



Australian Government

Australian Government response to the
Senate Select Committee into the Scrutiny of
Government Budget Measures

Fourth interim report

May 2024

Response

Recommendation 1

The committee recommends that the Tasmanian Government be fully transparent with respect to the factors which have caused the current energy crisis in Tasmania, the steps being taken to resolve it and the associated costs.

Response

NOTED

The Government notes this recommendation. However, given the passage of time since this report was tabled, a substantive Government response is no longer appropriate.

Recommendation 2

The committee recommends that the Tasmanian Government commission an independent inquiry of the Basslink breakage and other circumstances leading up to the energy crisis.

Response

NOTED

The Government notes this recommendation. However, given the passage of time since this report was tabled, a substantive Government response is no longer appropriate.

Recommendation 3

"The committee recommends that the Commonwealth and Tasmanian Governments commission an independent review to consider the financial and practical feasibility of laying another interconnector between Tasmania and mainland Australia."

Response

NOTED

The Government notes this recommendation. However, given the passage of time since this report was tabled, a substantive Government response is no longer appropriate.

Recommendation 4

The committee recommends that the Commonwealth and Tasmanian Governments work together to identify and implement a long-term strategy for development and management of electricity infrastructure to avoid any repetition of the Tasmanian energy crisis, and look at all options for the future energy security of Tasmania.

Response

NOTED

The Government notes this recommendation. However, given the passage of time since this report was tabled, a substantive Government response is no longer appropriate.

Recommendation 5

The committee recommends that the Tasmanian Government support projects which would increase renewable energy generation in the state including facilitating the negotiation of a successful power purchase agreement with the proponents of the Granville Harbour wind farm.

Response

NOTED

The Government notes this recommendation. However, given the passage of time since this report was tabled, a substantive Government response is no longer appropriate.

Dissenting Recommendation 1

That the Committee commends the extraordinary effort of all those involved in the Tasmanian Government's response to the challenging energy supply situation, particularly the employees and contractors of the State's energy businesses.

Response

NOTED

The Government notes this recommendation. However, given the passage of time since this report was tabled, a substantive Government response is no longer appropriate.

Dissenting Recommendation 2

That the Public Accounts Committee established by the Tasmanian Parliament closely examine the impacts of the Carbon Tax on energy security in Tasmania, in particular:

- (i) the extent to which the Carbon Tax encouraged the draw-down of water storages to maximise profit, and;
- (ii) the extent to which the former Labor/Green Tasmanian Government used revenue from the Carbon Tax to underpin State Government expenditure.

Response

NOTED

The Government notes this recommendation. However, given the passage of time since this report was tabled, a substantive Government response is no longer appropriate.