

MINUTES

Meeting Name:	NWTD Stakeholder Liaison Group Meeting
Meeting date:	11 October 2021
Meeting location:	Cradle Coast Energy Hub, Burnie
Chairperson	Rodney Greene (RG)
Presenters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Damian Verney (DV), North West Transmission Developments Project Director, TasNetworks • Chris Warr, (CW) Community, Communications & Environment Lead, North West Transmission Developments, TasNetworks
Notetaker	Lucy Temple-Smith, RPS (LTS)

Attendees

Name	Initials	Organisation	Role
Jacob Batt	JB	AMWU	Member
Shane Batt	SB	Tasmanian Fire Service	Member
Andrew Catchpole	AC	TCCI	Member
Matthew Dance	MD	TasTAFE	Member
Jackie Harvey	JH	Business Tasmania	Member
Ian Jones	IJ	Business NW	Member
Brittany Rubie	BR	TFGA	Member
Helen Truscott	HT	Cradle Coast NRM	Member
Sheree Vertigan	SV	Cradle Coast Authority	Member
Alexis Wadsley	AW	Skills Tasmania	Member
Tom Wootton	TW	West by North West Tourism	Member

Apologies

Name	Initials	Organisation	Role
Craig Perkins	CP	RDA Tasmania	Member
Sarah Jones	SJ	UTAS	Member

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Ref no.	Item
1.	Formal welcome and introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• RG welcomed all attendees, delivered Acknowledgement of Country• All project team and SLG Members introduced themselves
2.	Welcome lunch
3.	SLG introduction and overview (CW) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• CW thanked all for their time and appreciation on behalf of TasNetworks for their involvement.• TasNetworks sees the group building over time, exploring the impact the North West Transmission Development (NWTDT) project has on all involved and enabling TasNetworks to understand the views of all key stakeholders as the project progresses.• The group will be an opportunity to work together to build knowledge over time and enable stakeholders to share in the opportunities, economic and regional benefits the NWTDT presents.• The SLG will provide a platform to demonstrate what the project can unlock in the future for the region, building the pipeline of opportunities.
4.	Governance <ul style="list-style-type: none">• All Members received a draft SLG Terms of Reference and Code of Conduct prior to the Meeting, Chair asked for any comments or requests for amendments to these documents.• Query on Members sharing information, including minutes from SLG meetings with their Boards, colleagues and if there is a formal process for this.• CW encouraged Members to share information as much as possible, as long as the information has not been identified as commercial in confidence.• Chair confirmed all understood this process. No further queries or comments, both documents accepted.• LTS added Members can supply signed copies of the documents at the meeting; will be followed up by email for any outstanding.
5.	Future meeting schedule <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chair asked group to consider that all meetings are held in person while acknowledging not all Members are based on the North West coast and in person not always achievable.• All agreed in person meetings are first preference.• Frequency of meetings suggested as every two months, all agreed.• TasNetworks noted openness to meeting venues changing, in other organisations' facilities or in other locations on the North West coast.• Meeting times were discussed, Chair suggested to remain in the middle of the day to allow travel from Hobart, agreed.• Chair informed group the intention is to hold one further meeting in 2021, in early December. Communication will follow.
6.	Project introduction / overview presentation and discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none">• DV and CW provided an overview of the background to the NWTDT project, how it relates to the wider energy sector transition and to Marinus Link. Refer to presentation supplied.• The associated infrastructure developments / upgrades proposed for each section of the route were presented as well as the timeline and current project status. Refer to presentation supplied.• Queries raised regarding customers, ownership and operation of the Staverton to Hampshire Hills section of the transmission line.• The Robbins Island and Jim's Plain wind farms are scheduled to be the first projects to utilise the Staverton to Hampshire Hills transmission line. Under this arrangement, UPC Renewables will pay for the right to use the line. The line's location within the North West renewable energy zone has been planned with reference to increasing generation capacity for future renewable energy developments.• Route selection process, environmental approvals process, current status and previous and future community engagement along the Staverton to Hampshire Hills sections. Refer to presentation supplied.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Query regarding the availability of Route Option Reports. CW informed they are all publicly available on talkwithtasnetworks.com.au
	Project introduction / overview presentation and discussion (cont.) <ul style="list-style-type: none">Technical Reports in relation to the environmental approvals process and submission of the Environmental Impact Statement will also be available to public for the required two-week public exhibition timeframe.Acknowledged this is a short time frame for public to review the lengthy technical reports and as such summaries will be prepared and made available to the public prior to exhibition.Member request for communication to public when route adjustments are made. Request noted by TasNetworks.Landowner engagement process explained, a variety of land use and production, each experience different. TasNetworks working to understand concerns and work with landowners to mitigate impacts.Member query regarding issues experienced so far during the project.Issues and impacts raised have included: tower heights, visual impact, electromagnetic fields (EMF), farming operations, access, construction timeframes, impact on future farm developments, the environment, wildlife, fire, water, ecology and undergrounding the line.EMF testing has been offered, taken up by many landowners. Enabling greater understanding of perceived impacts.Undergrounding in Tasmania approximately four years (or double the time) to construct and costs 7-10 times more.Capability of current Tasmanian network, being High Voltage Alternate Current (HVAC) not High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC), means overhead lines present as the best option.Briefing paper on undergrounding is in development, will be circulated to the SLG.Query on Palmerston to Sheffield line, is it needed? Required to connect new central renewable developments.TasNetworks currently reviewing landowner feedback including requests to limit infrastructure on their properties.Environmental approvals process discussed, noted by Member that it is not well-understood by the public. Suggested anything that can be done to communicate, and assist would be welcome.DV confirmed there will be, including through further community sessions.Member suggested that the presentation from today's meeting is a great way to inform on project, and also suggest one pager briefings would be effective.Query on cost of the project, benefits going to the mainland and Tasmanians will pay for it and more jobs would be created if the energy stayed in Tasmania, created manufacturing and construction jobs.NWTD a \$600 million investment. To date, the Tasmanian Government does not want Tasmanian community to pay. Will be solved by final investment decision process. More work being done on this.Additional work being done to demonstrate what jobs and when – not only the 1400 at peak construction. This work will be released and shared with SLG prior to next meeting.Business case of project discussed; how much money Tasmania will make. A number of scenarios can occur, it is demonstrated the project delivers benefits to the market and strong benefit to Tasmania.Member suggested a simple one pager will be beneficial to communicate this to the general public.
7.	Upcoming engagement activities <ul style="list-style-type: none">CW provided a brief overview of the completed and upcoming community engagement activities. Refer to presentation supplied.Engagement program a genuine process, TasNetworks has a strong commitment to undertaking the process, learning, and improving.Engagement and communications will continue across many different channels and methods to raise awareness of project and understand impacts. There will be an ongoing focus on hard-to-reach groups.TasNetworks offer to group that they are available, flexible, open to feedback and opportunities to speak to groups or networks to explain the project, hear what works best for engagement and communication.
8.	Next steps and meeting close <ul style="list-style-type: none">Next meeting early December, communication to come.Chair requested any suggestions for topics to go to LTS.

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Actions

Ref no.	Description	Owner	Date
4.	Members who have not already provided signed copies of Code of Conduct to be emailed forms to sign, scan and return.	LTS	18 Oct
5.	Date for meeting two to be circulated and calendar notes to be distributed to all Members.	LTS	19 Oct
6.	Circulate undergrounding briefing paper to SLG Members for review and discussion.	CW / LTS	Prior to next meeting
6.	Circulate jobs information to SLG when available, prior to next meeting.	CW / LTS	Prior to next meeting

Next meeting

Date:	Monday 6 December
Time:	12:00pm – 2:30pm (Lunch provided)
Location:	Cradle Coast Future Energy Hub, 1-3 Spring Street, Burnie

Minutes prepared by: Lucy Temple-Smith

Minutes approved by: Rodney Greene
