

NWTD SLG MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Name: NWTD Stakeholder Liaison Group Meeting

Meeting date: 21 October 2025

Meeting location: Cradle Coast Authority, Board Room

Chairperson Rodney Greene, Collaboration for Impact

Invitees

Name	Initials	Organisation	Role
Jordan Abell	JA	TasNetworks	Member
Jess Berechree	JB	Future Energy Hub	Member
Mike Brindley	MB	ReCFIT	Member
Matt Clarke	MC	TasNetworks	Guest
Ken Drake	KD	Marinus Link	Guest
Craig Gosney	CG	Genus	Guest
Jonathan Hammond	JH	Genus	Guest
Andrew Harris	AH	Skills Tasmania	Member
Simon Hooper	SH	TasNetworks	Guest
Richard Ingram	RI	TasTAFE	Member
Ian Jones	IJ	Business NW	Member
Sarah Jones	SJ	UTAS	Member
Danielle Kidd	DK	West North West Working	Member
Philip Reid	PR	Cradle Coast Authority	Member
Luke Sayer	LS	Department of State Growth	Member
Richard Sheather	RS	TasNetworks	Guest
Sandra Thaow	ST	TasNetworks	Guest
Zoy Yerondais	ZY	Housing Choices	Member

Apologies

Name	Initials	Organisation	Role
Matthew Dance	MD	TasTAFE	Member
Graham Marshall	GM	YFCC	Member
Vanessa Skipworth	VS	TMEC	Member
Veronica Terry	VT	Cradle Coast Authority	Member

MINUTES

Item

Round robin

- Member discussion about what they had been hearing and seeing amongst stakeholders and community members related to renewable energy. This included:
 - concerns around workforce accommodation management plans and the impacts to the region, notably the local housing market, as more projects come online.
 - [upcoming community drop-in sessions](#) for residents to find out more about the HIF e-Fuel plant earmarked for South Burnie.
 - the [Clean Energy Centre of Excellence](#) at TasTAFE's Burnie campus has appointed two positions, with provisional training courses to be available in 2026.
 - in collaboration with TasTAFE, UTAS will launch the 'power professional pathway' in the second half of next year, which includes professional experience placements and industry connections.
 - TasNetworks is recruiting for its [Community Benefits Sharing Program](#) independent assessment panel, who will be responsible for reviewing and selecting successful initiatives for funding.

Meet and greet NWT Project Director

- [NWT Project Director Richard \(Richie\) Sheather](#) was introduced to the group, having recently been appointed to the position.
- Richie brings extensive experience in leading large-scale energy and infrastructure projects across Australia, New Zealand, and India, including the development of Tasmania's natural gas networks and multi-billion-dollar transitions in telecommunications and pipeline assets.
- Richie took members through the project timeline, noting construction is scheduled for the first half of 2026.

NWTD head contractor

- [GenusPlus Group Ltd \(Genus\)](#) updated the group on the design for Stage 1 of the NTWD project, with 70 per cent progression for the transmission lines as well the Burnie and Palmerston (near Cressy) substations.
 - Genus employment opportunities prioritise local regional recruitment and will be phased in line with project milestones. A workforce resourcing prediction was also shared.
 - Advertising for apprenticeships – transmission linesman and electrical – will kick off in early 2026, with successful applicants to begin in mid-2026.
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NWTD update

- Members were provided with an update on key project milestones and timeframes, with the submission of the second Contingent Project Application scheduled for late October.
 - [Recent and upcoming NWTD community engagement sessions](#) were shared with the group, including key takeaways from attendance at this year's Burnie Show and Wynyard Tulip Festival.
 - An update on land access and acquisition across Stage 1 was also shared.
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Community investment

- An NWTD community investment update was provided, including the insights from last week's [Community Benefits Sharing Program](#) workshops in Burnie and Deloraine where feedback was gathered about the program and the level of information and support needed for community groups to apply for funding was identified.
 - TasNetworks' extending its partnership arrangements with [Rural Alive & Well \(RAW\)](#) was also highlighted.
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Contingent Project Application 2 update

- A summary of [TasNetworks' Contingent Project Application \(CPA\) 2 to the Australian Energy Regulator \(AER\)](#) relating to construction delivery costs was discussed with the group, this included:
 - Total capex
 - Cost estimate by category
 - Concessional financing
 - Pricing assumptions
 - Revenue and price impacts
 - Approach to the Capital Expenditure Sharing Scheme (CESS)
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Infrastructure Sustainability Rating

- The [Infrastructure Sustainability \(IS\) Rating Scheme](#) is an assessment tool used to evaluate the sustainability performance of horizontal infrastructure.
- It was noted that the NWTD will be one of the first projects in Tasmania to undertake an IS Rating, with TasNetworks aiming to achieve a version 2.1 Bronze Rating.
- Members were given details on the NWTD objectives and targets across the different themes, with members to provide feedback.

Marinus Link update

- [Marinus Link](#) shared recent community engagement activities, including commencing engagement on Community Benefits Sharing Framework with a number of key stakeholders in the region as well as attending the BIG Science Fair in Burnie.
 - Marinus Link also provided a status update, [with a record concessional loan of close to \\$4B from the Clean Energy Finance Corporation](#) being secured to reach financial close.
 - A meet the contractors event is scheduled for early December 2026.
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Any other business

- The Chair raised the matter of SLG moving forward in relation to how the function can best support the project through construction phase. This will be discussed in December.
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Meeting close

Next meeting: Tuesday 9 December 2025
