

<b>Meeting Name:</b>	NWTD Stakeholder Liaison Group Meeting
<b>Meeting date:</b>	7 June 2022
<b>Meeting location:</b>	TasNetworks' Deloraine, 38 West Goderich St, Deloraine
<b>Chairperson</b>	Rodney Greene
<b>Presenters</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chris Warr, Community, Communications &amp; Environment Lead, North West Transmission Developments, TasNetworks (CW)</li> <li>Amy Abraham, Community Engagement Ops Lead, North West Transmission Developments, TasNetworks (AA)</li> <li>Kiah Swinsburg, NWTD Youth Panel member (KS)</li> <li>Prateek Beri, Economic and Pricing Lead, Marinus Link (PB)</li> <li>Carrie Hughes, Economic Development Specialist, North West Transmission Developments, TasNetworks (CH)</li> </ul>
<b>Notetaker</b>	Lucy Temple-Smith, RPS

## Attendees

Name	Initials	Organisation	Role
Andrew Catchpole	AC	TCCI	Member
Tanya Denison	TD	Cradle Coast Authority	Member
Sarah Jones	SJ	UTAS	Member
Luke Sayer	LS	Department of State Growth	Member
Alexis Wadsley	AW	Skills Tasmania	Member

## Apologies

Name	Initials	Organisation	Role
Shane Batt	SB	Tasmanian Fire Service	Member
Matthew Dance	MD	TasTAFE	Member
Sheree Vertigan	SV	Cradle Coast Authority	Member
Tom Wootton	TW	West by North West Tourism	Member
Graham Marshall	GM	YFCC	Member
Veronica Terry	VT	RDA Tasmania	Member
Brittany Rubie	BR	TFGA	Member
Tom Wootton	TW	West by North West Tourism	Member

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1.	<b>Welcome</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• RG welcomed all attendees and delivered the Acknowledgement of Country.</li></ul>
2.	<b>SLG member round robin</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• LS reported the NWT D project has been mentioned in recent discussions, including around accommodation and increased services required during construction. Discussions included information sharing about the project and its positive legacy.</li><li>• AW provided an update on the Energising Tasmania Energy Careers Portal. Aim of portal is to facilitate training connections. Working with external organisations including TasNetworks and the Clean Energy Council to launch the service for people looking for energy careers, with a focus on avoiding duplication.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- First stage of project is complete, moving to next phase around demand side inputs. The second phase will consider planned and operational projects and the skills that are required to deliver them.</li><li>- Critical gaps were identified to enable a granular level understanding of the roles required. Lead time for skills development will follow.</li></ul></li><li>• AW also provided an update on the Skills Tasmania training roll out program, which is half way and has achieved 1255 allocated roles. Work will continue to understand what training and skills will facilitate these communities, how to engage with communities and to ensure opportunities are communicated.</li><li>• RG provided an update from Burnie Works. The north west working jobs hub is nearing recruitment stage, focusing on placing project officers across the region who will be supported by Burnie Works staff. Noted it will be important they are aware of Skills Tasmania's work and the NWT D Economic Development Plan to ensure they are able to connect local communities to the opportunities.</li><li>• AC provided an update from the TCCI including the continued discussion on Project Marinus funding options, work underway to follow up on pre-election briefings and ensuring TCCI engagement continues. AC noted that risks for Tasmanian power prices are front of mind in these discussions.</li></ul>
3.	<b>NWT D project update</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A brief update was provided on the Marinus Link shipping container washed up near the Blythe River following recent storms. Safety remains number one priority. Working closely with the responsible contractor who is developing a plan to recover the container and demobilize the barge. Thorough planning is being undertaken to minimise potential damage to the beach during recovery.</li><li>• An update on the Palmerston to Sheffield NWT D route section was provided. TasNetworks is continuing to work with impacted landowners. The current focus is on individual meetings with senior TasNetworks representatives to enable conversations about direct impacts and possible mitigations.</li><li>• TasNetworks also continues to engage with individuals from the local landowner group about the impacts to their properties. Landowners have demonstrated interest in understanding detail about compensation arrangements, including what it covers and existing limitations. This is being developed.</li><li>• Over 75 percent landholder access has been obtained, representing just under 90 per cent of the land access required for the NWT D project.</li><li>• Sheffield to Stowport route section landowner groups are also interested in compensation arrangements. TasNetworks continues to engage on topics of interest for these landowners.</li><li>• Minister for Energy &amp; Emissions Reduction to meet with Sheffield to Heybridge route section landowners on 22 June with a focus on engagement.</li><li>• Staverton to Hampshire Hills route section realignment survey work progressing. Land access conversations with impacted landowners continue.</li><li>• Staverton to Hampshire Hills EIS being formed to finalisation stage. Referrals to Commonwealth Government for EPBC Act will involve a planned public consultation period once referral is published by DAWE.</li><li>• Regarding the remaining route sections, land access for surveys is ongoing as well as technical studies for the EIS.</li><li>• Update provided that the Renewable Energy Coordination Framework has been released, includes four pillars key to success. Noted that the NWT D project will align to pillars and welcomes the Framework.</li><li>• Member question about any issues that have stood out during the EPBC process. AA informed that Staverton to Sheffield route unlikely to impact on Matters of National Environmental Significance. For remaining routes, AA noted that process considers where significant impacts could occur. Impacts are considered significant before actions to avoid or mitigate them are taken in to account. In many cases, TasNetworks is seeking to completely avoid the impacts considered under the EPBC Act. Where this is not possible, TasNetworks will take action to mitigate, rehabilitate or offset these impacts.</li></ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Recent NWTDT community engagement has included a Tourism Impact Assessment webinar, advertised to over 100 operators via existing networks and West by North West Tourism.</li><li>• Content included what the project is, what the impacts are and how renewables are part of the brand story for north west Tasmania. Key topics of interest included importance of building renewables in to North West narrative, undergrounding and ecotourism impacts.</li><li>• Next steps will include individual interviews with tourism operators to discuss mitigation options.</li><li>• Five NWTDT community awareness events have been conducted recently. These have involved representatives from TasNetworks' land and engineering teams. Between 20-40 community interactions at each event. All feedback recorded back to engagement report and informs communications planning.</li><li>• About 9 in 10 interactions positive or neutral, although half of all interactions are with community members who had no/low knowledge of the project prior to the interaction. Those with concerns have appreciated having 'decision makers' and knowledgeable subject matter experts present.</li><li>• TasNetworks continues to respond to SLG feedback regarding literacy and communications materials, with face-to-face community information events ongoing.</li><li>• TasNetworks updated SLG Members on the Energy Charter research around the coexistence of transmission assets with agricultural land. The national project will result in the development of innovative national guidelines.</li><li>• KPMG has been appointed as research partner due to their strong background in social research and connections in the agricultural sector.</li><li>• Research to start end of July 2022, case studies will be captured included examples of where people have been engaged well and agreeable coexistence has occurred. Desktop and stakeholder research will follow, guided by a group of ag stakeholders ensuring accountability of the research, followed by landowner surveys and data collection. Final guidelines out end of 2022.</li><li>• Following the engagement update, two SLG members noted it was pleasing to hear examples of TasNetworks being present in the community. This was noted as an important mechanism to build trust and curtail misinformation about the NWTDT project.</li><li>• A question was asked about whether interactions at community events demonstrated an interest in jobs. TasNetworks reported it did not during the last round of engagement, and this is often a focus of communities closer to Burnie area. It remains a key focus for TasNetworks and work on the procurement strategy continues.</li><li>• NWTDT eNews continues to gain subscribers, now over 750 with a high (about 50 percent) open rate, which is considered excellent for eNews. Methods to improve this communications method, including audience segmentation, continue to be a focus for the NWTDT team.</li></ul>
4.	<p><b>Youth panel – Draft framework</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• TasNetworks provided an update on the process of the NWTDT Youth Panel, including that 13 out of 14 participants who completed the process committed to continue working with TasNetworks. An ongoing focus for TasNetworks in working with the Youth Panel members will be around building capability and skills development.</li><li>• TasNetworks introduced Youth Panel member Kiah Swinsburg.</li><li>• KS presented the Youth Panel's Community Benefits Sharing Program (CBSP) draft recommendations including CBSP focus areas, who can apply, CBSP eligibility and funding recommendations (see presentation).</li><li>• TasNetworks congratulated the panel and noted the identification of start-ups, the focus on community values and embedding accessibility throughout the draft recommendations as unique. These ideas, alongside the wider scope than the energy sector, were noted as potentially different to what TasNetworks may have considered when designing a CBSP.</li><li>• TasNetworks provided information on the next steps of the CBSP program development. The outline of a community consultation plan was shared. The aim is to seek feedback from stakeholders and the broader community about the Youth Panel's recommendations for the CBSP.</li><li>• Opportunities for feedback and engagement activities will include a dedicated session during the August SLG meeting, stakeholder workshops, focus groups, community pop-up events and an online feedback process.</li><li>• The Youth Panel will be reconvened later in 2022 to review and incorporate the broader community feedback. Once finalised, the draft framework will be presented to the TasNetworks Leadership Team and Board to review and endorsement.</li><li>• TasNetworks requested the SLG's assistance to help to share and communicate the broader Youth Panel consultation process and welcomed their involvement through the August SLG meeting.</li></ul>

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- A dedicated engagement process will also explore and seek feedback on the most effective and appropriate governance models for implementing the CBSP. Engagement activities will include SLG meetings and targeted stakeholder engagement meetings.
- Following the presentation, questions from the SLG included:
  - Whether the CBSP funding will be made available to other renewable energy developments. TasNetworks shared that the funding will be capped and available for the NWTDT project only, investment amount still to be determined by the TasNetworks Board.
  - Duration of the CBSP. TasNetworks informed this will be run through the NWTDT construction period.
  - Whether the CBSP could be a broader model due to the renewable proponents interested in similar programs, to avoid multiplication of processes. TasNetworks confirmed there may be future opportunities to aggregate and this can be explored as part of next steps.
- SJ noted current works around a relevant project management training roll out with The Gap, to be shared with the SLG and may be of interest to Youth Panel members. Fully funded training program to build the capability in this area across the state.
- TD commended the program for putting Tasmanian views first. The alignment with the Clean Energy Council's community benefit guidelines' focus on physical infrastructure was also noted. TD suggested it would be beneficial to share the program with others who are investing in CBSP in Tasmania, noting that the Youth Panel's unique community centred approach as valuable.
- TasNetworks shared that there will be a case study developed about the process and that ReAlliance and some other industry bodies are interested in learning more about the process.
- A suggestion was made to make direct contact with renewable energy developers to partner with community benefits sharing initiatives to ensure localisation is embedded in the process.
- In closing, RG thanked KS and the Youth Panel and congratulated them for their work.

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## 5. Commonwealth funding update

- A question-and-answer session was held around the current Commonwealth Government funding arrangements for Project Marinus both for the design and approvals phase and for development and construction.
- The session covered a range of topics as various funding options were explored. This included:
  - Dynamic pricing approach;
  - The role of national market rule changes;
  - The cost benefit assessment for Project Marinus;
  - The \$20 billion Commonwealth Government 'Rewiring the Nation' fund; and
  - Complexity of communicating "who pays" discussion.

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## 6. Economic development action plan – Draft Implementation plan

- TasNetworks presented an overview of the draft NWTDT Economic Development Action Plan (see presentation).
  - It was noted that the sharing of this information is part of a process to test the draft action plan further with stakeholders to ensure the priority level is right. An implementation plan is currently being drafted.
  - Timing of the defined process was noted. The Economic Development Action Plan will be presented to the TasNetworks Board at the end of July with the draft implementation plan.
  - Feedback that Skills Tasmania will have a role in defining steps and activities within Section 1.2, Development Pathways was provided. TasNetworks noted support around skills and training is welcomed.
  - The long lead time of the project was noted as a challenge; however, it was also noted that civil construction projects demonstrate that the required skills pipeline can be identified ahead of time.
  - A clarifying question was asked around the definition of roles for each part of the draft implementation plan. There was concern about how to ensure the area of work is allocated to another organisation if it is not being pursued by TasNetworks.
  - Following a discussion, it was agreed that TasNetworks should include a lead partner organisation against the areas of the draft implementation plan. TasNetworks agreed to continue to test this idea further with other stakeholders.
  - TasNetworks acknowledged that the draft implementation plan needs to define the collaboration vehicle.
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- The question of how to ensure this is driven by the north west region, not TasNetworks, was raised. It was also suggested that links are identified about what is required from the other service providers or collaborations.
- TasNetworks noted that there are several moving parts to align within the timeframes however are committed to ensure no opportunities are lost. Part of this commitment will be the Economic Development Discussion Paper to ensure the broader region and various stakeholders can have input.
- Areas of the draft implementation plan with long lead times becoming a lower priority was noted as a concern by one member; that with longer lead times, when these areas can be actioned, it may be too late to make a difference.
- TasNetworks acknowledged that all areas of the plan are a high priority, however not all will be achievable within all timeframes.
- A member also noted a concern that there may be a lower priority given to this project within TasNetworks even though in the broader Tasmanian sense the priority is very high.
- Confirming the ownership of the Economic Development plan, between TasNetworks and/or other organisations, was also identified as important. If joint or external leads for some actions, they can be allocated a high priority.
- One member noted that a commercial entity overseeing the implementation plan may lead to competition. It was suggested a regional body could lead the actions from a neutral position.
- Another member added that there are logical organisations to coordinate the activities and then each stakeholder 'owns' their parts.
- TasNetworks acknowledged this is not fully defined yet and confirmed any feedback on who to lead the various activities with the draft implementation plan was welcomed.
- SLG Members were encouraged to provide feedback to the draft implementation plan in whatever format suits them. A request will be sent to SLG Members following the meeting to provide feedback by 17 June. This will include the document in Microsoft Word format.
- TasNetworks thanked SLG members for their ongoing input into the Economic Development Plan.

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7. **Meeting close**

- CW informed the SLG members that AA will be moving onto a new role with The Energy Charter.
  - AA was thanked by the NWTD project team and congratulations shared by RG on behalf of the SLG members and the meeting closed.
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