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**David Bartlett, MP**  
Premier

Tuesday, 7 April 2009

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## Exciting New Era For Telecommunications

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The Tasmanian Government today expressed its strong support for the Australian Government's National Broadband Network (NBN) announcement.

"The Prime Minister is to be congratulated for his vision and commitment to ensuring Australia is a world leader in telecommunications in the 21st Century," Premier David Bartlett said.

Mr Bartlett said today's announcement demonstrated that the Australian Government is committed to nation-building infrastructure and providing leadership through these challenging economic times.

"The construction of a fibre to the premise optic fibre network will not only provide an immediate stimulus to the Australian economy but will provide long-term benefits for future generations," he said.

"I particularly welcome the Australian Government's positive comments in respect of the Tasmanian NBN submission.

"The Tasmanian Government was the only state or territory to lodge a \$5 million bond under the NBN Request for Proposals, in recognition that the NBN was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to bring Tasmania to parity with the rest of broadband in Australia

"The Tasmanian Government, in partnership with Aurora Energy, prepared a first-class submission to the NBN, which was well-received by the expert panel responsible for advising the Australian Government on the NBN Request for Proposals process.

"The Tasmanian Government and the Australian Government are having further discussions today about an extensive FTTP network for Tasmania.

"The NBN represents a new era for Tasmania and will have significant benefits for Tasmania's economy and society."

**Further information:** Tasmanian Government Communications Unit  
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