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MARINUS LINK FUNDING COMMITMENT

Energy Networks Australia CEO Andrew Dillon welcomes TasNetworks' release of the Initial Feasibility Report considering a second Bass Strait electricity interconnector, Marinus Link.

The commitment today by the Commonwealth Government of \$56 million to fast track the Marinus Link is also a positive step.

"This project has the potential to bring up to 1,200MW more renewable energy into the National Energy Market," Mr Dillon said.

"Interconnection between markets provides greater flexibility, better reliability and can deliver more affordable electricity for customers."

Today's announcement follows the launch earlier this month of *Project EnergyConnect* by ElectraNet and TransGrid for a new interconnector between SA and NSW.

"There is a worldwide trend towards increasing interconnection to manage growing levels of variable renewable generation and it is pleasing to see growing recognition of that need here in Australia," Mr Dillon said.

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Energy Networks Australia represents Australia's electricity transmission and distribution networks and gas distribution networks. Our members provide energy to virtually every household and business in Australia.