

North West Transmission Developments

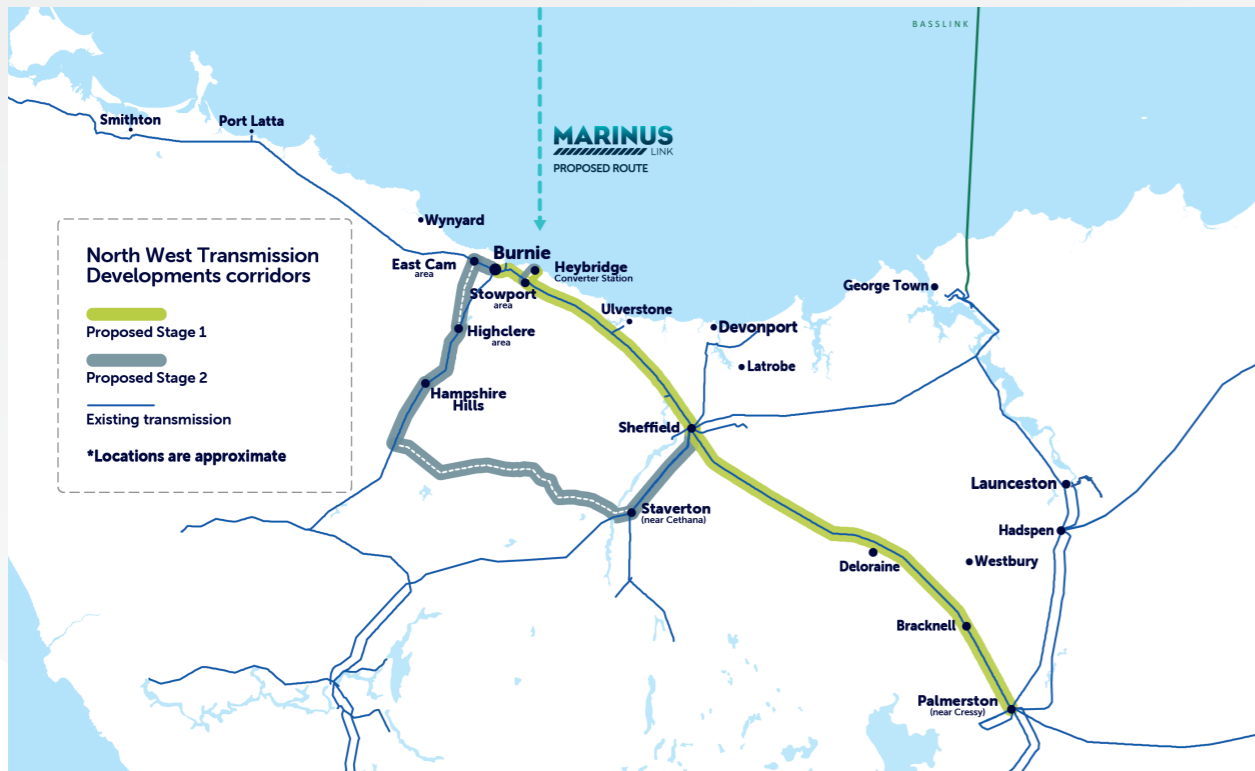
Engagement Update June to December 2024





Contents

About the project	5
Introduction	5
How we have engaged	6
Your feedback and our actions	8
Out and about talking to the community	9
What we heard	10
Community investment	11
Contacting the team	12



Project map

About the project

The North West Transmission Developments (NWTd) project, being progressed by TasNetworks, is a once in a generation upgrade to the electricity transmission network.

The developments will increase the capacity and reliability of Tasmania's electricity network, providing enough capacity for Marinus Link and other renewable energy developments to connect into the electricity grid.

NWTd will be delivered in two stages, focusing on the delivery of the proposed Stage 1 until a final decision is taken on the second Marinus Link cable (refer to figure 1). You can find out more about the project by watching this video.

The project is currently in the design and approvals phase. You can find out more about the approvals process by watching this video.

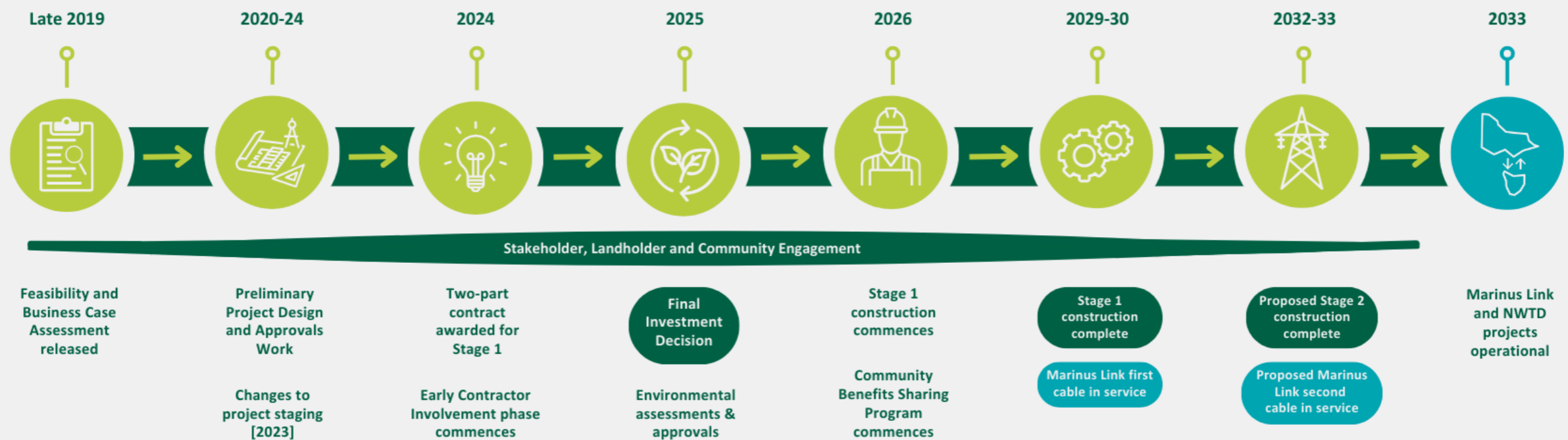
Introduction

This document provides an outline of the engagement activities that were carried out between July and December 2024. It builds on previous engagement reports which you can find here.

We are committed to engaging in a way that is meaningful, fair and achieves the best outcomes for landholders, the community and the environment. Feedback continues to help shape the direction of the NWTd and we remain committed to working alongside Tasmanians as the project progresses.

This report focuses on feedback gathered from stakeholders and the general community about the project and does not include detailed feedback from landholders. Engagement with landholders is ongoing and will continue throughout all phases of the project.

Project timeline





How we have engaged

We engaged with a range of stakeholders and community members between July to December 2024 to raise awareness and collect feedback about the project. Feedback collected during this phase of the project has helped us understand concerns, the topics that are important and what people want to know more about.

The figure below provides a snapshot of the activities that were carried out between July to December 2024.



Three Stakeholder Liaison Group meetings – August, October and December



The team spoke to approximately 750 attendees across seven community information events



Six e-newsletters (July to December) to over 850 subscribers

We promoted engagement activities using a range of communication channels, including:



- TasNetworks website
- Facebook
- E-newsletters
- Media
- Webinars
- Meetings



Head contractor appointed

We were excited to reach a key milestone with the appointment of head contractor, GenusPlus Group Ltd (Genus) in December 2024.

Our CEO Seán McGoldrick welcomed the national power and communications infrastructure provider to the NWTD project, gathering at TasNetworks' head office to mark the occasion.

Genus will be instrumental in designing and delivering Stage 1 of the development over a period of five years, with construction projected to begin in 2026.



Buoyed by pool reopening

The rural community of Mole Creek plunged into summer with the official reopening of the local swimming pool after two years of closure.

Due to a critical shortage of trained lifeguards, the pool had been unable to operate, depriving this community of a valued recreational resource.

Royal Life Saving Tasmania was successful in obtaining funding through our community grants program to provide vital training for 14 lifeguards who will volunteer their time at the pool.

Our support means Mole Creek's key recreational facility is accessible for everyone to enjoy.

It will provide practical and long-lasting benefits, including for the local school children and trained lifeguards who have already gained new skills.

"The initiative will benefit not only local residents but also interstate and international visitors, ensuring a safe and enjoyable experience for all pool users in the area."

Karina Siggins, Manager of Royal Life Saving Tasmania

Your feedback and our actions

Community information sessions

We had a busy second half to 2025, setting up seven community information sessions at events.

The purpose of these sessions was to provide information about the NWT, project benefits and capture feedback on what is important to community members and what they are concerned about. Given the north west region felt the full force of the severe weather event in late August and September 2024, we also gathered valuable feedback on our storm response to support a post incident review.



Date	Event	Number of attendees
11 August	Penguin Market	50
30 August	Civil Contractors Federation conference, Hobart	50
4-5 October	Tulip Festival, Wynyard	200
1-3 November	Tasmanian Craft Fair, Deloraine	250
9 November	Taste of the North West, Sheffield	50
7 December	Mole Creek Swimming Pool re-opening	25

Stakeholder Liaison Group

The NWT Stakeholder Liaison Group (SLG) is an independently chaired group made up of 16 members with representation across key industry groups, peak bodies, education, skills and training sectors and state government organisations. The meetings provide an opportunity for TasNetworks to understand stakeholder perspectives and receive input and feedback on a range of matters related to the NWT.

Three SLG meetings were held between July and December 2024 at the Cradle Coast Authority in Burnie. The group discussed a range of topics including:

- Economic Development Action Plan
- Workforce development, skills and training

- Key project milestones
- Land access and acquisition update
- Communication and engagement activities
- Community investment
- Contingent project application process
- Marinus Link update
- Infrastructure Sustainability rating

The SLG were asked to provide feedback on the common concerns and opportunities raised by the communities they represent, as well as engagement and communications activities.

More information about the SLG, including agendas, presentations and meeting minutes can be found here.

Out and about talking to the community

It was great to engage with community members about the NWT project and the broader work we do at TasNetworks across numerous community events.

The wet weather at times didn't deter hundreds from flocking to the Burnie Show in early October for a dagwood dog and a stroll down sideshow alley. We were also able to keep the kids entertained via our 'Watts on Wheels' activity, where riders pedalled into the world of renewable energy fuelling our state.

Just over a week later, we attended the Tulip Festival in Wynyard for the first time. We spoke with many locals interested to find out more on NWT and pass on their thanks for the storm recovery response. It was nice to again have Marinus Link directly next door given how interlinked the two projects are.

In November, we occupied a stall at the ever-popular Tasmanian Craft Fair in Deloraine, where we had 250 conversations across the three-day event including directly impacted landholders, residents, businesses, and visitors to the area.

What we heard



Community information sessions

At the three most attended community events – Burnie Show, Tulip Festival and Tasmanian Craft Fair – we surveyed patrons on their project understanding and sentiment, as well as areas of interest.

From 50 completed surveys, the level of understanding of the NWT D project was 4.6/10 and overall sentiment towards the project was 6.7/10.

The areas of most interest included general project information, project timeframes, job opportunities, construction impacts, landholder compensation and environmental impacts.

The most common questions raised by attendees at the events related to the following topics:

- Scope and location of the project
- Timing of construction
- Visual impacts
- Impact on power prices

There are a range of resources that share information about topics of interest to stakeholders, landholders, and the community:
www.tasnetworks.com.au/resources

**Can't find what you are looking for?
Please contact us at
nwtd@tasnetworks.com.au**

Stakeholder Liaison Group

SLG members were provided the opportunity to provide feedback via an anonymous survey as a way for us to check in on the effectiveness of the group and take on board feedback for continuous improvement.

Results showed members agreed or strongly agree that the meetings provide meaningful opportunities to share ideas and provide constructive feedback, and the potential project benefits outweigh the potential disadvantages. Most were satisfied with the role the SLG is playing on the project, but some disagreed.

Members identified the following aspects of the project they would like to know more about as it enters delivery phase:

- Workforce needs
- Skills and training
- Project costs

Aspects of the project they believe will be positive for the community:

- Employment opportunities
- Reliability of the network
- Community benefits sharing program

Aspects of the project that are of concern:

- Community knowledge of project
- Delayed timeframes
- Risk of benefits not realised

Community investment



RAWing into life

As part of NWT D's ongoing partnership arrangements, Rural Alive and Well (RAW) committed to offering four self-care workshops to the local community.

- Wreath Making, Cressy, 21 Aug
- Line Dancing, Wilmot, 11 Oct
- Paint and Sip, Roland, 22 Oct
- Hoedown, Hagley, 22 Feb

"We had 50 people in attendance (to the Line Dancing) and lots of fun was had by all. RAW delivered a chat about the importance of community connections and having fun and thanked TasNetworks for funding these amazing self-care events. There were a lot of laughs, and much fun had throughout the evening."

Sallyann Harper, Communications and Events Officer, RAW Tas

Enhancing emergency marine communication

The coastal waters of North West Tasmania were made safer just in time for summer thanks to the purchase of new radios for the vessel of Marine Rescue Ulverstone.

Marine Rescue Ulverstone, a volunteer run organisation and significant resource for the community, were successful in obtaining funding through our community grants program, to purchase and install a set of new VHF radios in their purpose-built rescue vessel.

Stitching up new skills

The City of Burnie Lions Club's sewing sessions give local community members the skills they need to mend or adapt their own clothes.

The free sewing sessions focus on teaching participants different sewing techniques. Sewing machines and sewing supplies are provided along with capable volunteer home sewers to support learners. The community grant from us has been used to cover the cost of the equipment and supplies.



Contacting the team

We are committed to making improvements to our engagement approach. Let us know how we can better understand what is important to you and what we need to consider to achieve the best outcomes for the environment, landholders, and community.

Contact us



[tasnetworks.com.au/nwtd](https://www.tasnetworks.com.au/nwtd)



NWTD@tasnetworks.com.au



1300 127 777



facebook.com/tasnetworks