve regional outcomes and maintain strong local government, by working together.



Cradle Coast Authority
1-3 Spring Street, Burnie
Tasmania 7320
www.cradlecoast.com
www.facebook.com/cradlecoastauthority



Media contact:

Lesley Deans
Communications Officer
Cradle Coast Authority
03 6433 8400
lideans@cradlecoast.com

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