

NWTD SLG MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Name:	North West Transmission Developments Stakeholder Liaison Group Meeting
Meeting date:	21 November 2023
Meeting location:	Cradle Coast Authority, 1-3 Spring St, Burnie
Chairperson	Chris Warr, TasNetworks

Invitees

Name	Initials	Organisation	Role
Chris Bennett	CB	Skills Tasmania	Member
Jess Berechree	JB	Cradle Coast Future Energy Hub	Member
Ian Jones	IJ	Business NW	Member
Sarah Jones	SJ	UTAS	Member
Graham Marshall	GM	YFCC	Member
Emily Norris	EN	TasNetworks	Notetaker
Luke Sayer	LS	Department of State Growth	Member
Sheree Vertigan	SV	Cradle Coast Authority	Member

Apologies

Name	Initials	Organisation	Role
Kim Bomford	KB	Housing Choices	Member
Matthew Dance	MD	TasTAFE	Member
Rodney Greene	RG	Burnie Works	Chair
Laura Johnson	LJ	Youth Panel	Member
Danielle Kidd	DK	West North West Working	Member
Vanessa Skipworth	VS	TMEC	Member
Veronica Terry	VT	Cradle Coast Authority	Member

Minutes

Item

Round robin

- CB provided an update on the recently launched Skills Tasmania [Energy Compact and Priority Action Plan](#).
 - SJ provided an update on the UTAS and TasTAFE Power of Professional Pathways program to help build skills for people in trades.
 - SV advised of work as part of UTAS Council and the decline of interest in studying STEM. Discussed how organisations who will be dependent on these skills in the future can provide support such as scholarships and traineeships.
 - SV advised of CCA's work on the Regional Precincts and Partnerships Program.
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NWTD update

- Group discussion and clarification about the recent change to staging of the NWTD following the announcement by the Australian Government to prioritise one Marinus Link cable. Stage 1 of the project will involve construction of the line between Cressy and Burnie via Sheffield and Stowport. Stage 2 will comprise the line between Sheffield to Burnie via Staverton and Hampshire. This approach will see approximately 60 per cent of the proposed NWTD built in the first stage.
 - Members discussed the need to ensure generation projects still get the opportunity to connect to network. Members also raised the role and timing of NW Renewable Energy Zone in relation to new project sequencing.
 - TasNetworks advised members on key NWTD project milestones, including the change to lodgement of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Development Application (DA), now expected in Q2 of 2024. NWTD will continue to prepare and submit the EIS and DA for all sections of NWTD and ensure community engagement prior to formal submission periods.
 - TasNetworks shared that Reconciliation Australia has granted conditional approval TasNetworks next Reconciliation Action Plan; Innovate RAP, and gave an update on the relevant actions to be progressed.
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Updated project costs

- Members were provided with the latest cost estimate for Marinus Link and NWTD and the rationale for the increase in project costs.
- Member comments and questions included the impact of cost increases on the Final Investment Decision and what efficiencies are being looked at as part of the two-stage process.

Stage One:

- One 750MW Marinus Link cable - cost \$2.8 billion
- NWTD transmission upgrades between Palmerston-Sheffield and Burnie via Heybridge - cost \$950 million
- Final Investment Decision in December 2024.

Stage Two (upon confirmation of second Marinus cable):

- Second 750MW Marinus Link cable - cost \$2.3 billion
 - The remainder of NWTD, which includes the section between Staverton to Hampshire Hills - cost \$550 million.
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Network pricing outcomes

- Members were provided with an overview of network pricing and electricity cost breakdowns.
- Members were provided with the estimated network price impacts of Marinus Link and NWTD and the modelling assumptions.

Community Benefits Sharing Program

- An update on the Community Benefits Sharing Program (CBSP) was provided, including current status and program development.
- Member feedback was sought on the application and assessment process, monitoring and reporting, and capacity building and training for community organisations.
- Members provided feedback on risks, challenges and opportunities of these governance arrangements to further refine TasNetworks' planning and rollout of the program.

Meeting close

Next meeting Tuesday 27 February 2024
