



MEDIA RELEASE

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Tasmanian renewable energy specialist to attend global summit

Tasmanian renewable energy specialist, Robert Manson, has secured himself a place at the invite-only Creating Climate Wealth Islands Summit, taking place on 4-6 February 2014 at Sir Richard Branson's British Virgin Island home on Necker Island.

The summit, hosted by Sir Richard Branson and the Carbon War Room, will be a congregation of Ministers and the heads of states from twelve island nations, business leaders, project developers and financiers, as well as the world's renewable energy leaders.

The Carbon War Room, a non-government organisation specialising in market based solutions for climate change and run by former Costa Rican President José Maria Figueres Olsen, identified the struggles of the Caribbean Islands in relation to the price of fossil fuels.

Mr Manson, founder of *I Want Energy*, a Tasmanian business focusing on the design and installation of renewable energy services nationwide, said the opportunity was too good to ignore and it was a true testament to the work his company had completed in Tasmania and its surrounding islands.

"It is an honour to receive a personal invitation to such a significant event, especially given numbers were limited to 80 worldwide across all the different stakeholders," Mr Manson said.

"I have been to the Caribbean previously when I put forward a proposal for the rebuild of Sir Richard Branson's home and while I did not win that contract, I did forge some strong global relationships and enhanced my profile in the renewable energy sector.

"The Summit will look to commission at least ten projects across five areas, including utility scale renewable energy, health installations, educational facilities, transportation and tourism infrastructure.

"Our main focus for the Summit will be on the health installations as we have recently completed multiple projects for the Tasmanian Government in this field.

"With the range of projects on offer I am hopeful of a successful outcome and look forward to assisting islands in the Caribbean in their transition from fossil fuels onto renewable energy sources and creating a more sustainable future for the region.

Mr Manson said *I Want Energy* had completed work on many diverse projects in Tasmania across domestic, business and government sectors in the areas of both wind and solar.

"Tasmania's clean green image is definitely an advantage and has allowed us to offer multiple products and services to clients, including solar power, wind turbines, battery technologies, energy monitoring systems, as well as the latest in power saving technologies," he said.

"While my primary market is domestic users across the State, we have seen increased interest from commercial clients and have completed large projects for several government departments, as well as assisting outlying islands in Tasmania, such as King Island and Flinders Island with renewable energy solutions.



“I am hoping the knowledge and expertise of my work on Tasmania’s outlying islands will allow me to contribute and assist at the Summit when translating it to the Caribbean Islands, as well as bringing back ideas from other industry leaders to implement on a local and national level.”

Mr Manson said renewable energy sources were on a definite rise as credibility and benefits became apparent, with data from the Clean Energy Council Australia revealing a record 13.14 per cent of Australia’s energy was generated by renewable sources in 2012.

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