

MEDIA RELEASE:

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Robbins Island Wind approval a step in the right direction for Tasmania's Green Economy Future

ACEN Australia's 900MW Robbins Island Wind project has secured Federal Government approval – a major step in unlocking one of the largest private investments in Tasmania's history and positioning the state as a major player in Australia's clean energy transition.

The \$3 billion development is expected to generate enough power for up to 500,000 homes, create up to 400 construction jobs, and deliver more than \$30 million annually into the Tasmanian economy, alongside a \$27 million community benefits program for the Circular Head region.

ACEN Australia Managing Director David Pollington said the milestone was a key achievement for ACEN, and important for the Tasmanian economy, the nation's energy transition and the renewable energy industry more broadly.

"The decision shows that large, complex projects can be delivered responsibly, balancing overall impacts and conserving biodiversity, with the need for clean energy to address climate change," he said.

"It comes at a time when Australia faces a stalling energy transition and looming power shortages as coal exits the system.

"It also reflects the depth and rigour of ACEN's work to address the assessment criteria and scrutiny applied through the approvals process."

The approval follows more than eight years of assessment by all levels of government, including detailed studies of Robbins Island's natural values.

This has produced the most comprehensive understanding of its plants and animals to date, giving confidence the project can proceed and manage any environmental risks.

The project will deliver jobs, training and long-term community benefits. Wind then provides low cost baseload generation backed by hydro. As a result, hydro will be able to play to its real strength as flexible on-demand generation and storage, rather than a traditional baseload generation.

"It means the state could still play a meaningful role in the energy transition and capture the benefits that come with private investments like ours — at \$3 billion one of the largest in the state's history – if there is a timely decision on the transmission line," Mr Pollington said.

The transmission line to connect the project to the grid is following a separate approvals process anticipated to be completed in 2026, allowing the project to start generating power in 2030.

The project will also help the state and federal governments reach legislated emissions commitments, including Tasmania's goal to double clean energy production by 2040, half by 2030.

Mr Pollington said Robbins Island Wind had an exceptional resource generating 30 per cent more power than the average Australian wind project of comparable size.

“It will also make a significant contribution to Tasmalian emissions targets, representing more than half of Tasmania’s 2030 target,” he said.

“The project supports Australia’s climate commitments, providing a lowest-cost clean alternative to fossil fuels in time to meet supply shortages.

“This is particularly important for Victoria, which will lose half of its coal generation by 2035, making investment in Marinus Link and the North West Transmission Developments a smart and timely move.”

ACEN will now work through the detailed approval conditions to understand their implications for project design and ongoing environmental monitoring while continuing preparations for its transmission proposal, scheduled for assessment in 2026.

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Background:

The 900 MW (megawatt) wind energy project involves 720 MW of wind generation at Robbins Island, a privately owned cattle farm and, a smaller 180 MW development at Jim's Plain at the North Western tip of Tasmania, and a 120 km transmission line to Hampshire Hills near Burnie. Jim's Plain is already approved and the transmission line is undertaking a separate approvals process.

Timeline:

Approvals timeline:

- Robbins Island – Commence in 2017 fully approved in 2025
- Jim's Plain – Commenced in 2017 fully approved in 2020
- Transmission line – Commenced in 2017, application assessment in 2026 with approvals by 2027

Construction:

- Start in 2027-28 allowing first generation in 2030

Scale and investment

- Combined generation capacity: **~900 MW**
- Capital investment: **over \$3 billion** – one of the largest private investments in Tasmania's history
- Enough generation to power **up to 500,000 homes** annually

Technical Design:

- Up to 100 turbines, a bridge and wharf to transport large components, avoiding road transport impacts
- AI driven bird collision avoidance system to protect eagles
- Exclusion zones to protect shore birds and devils

Economic benefits

- At least **\$30 million in direct economic activity each year** flowing into Tasmania
- More than **\$600 million over the life of the project**, as outlined in the independent economic impact assessment
- **Up to 400 construction jobs** during peak build, and **up to 60 long-term operations roles** based in the Circular Head region
- Flow-on demand for **local suppliers, contractors, accommodation, and services**
- Potential to partner with **TasTAFE and training providers** to equip Tasmanians with clean energy skills and maximise local workforce participation.

Community Benefit Sharing Program (CBSP)

- **\$900,000 invested annually** into the Circular Head region for the life of the project (30 years)
- Total community investment of more than **\$27 million**
- Three streams of funding:
 - **Council partnerships** – supporting community infrastructure and services
 - **Community Reference Group grants** – guided by local priorities
 - **Discretionary support** – flexible funding for grassroots initiatives and events

About ACEN Australia

ACEN Australia is the platform representing ACEN's renewable energy assets in Australia.

With more than 1 gigawatt (GW) capacity of large-scale renewable energy generation in construction and operations, and more than 13GW capacity in the development pipeline, its portfolio includes solar, wind, battery and pumped hydro projects across Australia.

New England Solar (Stage 1) in NSW is ACEN Australia's first operational project which commenced generating in 2023. Stubbo Solar in the NSW Central West Orana Renewable Energy Zone is ACEN Australia's second project, which is currently being commissioned and will be in full operation by mid 2025.

With 100+ employees and growing, our people are based in Tasmania, Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland.

www.acenrenewables.com.au

About ACEN

ACEN, the Ayala group's listed energy platform, is one of the fastest-growing renewable energy platforms in Asia Pacific, with the Philippines as its core and largest market, accounting for 35% of its capacity. It also has a significant presence in Australia, Vietnam, India, and Lao PDR, along with strategic investments in Indonesia and other markets. The company currently has ~7 GW of attributable renewable energy capacity spanning operational, underconstruction, and committed projects.

As a developer, builder, and operator, ACEN leverages its agility and collaborative approach to accelerate the energy transition. Committed to unlocking access to clean, reliable, and affordable renewable energy, the company is on track to achieve 100% renewable energy generation by 2025 and reach Net Zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050—turning bold ambitions into real impact for businesses, communities, and indigenous groups.

Learn more at www.acenrenewables.com