

MINUTES

Meeting Name:	NWTD Stakeholder Liaison Group Meeting
Meeting date:	5 April 2022
Meeting location:	Cradle Coast Energy Hub, Burnie
Chairperson	Rodney Greene (RG)
Presenters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Damian Vermeij (DV), Project Director, North West Transmission Developments, TasNetworks • Chris Warr, (CW) Community, Communications & Environment Lead, North West Transmission Developments, TasNetworks • Amy Abraham, (AA) Community Operations Lead, North West Transmission Developments, TasNetworks
Notetaker	Lucy Temple-Smith, RPS (LTS)

Attendees

Name	Initials	Organisation	Role
Andrew Catchpole	AC	TCCI	Member
Ian Jones	IJ	Business NW	Member
Sarah Jones	SJ	UTAS	Member
Graham Marshall	GM	YFCC	Member
Brittany Rubie	BR	TFGA	Member
Luke Sayer	LS	Department of State Growth	Member
Veronica Terry	VT	RDA Tasmania	Attendee
Alexis Wadsley	AW	Skills Tasmania	Member

Apologies

Name	Initials	Organisation	Role
Shane Batt	SB	Tasmanian Fire Service	Member
Matthew Dance	MD	TasTAFE	Member
Helen Truscott	HT	Cradle Coast NRM	Member
Sheree Vertigan	SV	Cradle Coast Authority	Member
Tom Wootton	TW	West by North West Tourism	Member

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1.	Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none">• RG welcomed all attendees, delivered Acknowledgement of Country.
2.	SLG survey and forward planning <ul style="list-style-type: none">• TasNetworks thanked SLG members for their participation in the survey, and for their responses.• Survey results demonstrated the group believe they have developed a good level of project knowledge, are happy with the information being provided and felt positively about the level of respect shown within the forum.• The meeting structure, length, timing and format, the opportunity to have meaningful discussions and a general sentiment that the SLG was a good use of members' time was all demonstrated in the results.• Some of the recognised benefits of the project were generating investment, supporting renewables, and positive economic outcomes.• SLG members shared feedback on what could be improved in the survey, results showing clarity of scope of the group, potential to review or expand membership and option to hear different stakeholders' views via guest speakers and wider communication of the project as areas that could be improved.• TasNetworks confirmed the initial purpose of the group as facilitating feedback and liaison between TasNetworks and key organisations/individuals and their respective networks/members related to the NWTD project.• Group currently operating at the inform end of engagement spectrum, opportunities to move toward consult will be expanded on at next meeting.• A group discussion about ideas to address improvements was opened by TasNetworks.• An opportunity for the newly formed Youth Panel to present their draft community benefits sharing framework to the SLG prior to wider community consultation was presented.• This was noted as a good opportunity for the SLG to input their feedback as well as a further development opportunity for Youth Panel members and supported by the group. The group agreed this will be beneficial for both parties.• One member raised the opportunity for the SLG to play a role in communicating more broadly and demonstrating the benefits back to the community.• The potential of the SLG to move from inform to consult to collaborate was briefly discussed and supported by the group.• A suggestion was made to list upcoming NWTD project engagement activities and events within the agenda document. SLG members could then join or support activities. TasNetworks agreed to implement this for future meeting agendas.• The list was noted as encouraging collaboration as members can suggest opportunities and submit to the list. The suggestion was welcomed by TasNetworks.• Existing individual collaboration examples were provided such as the recent and ongoing tourism impact assessment workshops, where TasNetworks worked with SLG member Tom Wootton and another new initiative through the Energy Charter in collaboration with Brittany Rubie at the TFGA.• Member suggestion to provide periodic updates of interest from their organisation led to a discussion and decision to begin every SLG meeting with a round robin with each member to provide a one-to-two-minute update, ensuring it is relevant to the group and the project.• TasNetworks noted concerns about low project awareness shared in the survey, and that whilst it is a challenge for the team it is an area that is being invested in.• TasNetworks offered and confirmed they will share what project information is being communicated, and through what channels, with the SLG to provide feedback.• The question of construction funding for Project Marinus was raised and a suggestion made that it would be useful to understand the options being considered eg private, Commonwealth investment.• Discussion amongst the group on the topic followed. There was agreement that no set answer on funding can lead to doubt in the community, scepticism around benefits such as lower power prices and lack of understanding about the value – to Tasmania and to the community – of exporting electricity to the mainland. This in, turn, can lead to low engagement.• TasNetworks agreed to provide a dedicated update on Project Marinus funding at the next meeting.• Promoting the new and diverse business opportunities the project can create was raised as an engagement and communication opportunity, as well as the option of working with these businesses as advocates.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Group members provided examples of third-party organisations known to speak highly of the value of Project Marinus to businesses like theirs.• Opportunity to communicate the local supply chain opportunities, induced jobs and the wider story about what Project Marinus unlocks for Tasmania.• Collaboration between the RDA and TasNetworks regarding future skills requirements for the NWTD project and the demographic overlay, suggestion that the information from these discussions and modelling is shared as soon as possible so people and businesses can start planning.• Upcoming opportunities through the Department of State Growth industry building network also noted as valuable, to ensure industry in a better position.• TasNetworks suggested including a presentation on economic development and the opportunities in the next meeting; group agreed this would be useful however noting to ensure the Youth Panel presentation is prioritised.• Regarding other stakeholders who could join the SLG, an online comment from member dialling in was taken; to consider civil and other construction industry likely to be involved in the developments.• TasNetworks confirmed there will be an opportunity for members to provide feedback on additional SLG member ideas via email.
2.	<p>NWTD Program update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In response to previous query regarding project funding, TasNetworks provided an update of recent design and approvals phase funding as well as a high-level overview of potential construction funding scenarios noting the commitment to provide the group with a detailed session at its next meeting.• NWTD project updates followed, starting with the EPBC Act referrals. TasNetworks has submitted referrals to the Commonwealth for the remaining NWTD route sections.- The referrals for the RNWTD includes the route sections that are subject to assessment under the Major Infrastructure Development Approvals Act 1999 (Tas) (MIDAA).- Accreditation of the MIDAA process for the assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance under the EPBC Act is being sought under this referral. Based on the findings of the referral assessment, it is expected that this referral will be considered a 'controlled action'.• There will be an opportunity for public comment, TasNetworks to publicise to stakeholders.• Palmerston to Sheffield line section update, 75 per cent landowner access agreements in place which covers approximately 86 per cent of all land the project covers.• TasNetworks continues to meet with landowners and address their issues, questions, and concerns to facilitate further land access.• Staverton to Hampshire Hills line section update; further field studies on 10km section of revised route have commenced together with including geo-tech and cultural heritage on remaining NWTD routes.• The NWTD economic development work continues, with a second set of workshops held in Burnie in March. Feedback from these will inform the Economic Development action plan, to be shared with the SLG.• Update provided on the Youth Panel, first meeting held 26 March, group charged with the co-design of a draft community benefits sharing framework; to identify principles by which activities would be chosen for funding, identify communities and the types of activities to be accepted.• The Panel is a recognition that the youth demographic is often excluded from these processes and that they will live with the infrastructure for the longest.• The first meeting was positive. The group is a good representation of youth in the region, some highly informed and already involved in consultation process, others who have low or no knowledge of the project.• The first meeting was about forming the group, sharing why they are there, explaining the framework and principles.• ReAlliance presented and explained the different forms community benefits sharing can take.• Youth Panel meeting two, online, on Thursday 7 April – was focused on further exploring ideas and how it may fit into a framework.• After five sessions are complete at the end of May, representatives of the Youth Panel will be asked to present the framework to the SLG.• Upcoming engagement activities update, TasNetworks to be present at EcoFest on 9 April. Engagement activities in 2022 will continue to focus on being available in the community, share information and engage as widely as possible with community members on the NWTD project.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">As the project moves towards the Environmental Impact Statement phase the aim is that the community knows what is happening and when and how to engage if they elect to.Further community pop-up activities planned throughout the year at a range of events and locations including farmers markets, outside supermarkets, and at AgFest in August.As part of the Tourism Impact Assessment process, it was noted that NW tourism industry participants have been invited to register their interest in taking part and having their say, interviews will then be conducted. SLG member Tom Wootton has assisted with email communications to the industry through West by North West Tourism.In other updates, TasNetworks shared it is a member of the Energy Charter, an initiative for energy businesses to join and commit to five key principles. TasNetworks is supporting a national research project exploring social license, in partnership with the TFGA. More information will be shared with the meeting minutes.
4.	Site visit <ul style="list-style-type: none">SLG members and project team visited four key sites in and around Burnie, with key insights provided by DV.The site visit was an opportunity for the SLG members to view and further understand existing and proposed transmission infrastructure, community impacts and hear more about the potential for easement co-design activities.The tour visited an urban easement at Shorewell Park, drove through Upper Burnie to view an example of towers and easements within a suburban environment, Stowport to view towers in a rural setting and the proposed Marinus Link Converter Station site at Heybridge.Meeting closed on return to the Cradle Coast Hub.

Actions

Ref no.	Description	Owner	Date
1.	SLG survey results to be included with the meeting four minutes	AA, LTS	12 April
2.	Share Energy Charter information with meeting minutes	AA, LTS	12 April
3.	Add round robin update to the beginning of the SLG agenda	LTS	31 May
4.	Include list of NWTED engagements, events, activities on SLG agenda	LTS	31 May
5.	TasNetworks to provide Project Marinus funding update	CW	6 June
6.	TasNetworks to share draft Economic Development Action Plan with SLG when complete	CW	6 June

Next meeting

Date:	Tuesday 7 June 2022
Time:	12:00pm – 2:30pm (Lunch provided)
Location:	TasNetworks' Deloraine Depot, 38 West Goderich St, Deloraine
Minutes prepared by:	Lucy Temple-Smith
Minutes approved by:	Rodney Greene