

21 June 2012

Senate Standing Committees on Economics
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
Australia

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Dear Sir / Madam

Re: Clean Energy Finance Corporation Bill 2012

Hydro Tasmania welcomes the opportunity to provide comment on the Clean Energy Finance Corporation Bill 2012. As the largest clean energy producer in Australia and as a material participant in the National Electricity Market (NEM) the role of the CEFC is a significant issue for Hydro Tasmania.

Hydro Tasmania continues to invest in additional renewable energy as well as in the maintenance, upgrade and refurbishment of our existing hydro assets. Through our investments in wind energy and integrated renewable energy solutions on King Island, Hydro Tasmania has expertise and experience in a range of clean energy technologies. The CEFC offers significant opportunity to build on these established capabilities through a wide range of innovative clean energy developments, system upgrades and enhancements as well as training and skills development solutions.

Hydro Tasmania believes that the CEFC should invest in a range of technologies, projects and grid enhancements. It should do this based on the merit of the project and through the demonstration that CEFC funding is essential to the project progressing and is not just replacing private funding. As currently drafted the Clean Energy Finance Corporation Bill 2012, establishes the framework and flexibility through which the CEFC can meet these key priorities. We note however, that the investment criteria of the CEFC will be strongly determined by the investment mandate established in conjunction with the responsible Commonwealth ministers. As such, Hydro Tasmania encourages meaningful consultation with the clean energy sector in the setting of this investment mandate.

Expedient passage of the Clean Energy Finance Corporation Bill 2012 will provide certainty to industry and investors and allow the CEFC to begin assessing eligible clean energy proposals in a timely manner.

We welcome the opportunity to provide the Select Committee with further information about the contents of this submission or any other issues. Should you have any queries or require further information, please contact Mr Colin Wain (email: _____ or telephone: _____)

Yours faithfully

Kate Gillies
Head of Strategic Planning