

16<sup>th</sup> October 2017

The Honourable Jeremy Rockliff MP  
Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Primary Industries and Water  
Level 10, 15 Murray Street  
HOBART TAS 7000

Dear Minister Rockliff,

**Tasmanian Centre of Excellence for Trades and Water**

On behalf of the National Electrical and Communications Association (NECA), Tasmania's peak industry body for the electrical contracting sector, I write to express our support for the creation of the Tasmanian Centre of Excellence for Trades and Water. We represent more than 4,800 businesses across all states and territories, including Tasmania where Australian owned and operated SMEs provide safe and reliable services to Tasmanian consumers.

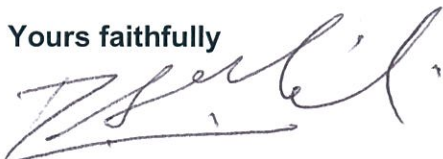
NECA has been working closely with a range of key building industry stakeholders across Tasmania to address a range of concerns that relate to the ageing facilities and infrastructure of the Electrotechnology School at TasTAFE Claremont and the vision to address a proposal that will ensure modern and effective facilities and training practices for the building sector.

As you are aware, the building and construction industry is a complex and diverse field of employment that plays a pivotal role in growth of the Tasmanian economy and public workplace health and safety directly contributes to these results, including our future tradespeople and existing practitioners who require quality, contemporary and effective training experiences.

We note that you have seen firsthand, the current TasTAFE facility at Claremont and agree that the aging infrastructure is putting at risk the high standards of learning and skills development that your Government wishes to achieve and deliver at this campus. Your genuine interest to resolve this matter is welcomed and we commend you for your willingness to ensure that the Tasmanian public and industry receive the very best outcomes from electrotechnology training delivered at Claremont.

NECA wholeheartedly supports the vision to create the Tasmanian Centre of Excellence for Trades and Water and along with other stakeholders across the construction trade, we believe the proposal is a sensible solution that aims to safely address the future training capacity and needs of Tasmania's electrical apprentices.

Yours faithfully



**Suresh Manickam**  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**National Electrical and Communications Association (NECA)**