

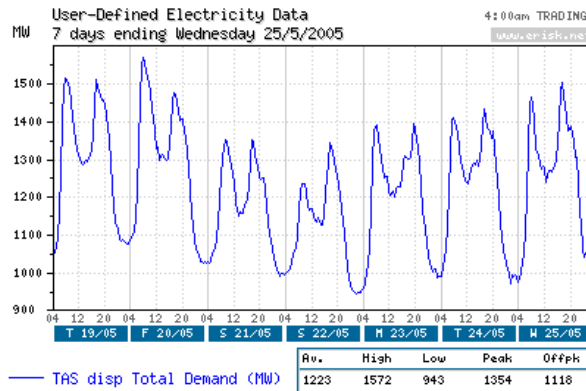
Tasmania data now online: first week; \$8,000 spikes, despite 1000MW surplus

NEMMCO, the operator of the Tasmania market, has published no technical notices so far about the Tasmania market. Last week spikes showed to \$8,000/MWh. In Tasmania two State-owned corporations compete:

- Bell Bay Power Pty Ltd as a State-owned generation company; and
- HydroTasmania.

According to the Hydro, Bell Bay would cut back to one unit when winter rains started. These begin competing for real at the commissioning of Basslink, due some time between late December 2005 and April 2006.

Delay in joining NEM: Tasmania had intended to join the National Electricity Market (NEM) on 29 May 2005. NEM regulatory arrangements started then but flows of energy between Tasmania and Victoria were delayed to late April 2006 due to damages to a number of transformers.



Dry winter ahead: Northern Tasmania may face low hydro flows. April 2005 was one of the warmest Aprils Tasmania has experienced - warmer than March.

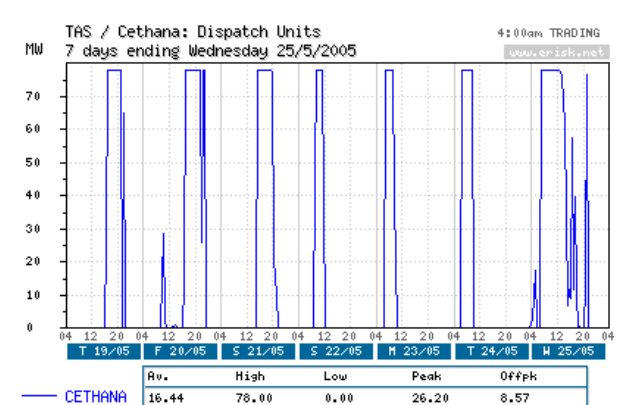
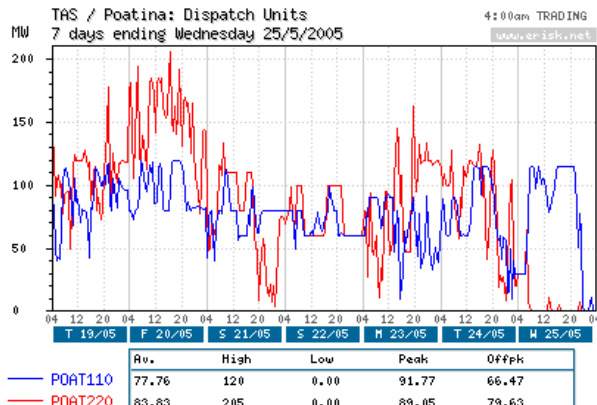
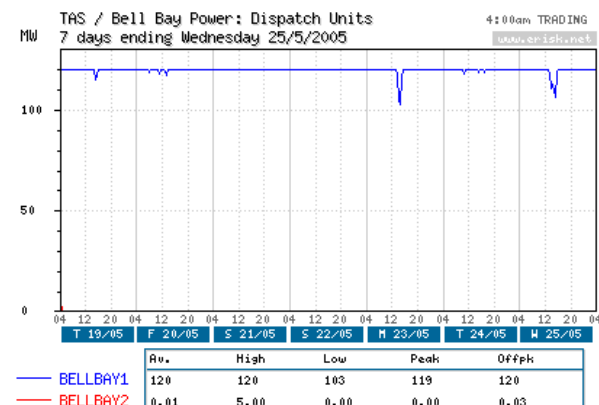
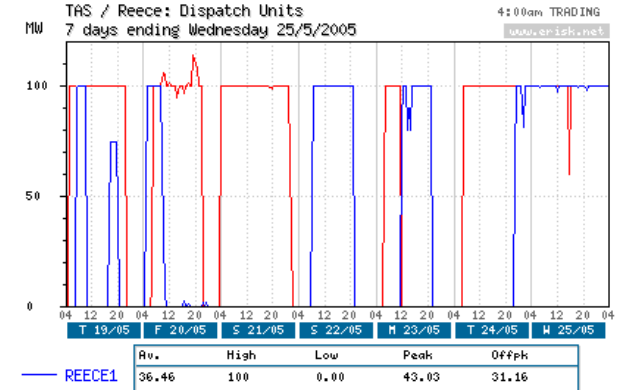
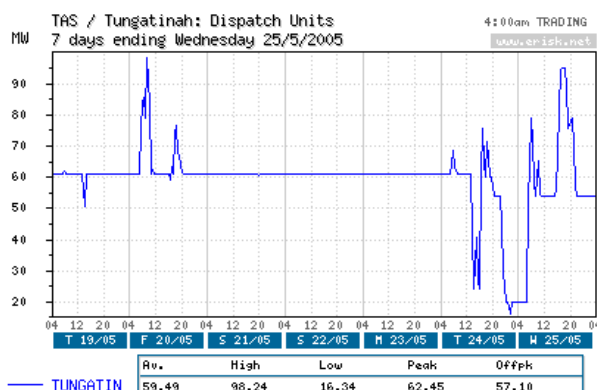
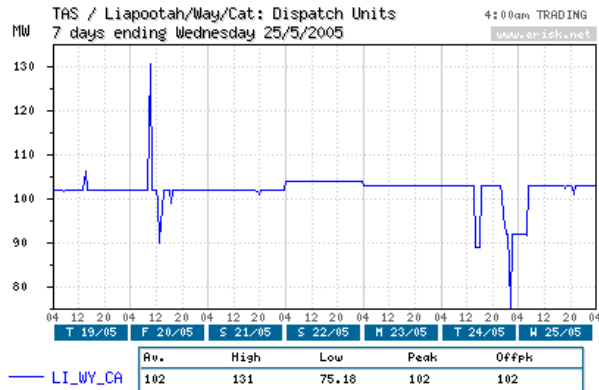
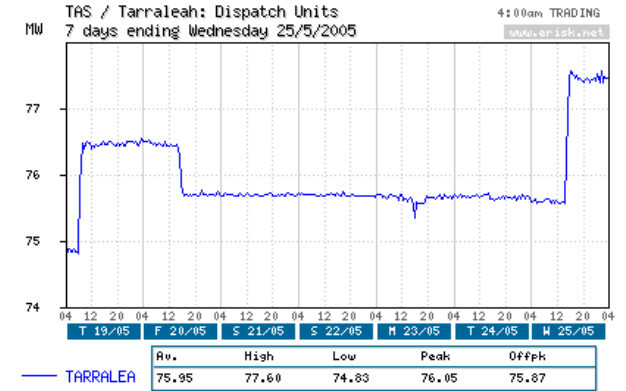
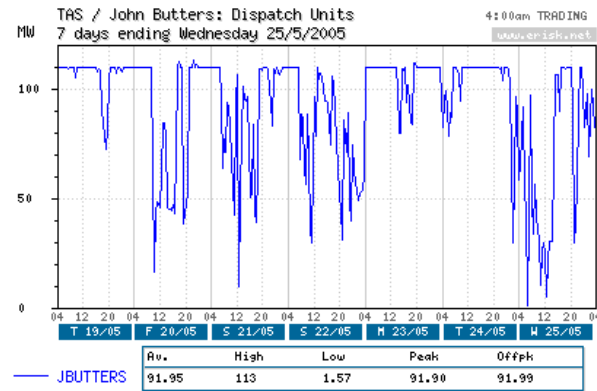
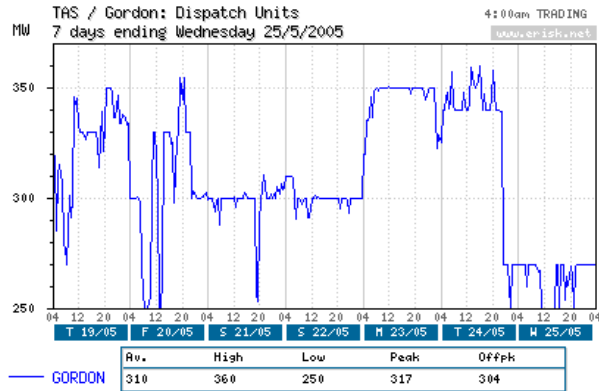
100 km/h winds: It was a windy month with 100 km/h winds and a new highest Tasmanian April temperature of 32.0 °C set at Campania on 1 April.

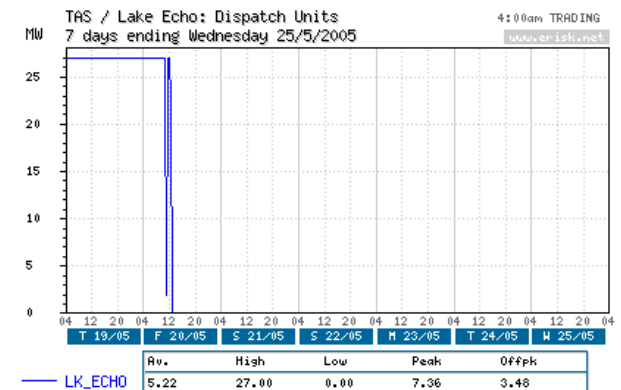
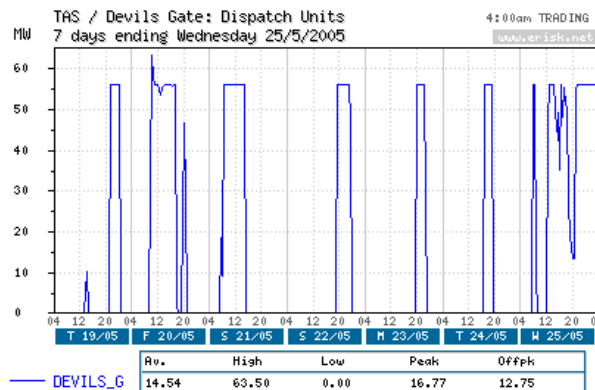
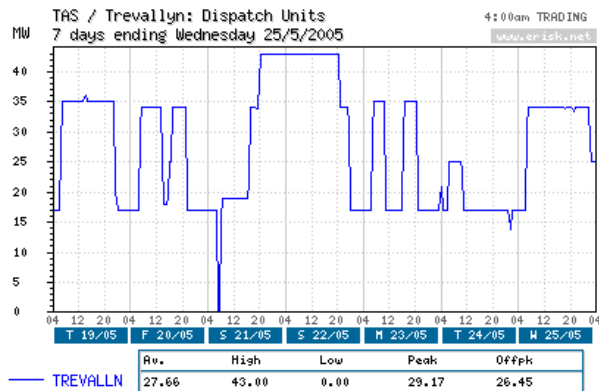
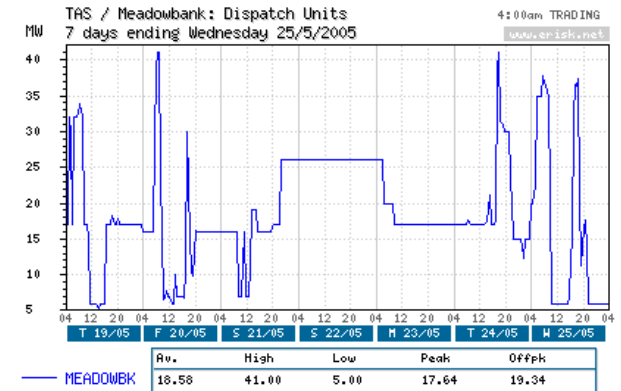
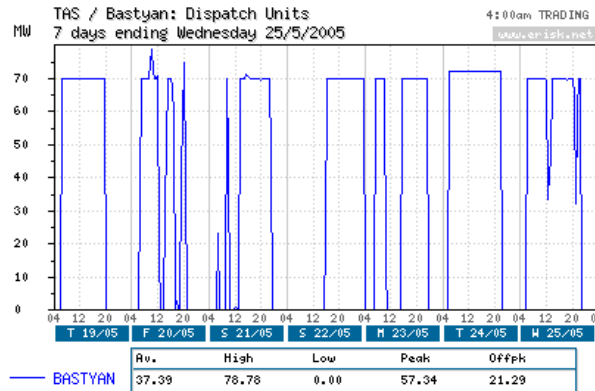
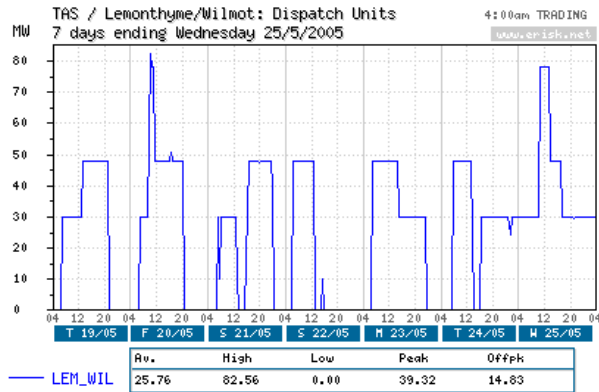
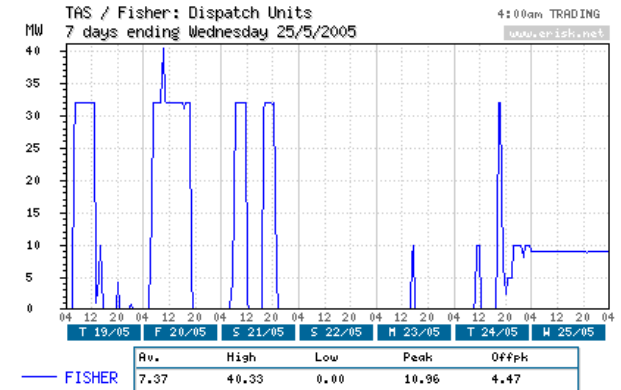
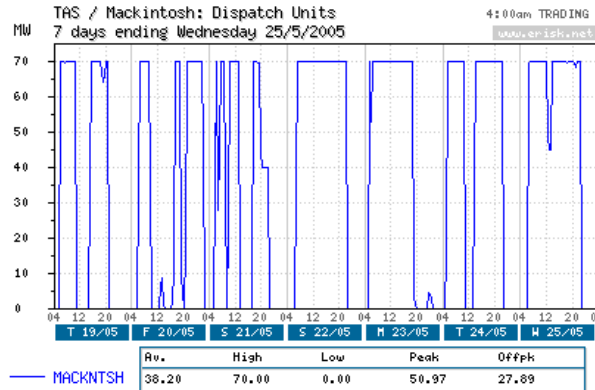
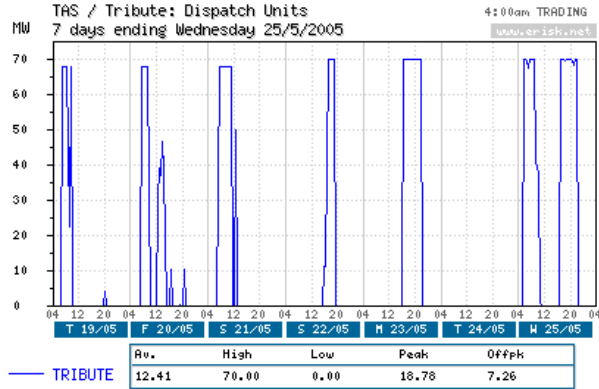
Tasmania's NEM entry framework:

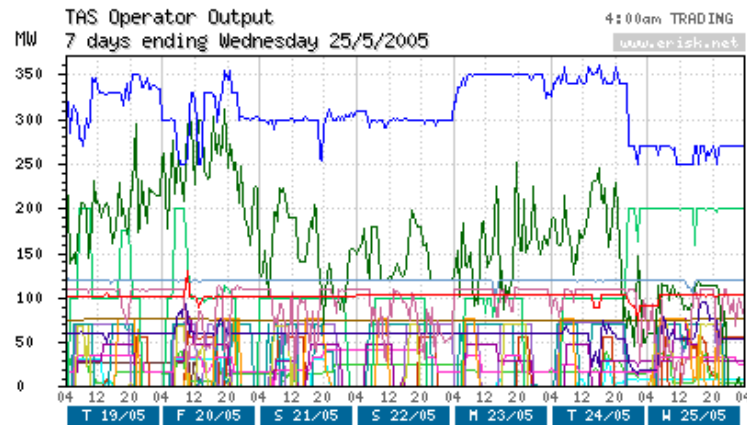
- Hydro Tasmania retained as a single hydro generation business in State ownership;

- Hydro Tasmania's Ministerial Charter amended to ensure reliability/security of the state's hydro system is maintained;
- additional competition through the conversion of the Bell Bay Power Station to natural gas and separation from Hydro Tasmania to a new State-owned generation business;
- operated under National Electricity Code (NEC), with the National Electricity Market Management Company Ltd (NEMMCO) responsible for market operations and system security;
- the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) will be given responsibility for transmission pricing, initially under Tasmanian arrangements and then under the NEC;
- retail contestability progressively introduced in Tasmania;
- Tasmanian Electricity Regulator will retain responsibility for distribution network pricing on an ongoing basis and retail price regulation for noncontestable customers;
- a vesting contract between Hydro Tasmania and Aurora Energy Pty Ltd to underpin energy sales for non-contestable customers during the rollout of retail contestability;

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	Avg.	High	Low	Peak	Offpk
Gordon	310	360	250	317	304
Liapootah/Way/Cat	102	131	75.18	102	102
Bell Bay Power	120	125	103	119	120
John Butters	91.95	113	1.57	91.90	91.99
Tungatinah	59.49	98.24	16.34	62.45	57.10
Poatina	162	311	0.00	181	146
Tarraleah	75.95	77.60	74.83	76.05	75.87
Reece	99.26	200	0.00	130	74.74
Cethana	16.44	78.00	0.00	26.20	8.57
Tribute	12.41	70.00	0.00	18.78	7.26
Lemonthyme/Wilmot	25.76	82.56	0.00	39.32	14.83
Trevallyn	27.66	43.00	0.00	29.17	26.45
Mackintosh	38.20	70.00	0.00	50.97	27.89
Bastyan	37.39	78.78	0.00	57.34	21.29
Woolnorth Wind	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Devils Gate	14.54	63.50	0.00	16.77	12.75
Fisher	7.37	40.33	0.00	10.96	4.47
Meadowbank	18.58	41.00	5.00	17.64	19.34
Lake Echo	5.22	27.00	0.00	7.36	3.48
Repulse	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Paloona	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cluny	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Butlers Gorge	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Tasmania had intended to join the National Electricity Market (NEM) on 29 May 2005. NEM regulatory arrangements started then but flows of energy between Tasmania and Victoria were delayed to late April 2006 due to damages to a number of transformers.

- Basslink will be bid into the NEM and Hydro Tasmania will make available for commercial sale inter-regional revenues arising from the southward flows on Basslink; and
- Tasmanian derogations (ie. amendments) to the NEC will provide for some local technical, procedural and administrative matters in the transition to the full NEM arrangements.

Dry winter a head for northern Tasmania, low hydro flows

There is a moderate shift in the odds towards below average winter rainfall across northern and parts of central Tasmania, the Bureau of Meteorology said. However, the skill of seasonal outlooks is generally low over Tasmania during winter, so this outlook should be used with caution. The pattern of winter rainfall odds is a result of above average temperatures in both the Pacific and Indian Oceans. Across southwest WA and southeastern Australia, the warm oceans have a reinforcing effect with the odds tilted in favour of a drier than average winter. However, across southern Queensland

and northern NSW, the effects from the two oceans tend to cancel each other, with drier conditions promoted by the warm Pacific and wetter conditions by the warm Indian. Outlook confidence is related to the influence of Pacific and Indian Ocean temperatures on seasonal rainfall. During winter, history shows this influence to be generally weakly consistent across Tasmania.

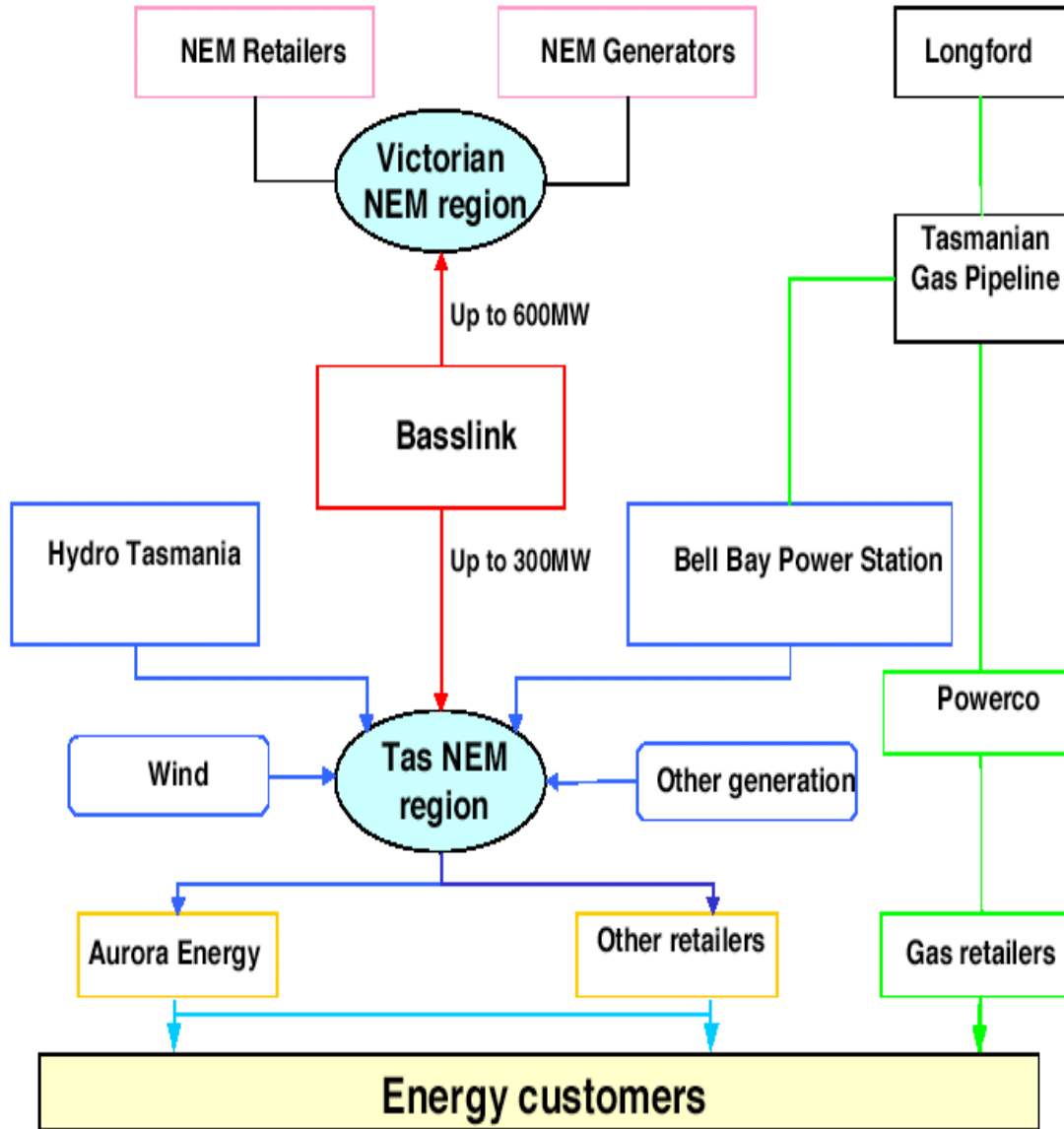
Big change ahead? The Southern Oscillation Index (SOI) has shown a high level of volatility recently with values of -11, zero and -29 for April, March and February respectively. The approximate SOI for the 30 days ending 14 May was -10.

Reference: Climate Services Section
Tasmania and Antarctica Regional Office
Bureau of Meteorology, Phone (03) 6221 2043 Email climate.tas@bom.gov.au

April 2005 one of the warmest Aprils Tasmania has ever had; warmer than March

April 2005 was the warmest April recorded in Australia since at least 1950. The first four months of 2005 have been much warmer than normal in most parts of Australia, but Tasmania had a generally cool January, February and March:

Tasmania's Future Energy Sector



- Campania recorded 32.0 °C on the 1st of April, heralding one of the warmest Aprils Tasmania has experienced - one that was warmer than March; and
- Average maximum (day time) temperatures were above normal by between 1.5 and 2 degrees, and average minimum (night time) temperatures were above normal by between 1 and 1.5 degrees.

Rainfall was close to normal in most parts of Tasmania, although it was well down in the far southeast and on Flinders Island.

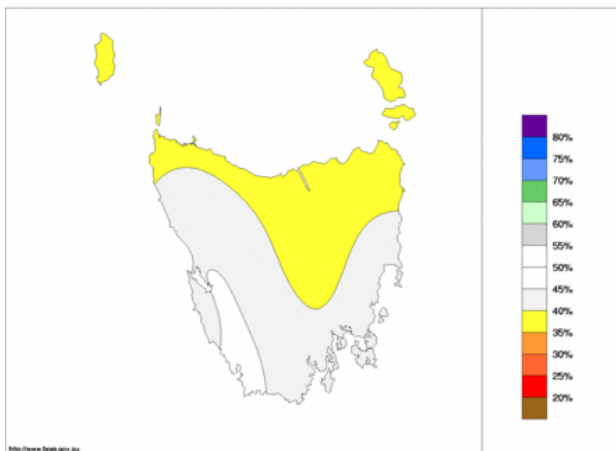
Driest Sept-to-April: The warm weather combined with the only moderate rainfall totals has put further pressure on soil moisture which has been severely reduced in recent months, especially in the northwest. Many sites in the northwest (including Burnie, Wynyard and Barrington) have had their driest September-to-April on record.

Reference: Climate Services Section Tasmania and Antarctica Regional Office Bureau of Meteorology, Phone (03) 6221 2043 Email climate.tas@bom.gov.au

100 km/h winds in April and new highest Tasmanian April temperature of 32.0 °C set at Campania on the 1st

There were many windy days through April, and both the start and the end of the month were particularly windy, with

Chance of exceeding the median Rainfall June to August 2005
Product of the National Climate Centre



Tas seasonal rainfall outlook: Probabilities for Winter 2005, issued 17th May 2005, showed for the June to August period, the chances of above median rainfall are between 35 and 40 per cent over much of northern Tasmania as well as some areas in the centre of the state (see map). This means that below average falls have a 60 to 65 per cent chance of occurring. Therefore in years with ocean patterns like the current, about six winters out of ten are expected to be drier than average in these parts of Tasmania, with about four out of ten being wetter. In remaining parts of the State, the chances of above average winter rainfall are between 40 and a little over 45 per cent.

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gusts well in excess of 100 km/h reported at many sites. The highest recorded was 154 km/h at Maatsuyker Island on the 29th. The month started very warm, with a new highest Tasmanian April temperature of 32.0 °C being set at Campania on the 1st. This exceeded the previous high of 31.7 °C at Grove on the 12th in 1985. Several other sites in also set new records on that day, or on the 2nd. A week of cooler weather followed, with an especially

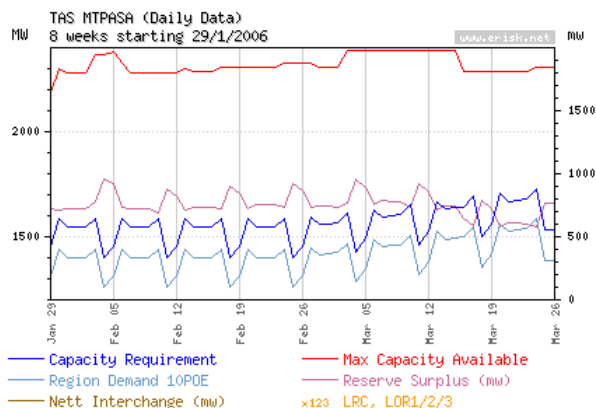
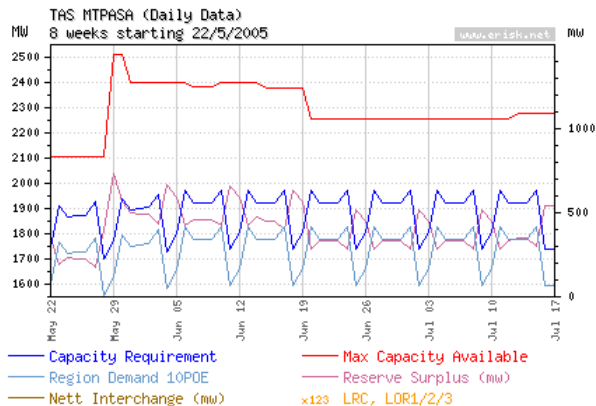
cool day on the 7th, but another burst of warmth followed, with more records broken on the 10th. After a cool spell on the 14th and 15th, there followed a fortnight with temperatures just a little above normal. Another warm spell peaked on the 28th, with temperatures well into the mid-20s in several areas, but this was followed by a much cooler end to the month.

Warmest April on record: Averaged across the month, most sites recorded maximum temperatures between 1.5 and 2 degrees above the April normal. At almost all places it was warmer in April than it had been in March. Several locations in the east had their warmest April on record, and for several others in the east it was the warmest for at least 12 years. However, for most of the north and west, it was warmer in 2002 than it was this year. Minimum (nighttime) temperatures were above normal by a degree or more on most nights, with the mornings of the 1st, the 3rd and the 10th especially warm. There were some cooler periods around the 5th, the 15th, the 21st and at the very end of the month.

Warmer than March: At almost all places nights were warmer on average in April than they had been in March. For many, April 2003 was warmer than April 2005, but at some (Maydena, Grove and Launceston Airport) the most recent warmer April was in 1994, and for others (Hobart Airport, Lake Leake and Marrawah) it was in 1990. Cold fronts were responsible for most of the rainfall during April. These were spread throughout the month,

although most events gave only light or moderate totals. The biggest falls were in the north on the 8th and 9th, from thunderstorms and heavy showers. Totals for the month were close to normal in most areas. In the southeast they were down on normal, especially at Cape Bruny at Port Arthur. Flinders Island also had totals well below normal, with the Airport site having its driest April since 1958.

Rain below normal: Rain was also below normal along the north coast. A few sites in the Midlands had above-normal totals, having received some solid rain around the 3rd, the 18th and the 23rd.



Record Highest Mean Maximum Temperature for April

	Mean daily maximum temperature for April 2005 (°C)	Previous highest for April	Years of record
Swansea Post Office	20.8	20.4 in 1994	49
Grove	19.4	= 19.4 in 1993	48
Eddystone Point	19.9	19.5 in 2002	47
Hobart Airport	20.0	19.8 in 1993	47
Flinders Island Airport	20.5	20.3 in 1989	42
Bicheno	20.4	20.2 in 1973	31
Mount Wellington	10.2	10.0 in 2002	24
Tarraleah Village	16.1	15.9 in 2002	21
Wynyard Airport	19.0	= 19.0 in 2002	20

Record Highest Temperature for April

	Highest temperature in April 2005 (°C)	Previous highest for April	Years of record
Bushy Park	30.6 on 1st	30.5 on 4th in 1992	71
Swansea Post Office	30.1 on 1st	29.3 on 6th in 1978	49
Eddystone Point	26.5 on 10th	25.0 on 23rd in 1993	47
Hobart Airport	30.7 on 1st	30.1 on 4th in 1992	47
Flinders Island Airport	31.7 on 10th	30.6 on 10th in 1969	42
Orford	30.0 on 1st	28.0 on 5th in 1988	37
Marrawah	27.0 on 2nd	23.5 on 3rd in 1989	31
Scottsdale	26.5 on 2nd	26.2 on 4th in 1992	27
Mount Wellington	19.2 on 9th	18.6 on 7th in 2001	24
Tarraleah Village	25.5 on 2nd	= 25.5 on 12th in 1985	21
Fingal	28.7 on 2nd	27.8 on 5th in 1987	20
Wynyard Airport	26.5 on 1st	23.4 on 1st in 2003	20



Power Schemes Storages

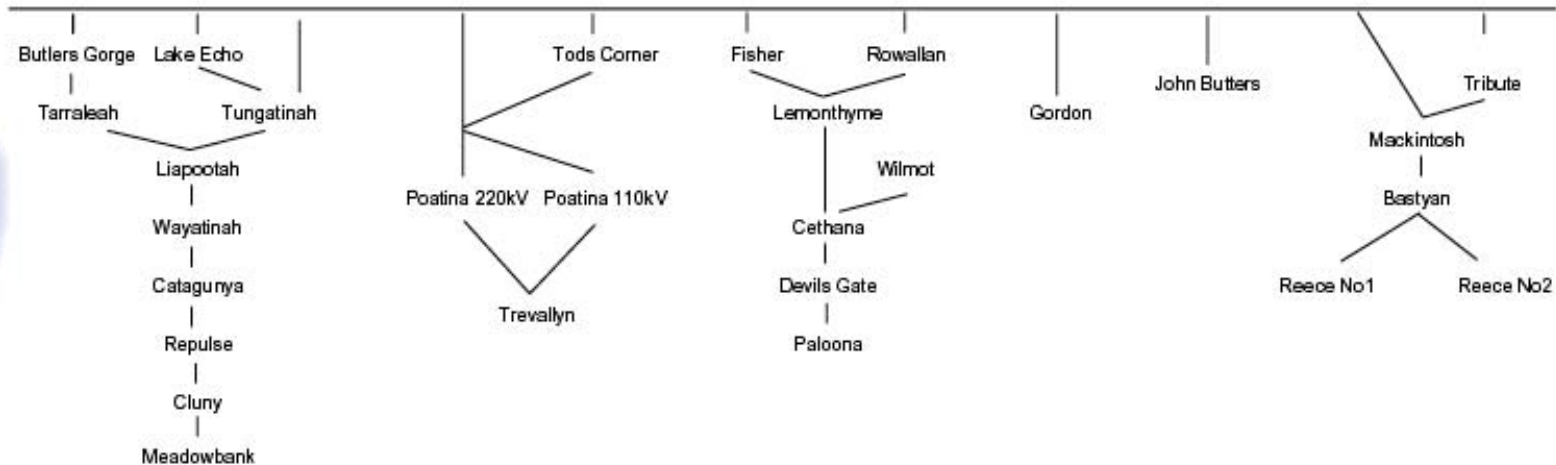
as at 20/05/2005

Head Water Storages

Derwent	South Esk	Mersey Forth	Gordon	King	Anthony Pieman
Lake St. Clair Lake King William	Lake Echo Bronte Lagoon Tungatinah Pond Great Lake Laughing Jack Lagoon	Lake Augusta Arthurs Lake	Lake Mackenzie Lake Rowallan	Lake Pedder Lake Gordon	Lake Burbury Lake Murchison Lake Plimsol Lake Mackintosh

Current GWh Energy in Storage	306	202	48	974	426	2	21	1254	52	57	**
Current % of Full Storage Energy	38.2%	22.6%	42.5%	14.8%	53.6%	4.4%	18.3%	26.7%	28.0%	32.4%	
Rise/Fall/Static over past 24 Hours	Falling	Falling	Falling	Falling	Static	Falling	Falling	Falling	Falling	Falling	

Aggregated Generators



	SYSTEM
Current GWh Energy in Storage	3344
Current % of Full Storage Energy	23.2%
Rise/Fall/Static over past 24 Hours	Falling

** Lake Plimsol storage is not currently calculated

Source: Hydro Tasmania.

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