

**STRATEGIC COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE STATE OF WASHINGTON, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND
THE STATE OF TASMANIA, AUSTRALIA**

1. PREAMBLE

This Strategic Cooperation Agreement, hereinafter referred to as “the Agreement”, reflects the existing engagement and mutual aspiration for ongoing collaboration between the state of Washington (Washington) and the State of Tasmania (Tasmania), hereinafter referred to as the “Participants”.

Noting the Participants’ shared values, expertise and ambitions, and acknowledging the exchange of trade delegations, culminating in the signing of a Letter of Intent in Seattle, Washington on 1 April 2024, the Participants agree to the following:

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Agreement is for the Participants to enhance overall cooperation between their respective knowledge-based institutions, ecosystems, businesses, and government bodies.

3. SCOPE OF COLLABORATION

Participants declare their intent to strengthen cooperation and connections in innovation, development, research, learnings, and commercial applications in the areas of future energies and clean technology, maritime and advanced technologies, and skills, training and workforce development.

Examples of subject and sector areas of cooperation include, but are not limited to:

Future Energies and Clean Technology

- Explore the production of green hydrogen and its derivatives, bioenergy and offshore wind potential.
- Create opportunities for cooperation, connections and investment in existing renewable energy capabilities.
- Facilitate business development opportunities in the areas of clean transportation, carbon-free power generation, grid modernization, energy storage, high-performance buildings, sustainable aviation, and other clean technologies.
- Share knowledge and learnings regarding programs, initiatives, incentives, and connections aimed at developing circular economy and industrial symbiosis opportunities.

Maritime and Advanced Technologies

- Pursue collaboration on maritime and blue economy strategies, including policy development and outputs.
- Enhance maritime education, training, and simulation for a skilled workforce in seafaring, marine engineering and naval architecture.
- Promote decarbonisation of maritime activities through alternative energy sources like electrification, green hydrogen and other future fuels.

- Advance marine science and high-latitude research through governmental, public and private, as well as scientific, partnerships, supporting ocean technology innovation and maritime digitalisation.

Innovation, Skills, Training and Workforce Development

- Exchange knowledge and learnings about incubator and accelerator programs, emerging market opportunities, incentives and programs for market development, and cluster development.
- Exchange knowledge, expertise and learnings on meeting skills, training and workforce needs, including Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) skills, dynamic workforce demands, and regional challenges.
- Exchange knowledge and expertise in the polar climate change sector, including through the Australian Antarctic Research Conference and Australian Antarctic Festival.

Other areas may be agreed to in writing by the Participants.

4. MECHANISMS OF COLLABORATION

To the extent permitted by their respective laws, rules, and regulations, the Participants will endeavor to:

- Share, as appropriate, information and experiences on policies and regulations.
- Link the innovation and business ecosystems of Tasmania and Washington by sharing and developing best practices on creating market opportunities and facilitating the development of direct contacts and partnerships between relevant public and private sector entities.
- Encourage and promote dialogue, networking and cooperation between companies and research organisations through visits, workshops, meetings, and other activities, which are mutually beneficial and accepted by both Participants.
- Encourage the participation of researchers and company representatives in partnerships and joint projects in the framework of relevant national, regional and global programs and experiment platforms and assist in creating necessary platforms to support these partnerships.
- Support the interchange of activities geared towards promoting trade and investment that have shared goals, such as business round tables or trade missions, the exchange of information on markets, sectors, public requests for proposals, and other business opportunities related to trade and the attracting of investments between Tasmania and Washington.
- Participate in other arrangements that will allow cooperation of joint activities of mutual interest.

5. IMPLEMENTATION

The Participants are to agree to a program of work, guided by the scope and mechanisms of collaboration outlined above, to deliver over a specified period of time. The Participants may nominate one or more agencies or organisations to coordinate engagement under the Agreement and to deliver program activities.

6. LEGAL AND FUNDING STATEMENT

The Agreement is not legally binding under state, national or international law and does not create any legal obligation to undertake or to financially support any activity.

The Participants understand that this Agreement does not commit either Participant to financially support any activity carried out under its provisions.

7. EFFECT, REVIEW AND TERMINATION

The Agreement will come into effect on the date of signature.

The Agreement shall remain in force for a period of five (5) years. The Agreement can be renewed for a successive five (5) year period by mutual agreement of the Participants.

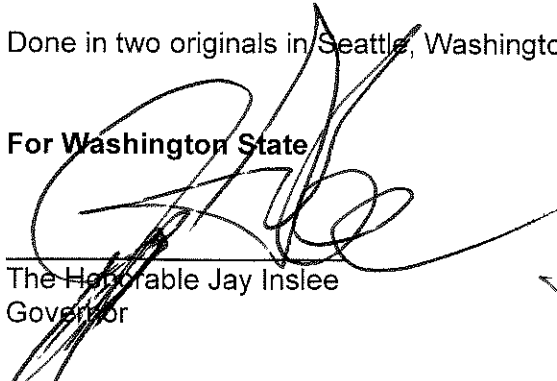
The Agreement will be subject to review by both Participants within 24 months of its commencement, and every 24 months thereafter, to evaluate the effectiveness and scope of the Agreement to ensure that it remains mutually beneficial.

The Agreement may be subject to variation by mutual consent of the Participants, following review or upon written request by one of the Participants. Either Participant may terminate this Agreement by providing 45 days' written notice of withdrawal to the other Participant.

The undersigned, being duly authorized, have signed this Agreement.

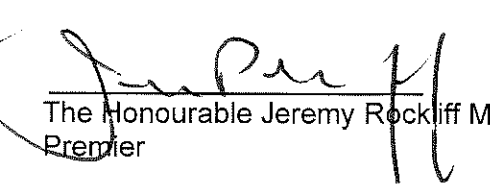
Done in two originals in Seattle, Washington, on October 8, 2024.

For Washington State



The Honorable Jay Inslee
Governor

For the State of Tasmania



The Honourable Jeremy Rockliff MP
Premier