

North West Transmission Developments Stakeholder Liaison Group

11 October 2021

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SLG purpose

Chris Warr, Community, Communications & Environment Lead, North West
Transmission Developments, TasNetworks

The North West Transmission Developments Stakeholder Liaison Group (SLG) provides a forum for regular face-to-face communication and engagement between TasNetworks and key stakeholders.

It aims to:

- Seek input into initiatives to maximise opportunities and the benefits of the project for stakeholders and communities.
- Provide a forum for the NWTG team to give updates and information on the Design and Approvals phase of the project.
- Provide a forum for stakeholders to raise concerns and discussion points on behalf of the organisations or communities they represent.

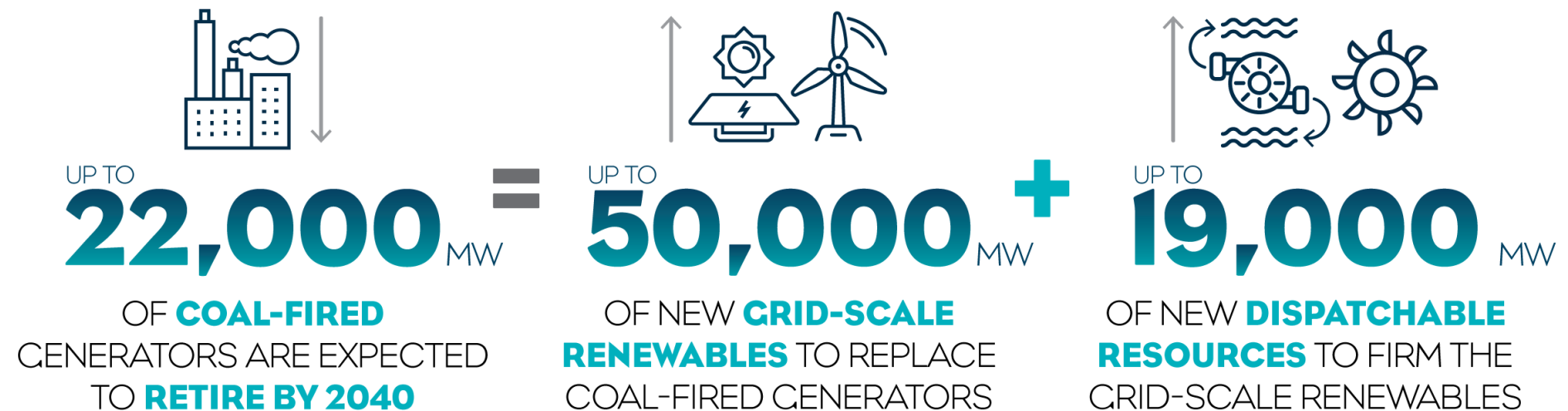
Governance and meeting schedule

Rodney Greene, Chairperson

Project introduction and overview

Damian Vermey, North West Transmission Project Director, TasNetworks

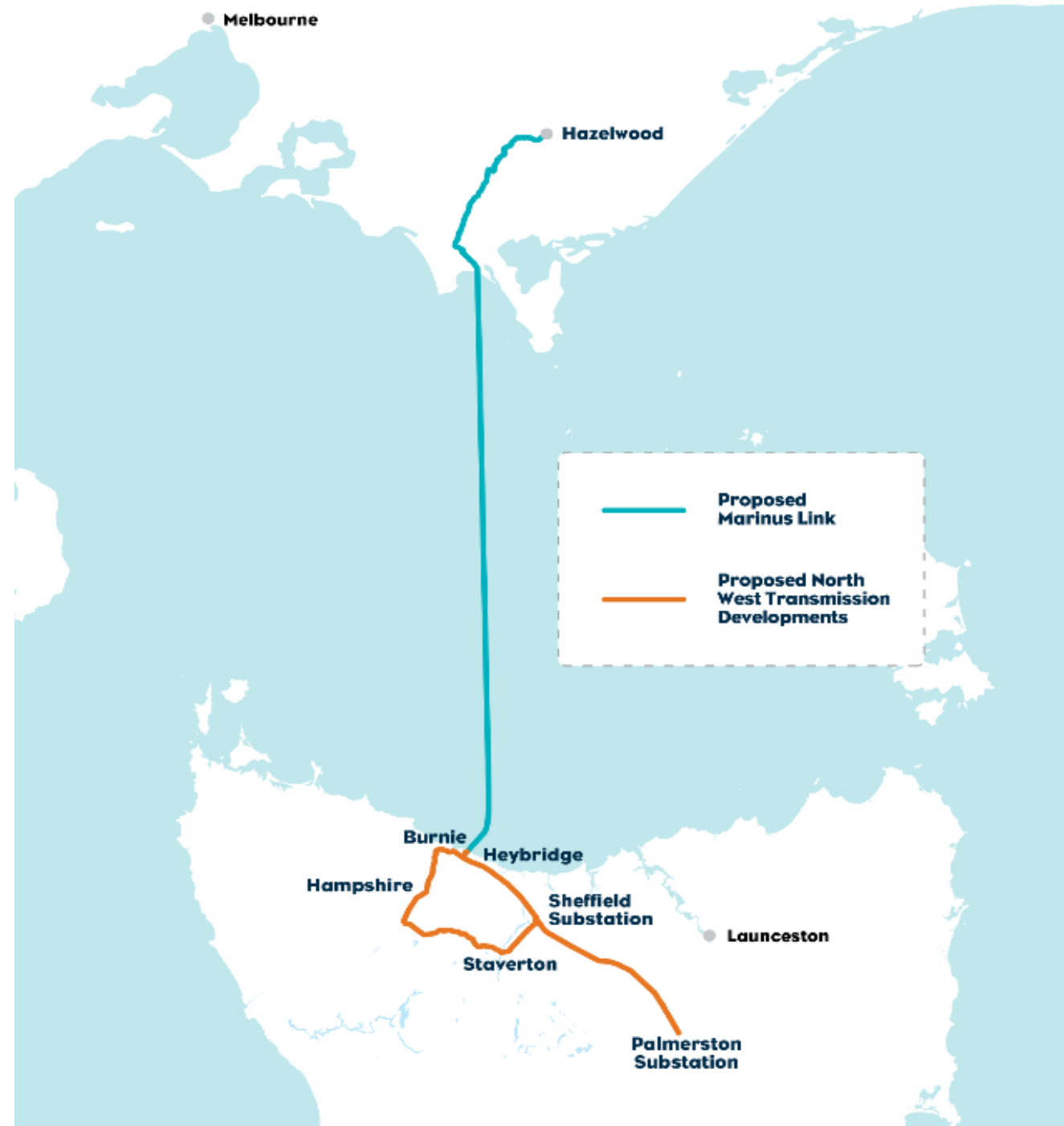
An energy sector in transition

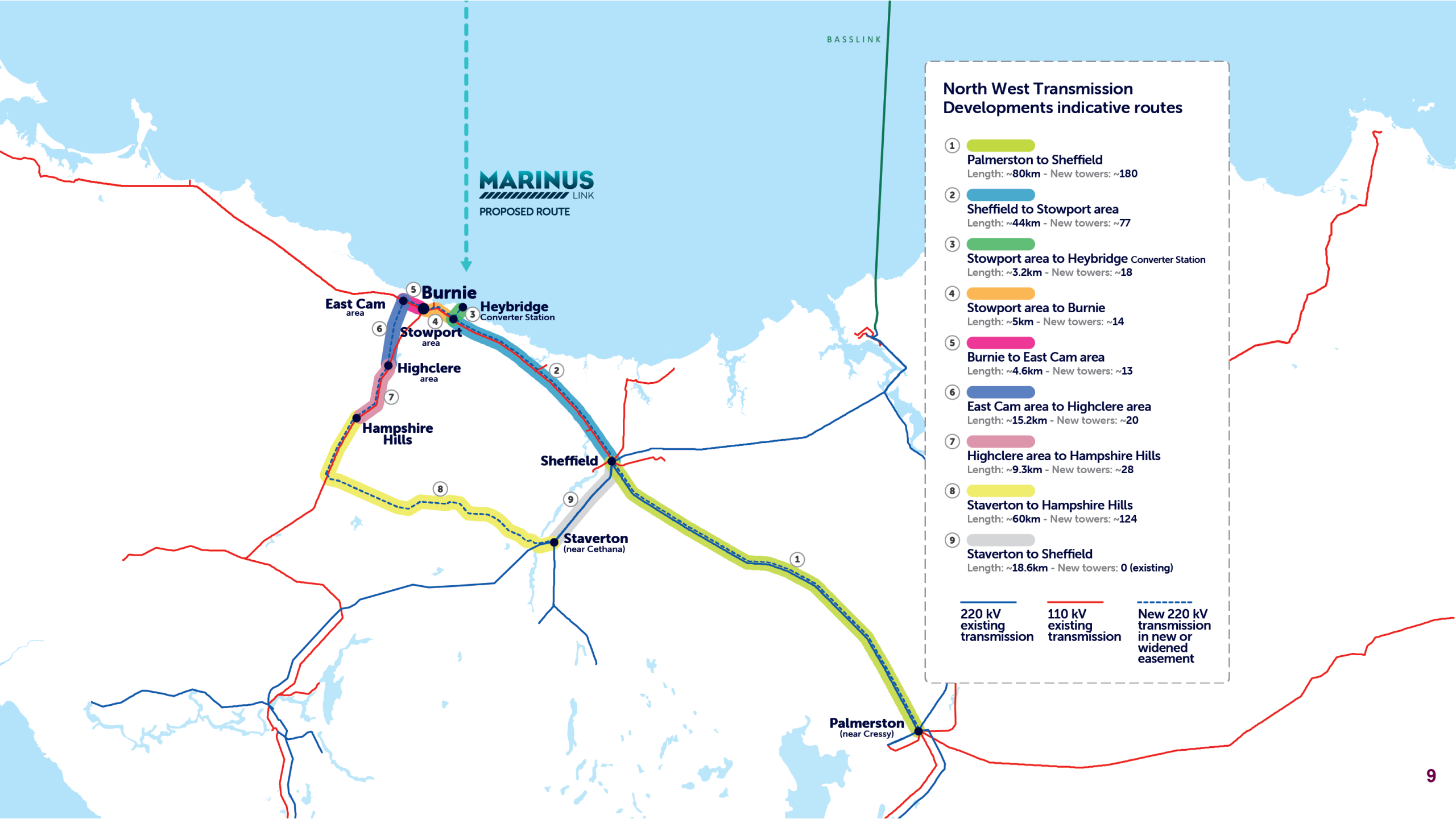


Figures based on AEMO 2020 ISP **step change** scenario

What is Project Marinus?

- Project Marinus includes **two scopes**:
 - Marinus Link**; and
 - North West Transmission Developments (NWTD)**.
 - Collectively, Marinus Link and the North West Transmission Developments is called **Project Marinus**.
- Project Marinus:
- Is an **Actionable project** in the Australian Energy Market Operator's (AEMO) 2020 Integrated System Plan (ISP).
 - Has '**High Priority**' status in **Infrastructure Australia** listing of nationally significant initiatives.





North West Transmission Developments indicative routes

- ① Palmerston to Sheffield
Length: ~80km - New towers: ~180
- ② Sheffield to Stowport area
Length: ~44km - New towers: ~77
- ③ Stowport area to Heybridge Converter Station
Length: ~3.2km - New towers: ~18
- ④ Stowport area to Burnie
Length: ~5km - New towers: ~14
- ⑤ Burnie to East Cam area
Length: ~4.6km - New towers: ~13
- ⑥ East Cam area to Highclere area
Length: ~15.2km - New towers: ~20
- ⑦ Highclere area to Hampshire Hills
Length: ~9.3km - New towers: ~28
- ⑧ Staverton to Hampshire Hills
Length: ~60km - New towers: ~124
- ⑨ Staverton to Sheffield
Length: ~18.6km - New towers: 0 (existing)

220 kV existing transmission	110 kV existing transmission	New 220 kV transmission in new or widened easement

Where practicable TasNetworks has proposed route options that;

- Follow existing corridors and easements where possible.
- Reduce impacts to land use and native vegetation.
- Minimise impacts to landowners, communities and the environment.

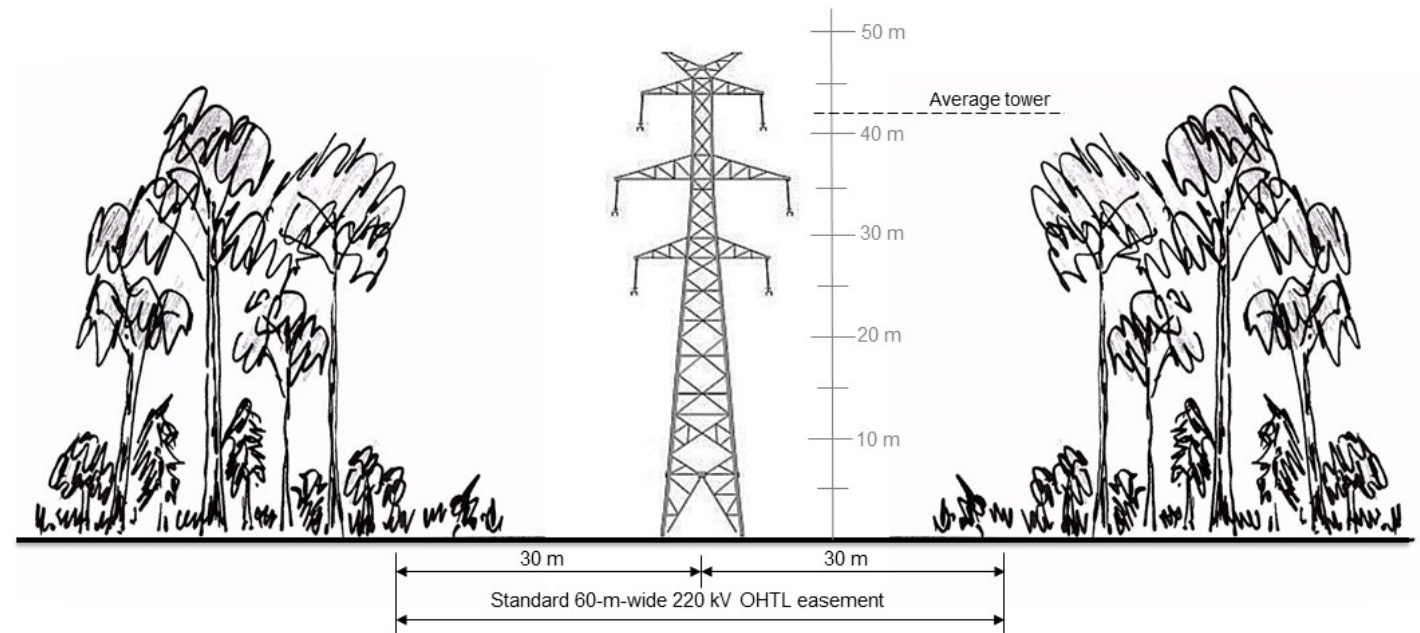
Taking into account considerations including;

- Technical design
- Cost
- Terrain
- Customer connection requirements

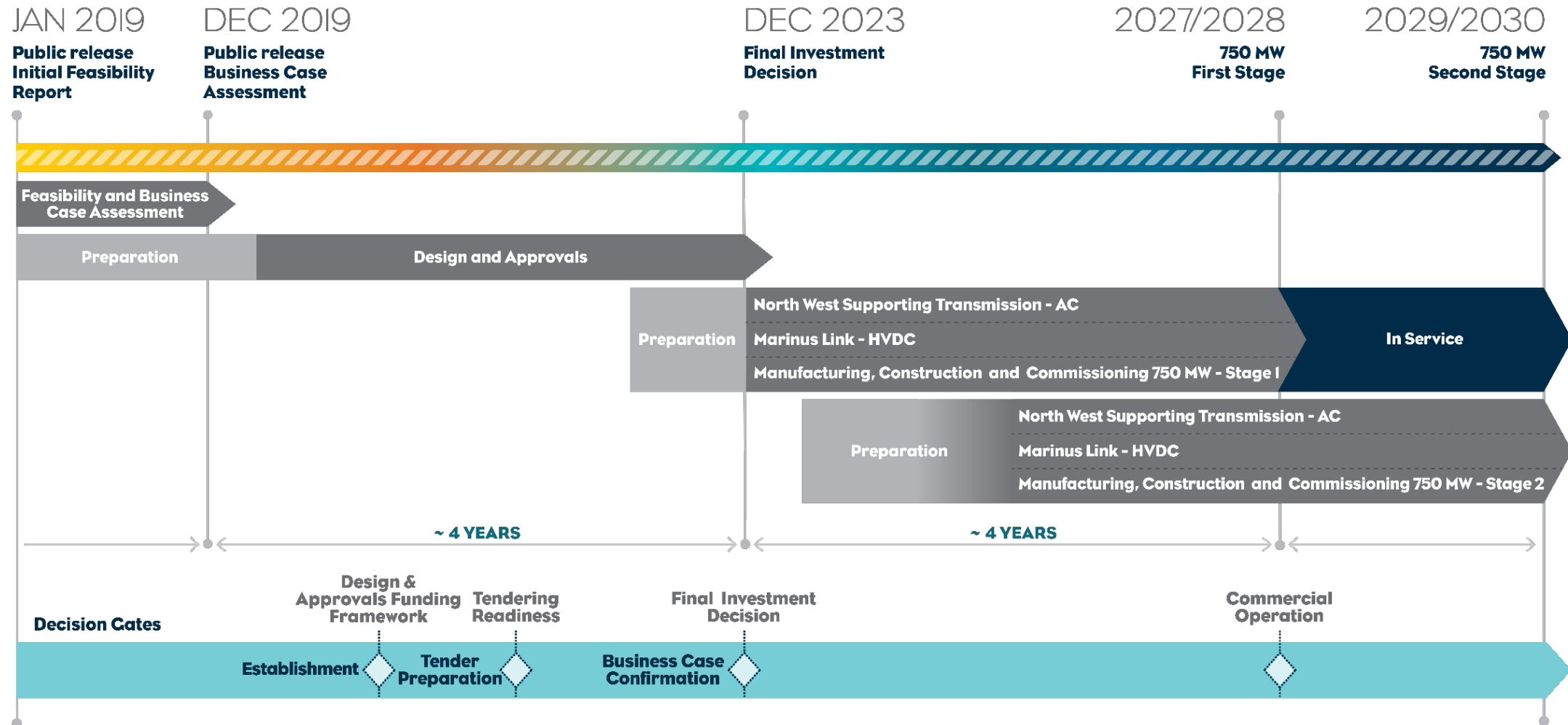


What will be built?

- 220km of double-circuit 220 kV overhead transmission line.
- Towers with average height of 44m.
- Easements of around 60m.
- Two switching stations.
- Access tracks.



Timeline



The North West Transmission Developments will go through an environmental assessment and approvals process; and an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be prepared as part of this process.

- EIS used by Tasmanian and Australian Governments to assess the environmental, social and economic aspects of the project.
- EIS preparation underway; field surveys and technical studies being carried out to understand existing conditions along the route.
- Information from these studies used to assess potential impacts the project may have on the environment and develop the EIS.

Environment and planning approvals required:

- Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act).
- Major Infrastructure Development Approvals Act 1999 (Tas) (MIDAA).
- Aboriginal Heritage Act 1975 (Tas).
- Cultural Heritage Act 1995 (Tas).

Broad economic contribution to Tasmania

- Regional procurement and local content strategies i.e. ICN project portal
- Employment and workforce planning opportunities i.e. Tas Energy Industry Workforce Development Plan
- Increasing regional skills and capability across renewable energy transition
- Significant flow on benefits to trades and services sector
- Private sector value-added investment
- Community benefit sharing approach
- Opportunities for collaboration



Engagement update

Chris Warr, Community, Communications & Environment Lead, North West
Transmission Developments, TasNetworks

TasNetworks is committed to working closely with community, businesses and landowners as planning for the proposed North West Transmission Developments continues.

- We are committed to engaging with landowners throughout the project to understand and address their needs and concerns wherever possible.
- Our discussions are ongoing, with several opportunities – formal and informal – for the community to comment during the environmental, land use, planning and cultural heritage approvals processes.

Engagement objectives:

- Build relationships with community and stakeholders, understand issues and opportunities for the project.
- Provide opportunities for community and stakeholders to provide feedback.
- Close the loop on engagement, show how feedback has influenced outcomes.
- Demonstrate a robust and genuine engagement process.
- Avoid project delays and imposed additional engagement requirements by pro-actively identifying and responding to concerns.

Engagement to date

Engagement with the community for the NWTD began in 2019 and will continue throughout the life of the project. Engagement activities have included:

Staverton to Hampshire Hills

- Landowner meetings
- Community pop-up sessions in Ulverstone, Gunns Plains, Sheffield and Burnie
- Online survey
- Focus groups
- Face-to-face community workshops (Wilmot and Preston)
- Community webinar

Remaining NWTD

- Landowner meetings
- Community pop-up sessions in Heybridge, Ridgely, Stowport, Burnie, Shorewell Park, Upper Burnie, Sheffield, Cressy, Deloraine
- Community webinar
- TFGA members meeting, Kindred

Engagement with relevant local councils, State and Commonwealth government agencies and other industry, business and broader stakeholders.



Community Workshop, Preston, March 2021



Community Pop-up, Sheffield, July 2021

- Key findings of the social research include:
 - unemployment is a significant community challenge (followed by housing availability and affordability). Consequently, jobs are the most commonly identified benefit of the project but only if taken up by local people – need to take action to support the community to become ‘job ready’
 - the significant importance and value the community places on the environment - protecting the environment was rated the most important mitigation, followed by providing jobs, so while delivering local jobs is important, they cannot be delivered at the cost of the environment
 - unprompted awareness of the project was extremely low – this indicates it is not currently an issue of concern for most people – providing targeted project messaging will be an important way to stop opponents leveraging this information vacuum to negatively influence community sentiment
- Key findings demonstrate the importance of actively seeking out the views of a representative sample of the community including those not usually heard

North West Transmission Developments: Upcoming engagement

- Two community pop-ups in Westbury and Burnie
- Focus groups (4 x 2-hour sessions online)

Staverton to Hampshire Hills: Upcoming engagement

- Two community pop-ups in Ulverstone and Sheffield
- Community Webinar
- Online community panel meetings
- Online survey
- Stakeholder meetings

Feedback and contact details

For more information, please direct people to:

- Web** talkwith.tasnetworks.com.au
- Email** projectmarinus@tasnetworks.com.au
- Call** 1300 127 777
- Write** Tasmanian Networks Pty Ltd
 PO Box 606
 Moonah Tasmania 7009

Governance and meeting schedule

Rodney Greene, Chairperson

Topics:

- NWTD project update
- Engagement activities update
- Community benefits sharing program update and process
- Economic development plans

What else would you like to see included in future meetings?

Thank you