

Minister for Energy and Renewables  
Minister for Parks and Heritage  
Minister for Sport



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19<sup>th</sup> June 2026

Mr Rob Fairs MP  
Member for Bass  
Via Clerk of the House of Assembly  
[haprocedure@parliament.tas.gov.au](mailto:haprocedure@parliament.tas.gov.au)

Dear Mr Fairs

Thank you for your question in Parliament on 16 June 2026 on behalf of your constituent Lisa in regards to safety at Trevallyn Dam.

Our hydropower system is a critical asset to Tasmania, delivering round the clock clean, green energy to our homes and businesses. Tasmania has one of the most complex hydropower systems in the world, with 30 hydropower stations and 54 large dams. As you can imagine, Hydro Tasmania has an extensive asset maintenance, repair and upgrade program, ensuring that Tasmanians continue to receive safe, reliable energy.

The risk of debris entering the power station and damaging the turbine is indeed a real risk to power station safety. However, I would like to assure Lisa that there are plenty of mitigating actions in place to prevent damage occurring. A key piece of infrastructure supporting this is the trash screen. The screen sits over the power station intake, deep underwater, and acts like a giant sieve. This stops logs, rocks and branches from being pulled into the power station. At Trevallyn, the trash screen was recently replaced, using an innovative approach that greatly reduced impacts to stakeholders and local residents like Lisa.

Instead of drawing the lake down to very low levels to expose the trash screen, Hydro Tasmania utilised a pre-made frame and divers to fit the screen in place 18 metres underwater. Additionally, a new type of protective coating will deliver an expected lifespan of 40 years, double the expected lifespan of the previous one. This will ensure that the power station will continue to operate safely, with little risk of debris entering the power station and causing damage.

Over the next four years, Hydro Tasmania will be investing around \$220 million annually in our hydropower system, delivering upgrades and other essential works. This investment will increase the efficiency, reliability and safety of our world-class hydropower assets, delivering clean energy for Tasmanians for years to come.

Thank you again for raising this important topic and I trust this information is useful to both yourself and your constituent.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Nick Duigan", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Hon Nick Duigan MLC  
**Minister for Energy and Renewables**