

NWTD SLG MEETING MINUTES

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Meeting Name: | NWTD Stakeholder Liaison Group Meeting |
| Meeting date: | 3 December 2024 |
| Meeting location: | Cradle Coast Authority, Board Room |
| Chairperson | Chris Warr, TasNetworks |

Attendees

| Name | Initials | Organisation | Role |
|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|-------------|
| Jordan Abell | JA | TasNetworks | Member |
| Annie Gatenby | AG | Regional Development Australia | Member |
| Richard Ingram | RI | TasTAFE | Member |
| Ian Jones | IJ | Business NW | Member |
| Sarah Jones | SJ | UTAS | Member |
| Luke Sayer | LS | Department of State Growth | Member |
| Vanessa Skipworth | VS | TMEC | Member |
| Toby Thorpe | TT | RE-Alliance | Member |
| Veronica Terry | VT | Cradle Coast Authority | Member |
| Sheree Vertigan | SV | Cradle Coast Authority | Member |
| Zoy Yerondais | ZY | Housing Choices | Member |

Apologies

| Name | Initials | Organisation | Role |
|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| Jess Berechree | JB | Future Energy Hub | Member |
| Matthew Dance | MD | TasTAFE | Member |
| Rodney Greene | RD | Collaboration for Impact | Chairperson |
| Andrew Harris | AH | Skills Tasmania | Member |
| Danielle Kidd | DK | West North West Working | Member |
| Graham Marshall | GM | YFCC | Member |

MINUTES

Item

Round robin

- Member discussion about what they had been hearing and seeing amongst stakeholders and community members related to renewable energy. This included:
 - Regional Australia Institute recently released a report outlining regional needs to help drive Australia's transition to net zero.
 - Positive sentiment relating to the 288MW Northern Midlands Solar Farm proposal to be built by energy firm TasRex and the Port Latta windfarm being granted an extension to their development application.
 - The proposed national network of 50 independent, 'Local Energy Hubs' in regional areas, including Burnie. These will be Australian Government-funded service centres.
 - Marinus Link is soon to release a Jobs Guide providing further details on the project's benefits.
 - In collaboration with Carbon Zero, CCA launched the *Future of Energy in Tasmania* report, which charts a pathway to a carbon zero economy.
-

Regional Economic Development Action Plan

- It was noted that TasNetworks is undertaking a review of the NWTB Regional Economic Development Action Plan to ensure it is fit for purpose as the project turns its attention towards early contractor involvement (ECI) and construction phases.
 - TasNetworks met with Homes Tasmania to discuss potential housing strategies as the NWTB project looks to enter the ECI phase prior to construction.
-

Marinus Link update

- Marinus Link provided a project and key milestone update.
 - The public panel hearing is now complete on the EIS Victoria EPA Process and the public exhibition of the Tasmanian Environmental Approvals Process anticipated to be held in early 2025.
 - The preferred contractor is due to be announced in mid-2025 with the Final Investment Decision (FID) scheduled for May 2025.
 - Marinus Link shared the community engagement activities attended across October and November as well as upcoming events, which includes the Illuminate New Year's Eve event in Burnie.
-

North West Renewable Energy Roundtable - Workforce

- An overview on the recently held North West Renewable Energy Roundtable on workforce was shared. The purpose of the roundtable was to identify areas where real outcomes could be progressed through collaboration.
 - A key discussion point from the roundtable was around workforce, including projections data, a NW Renewables Training Centre, skills and workforce mapping, and developing a central workforce and construction portal that can be accessed and updated online.
 - A Clean Energy Education Precinct was also raised, notably the possibility of establishing an integrated ecosystem of education providers through a hub and spoke model.
-

NWTD update

- Members were provided with an update on key project milestones and timeframes, with an announcement on the Head Contractor imminent.
- Recent and upcoming NWTD community engagement sessions were shared with the group, including attendance at Tulip Festival and Tasmanian Craft Fair.

Community investment

- Members were provided with a NWTD community investment program update, including previous investments such as the funding provided to the Kentish House to support a number of ongoing programs as well as a new addition for the Access 2 Health Service Project.
- TasNetworks' ongoing partnership with Rural Alive & Well (RAW) was also highlighted, with the four self-care workshops in the North West community mentioned.

Infrastructure Sustainability Rating

- The infrastructure sustainability goals of TasNetworks were presented, specifically in relation to the NWTD.
- It was noted that the NWTD will be one of the first projects in Tasmania to undertake an Infrastructure Sustainability (IS) Rating.
- The IS Rating Scheme is an assessment tool used to evaluate the sustainability performance of horizontal infrastructure.
- Members were given details on how IS Ratings are assessed and the benefits of the scheme.

Any other business

- The forward meeting schedule for 2025 was discussed.
- It was noted that a SLG survey would be distributed to members for feedback.

Meeting close

Next meeting: Tuesday 25 February 2025
