



Senator the Hon Richard Colbeck

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Liberal Senator for Tasmania

MEDIA RELEASE

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Does Justine Keay support Marinus Link and Pumped Hydro?

Electors of Braddon should be very concerned about Justine Keay's comments against yesterday's announcement of funding to progress Marinus Link and Pumped Hydro.

While Ms Keay is promising a "renewable energy zone", the Liberal State and Australian Governments are getting on with progressing these real-world projects.

Ms Keay is also promising a disastrous 45% renewable energy target, which has been described by the Business Council of Australia as an economy killer and research published last week said the policy would push electricity prices 50% higher and cost workers up to \$9,000 a year in wages. *

Instead the Government is getting on with real projects that will provide reliable, affordable energy into the grid.

The need for that reliable, affordable energy was a recommendation of both the Finkel review and the ACCC review. **

The Liberal National Government is acting on those recommendations and that is what will drive these projects – a balanced policy that grows renewables while keeping energy prices down.

Just forcing more intermittent energy generation into the market will drive energy prices up – the infrastructure needs to be paid for whether it is generating energy or not, and it is only generating for at most 50% of the time and often not when we need it.

Australians want the lights to go on when they flick the switch!

Ms Keay needs to explain why she doesn't support affordable, reliable energy.

It is a simple question for Ms Keay – does she support Marinus Link and Pumped Hydro?

ENDS

Background

* Carbon cut apocalypse: cost of ALP energy plan: <https://www.theaustralian.com.au/national-affairs/climate/carbon-cut-apocalypse-cost-of-alp-energy-plan/news-story/96c9af15d670a6725146e356fd4b6414>

** Restoring electricity affordability and Australia's competitive advantage: <https://www.accc.gov.au/publications/restoring-electricity-affordability-australias-competitive-advantage>

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