



MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday 15 August, 2024

Protecting reliability for Tasmanians

TasNetworks is prioritising safety and outage response to help minimise the impact of impending industrial action.

The business has suspended all work involving planned power interruptions for at least six days (Tuesday 20 August to Sunday 25 August), to be reviewed thereafter. It'll prioritise responding to any unplanned outages, to help keep restoration times in-check.

The move will also prevent situations where routine planned work is started but left unfinished because of sudden tactical strike action.

TasNetworks CEO, Seán Mc Goldrick, said the business is offering an Enterprise Agreement that supports and rewards its people better than ever before, while keeping power prices under control.

"We're concentrating our resources into our number one priority – keeping outage times as short as possible, and keeping the network safe and reliable," Dr Mc Goldrick said.

"We're cancelling all planned power interruptions and associated work for this six-day period, including any works that require network switching. Meter reading, individual customer connections and other retailer-initiated service orders will still proceed as planned.

"We realise some planned work delays may be frustrating and inconvenient for some customers, and we're in contact with those customers. But we believe a vast majority of customers want us to prioritise keeping the lights on and keeping any outages as short as possible.

"Tasmanians simply can't afford the unrealistic increases currently being sought (up to 35 per cent). But we hope to reach a positive agreement soon.

"TasNetworks respects its peoples' right to take lawful protected industrial action, which brings some disruption. But Tasmanians can rest assured that laws to protect essential services will help minimise disruption, along with the preparations we're making. As ever, safety's our top priority.

"The CEPU has agreed that all industrial action will be halted in the event that I need to declare an emergency – for example, because of storm damage to the network. I want to acknowledge and sincerely thank the CEPU for this responsible guarantee, which helps protect the wellbeing of Tasmanians," he said.

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