

NWTD SLG MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Name:	NWTD Stakeholder Liaison Group Meeting
Meeting date:	24 March 2026
Meeting location:	Cradle Coast Authority, Board Room
Chairperson	Rodney Greene, Collaboration for Impact

Invitees

Name	Initials	Organisation	Role
Jordan Abell	JA	TasNetworks	Member
Sonya Booth	SB	TasNetworks	Guest
Mike Brindley	MB	ReCFIT	Member
Sam Denmead	SD	West by North West	Member
Ken Drake	KD	Marinus Link	Guest
Craig Gosney	CG	Genus	Guest
Rashnith Grewal	RG	Genus	Guest
Jonathan Hammond	JH	Genus	Guest
Simon Hooper	SH	TasNetworks	Guest
Richard Ingram	RI	TasTAFE	Member
Ian Jones	IJ	Business NW	Member
Sarah Jones	SJ	UTAS	Member
Mark Lindsay	ML	Marinus	Guest
Graham Marshall	GM	YFCC	Member
Narelle Punshon	NP	Skills Tasmania	Member
Kristin Raw	KR	TasNetworks	Member
Luke Sayer	LS	Department of State Growth	Member
Veronica Terry	VT	Cradle Coast Authority	Member

Apologies

Name	Initials	Organisation	Role
Mikaela Carroll	MC	Regional Development Australia – Tasmania	Member
Matthew Dance	MD	TasTAFE	Member
Andrew Harris	AH	Skills Tasmania	Member
Laura Johnson	LJ	Youth Panel	Member
Danielle Kidd	DK	West North West Working	Member
Phillip Reid	PR	Cradle Coast Authority	Member
Vanessa Skipworth	VS	TMEC	Member
Zoy Yerondais	ZY	Housing Choices	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:
 - [Genus](#), head contractor of the North West Transmission Developments (NWTD) project, advertising for a new stakeholder liaison position. It was noted that this position was advertised as being in Hobart, with some members expressing that they would prefer for this position to be based in the North West.
 - the [Clean Energy Centre of Excellence](#) at TasTAFE's Burnie campus is progressing, with the committee unanimously endorsing recommendations of the work completed to date in the past fortnight. TasTAFE is waiting for formal handover from State Government before construction can begin.
 - it was noted mining is building momentum again on the West Coast.
 - a [regional Housing Action Roundtable](#), led by Cradle Coast Authority (CCA), will be held in April to discuss workforce accommodation needs with more than \$15B in renewable energy projects in the pipeline.
 - CCA's opportunity report will be released shortly and will include a comparison of the spending patterns of renewable energy FIFO workers and tourists.
 - UTas met with [Holmesglen TAFE Institute \(Victoria\)](#) to have a proactive conversation and gather intel around workforce development and skills.
 - general enthusiasm that the benefits of renewable energy projects in the region are close to being realised after years of planning phases.

Marinus Link update

- [Marinus Link](#) shared community engagement activities, including the recent Heybridge family event at Cuprona Football Club and [promotion of its community focus groups](#).

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- A recap of the *'Tassie Power Protest against Marinus'* was provided, along with a status update on the project itself, including notification that preparatory works were happening in Heybridge and Gippsland with a scheduled start date of July.
 - Upcoming activities include the workforce and accommodation strategy, community benefit sharing framework and community engagement planning with [TasVic Greenlink](#), [who were awarded the Stage 1 major works contract](#).
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NWTD head contractor

- [GenusPlus Group Ltd \(Genus\)](#) updated the group on its newly renovated offices in East Devonport of which it has taken possession. A small contingent of Genus staff is currently operating from the facility with their presence already providing a boost to local businesses, goods and services.
 - Genus confirmed attendance to the [Hobart and Southern Tasmanian Employment and Careers Expo](#). Genus utilised the event to officially launch its recruitment campaign and promote employment opportunities with Genus and key subcontractors.
 - A summary of local procurement and employment to date was shared, with several local businesses supplying goods and services as part of the NWTD project, along with the number of apprenticeships required.
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NWTD update

- Members were provided with an update on key project milestones and timeframes, with the [permit application granted by the Tasmanian Planning Commission in early March](#).
 - Recent NWTD community engagement sessions were shared with the group, including Rural Alive & Well (RAW) at their 'All together in the vineyard' and Tasmanian Women in Agriculture 'Ladies Day' alongside Genus.
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Community investment

- An update on [TasNetworks' Community Benefits Sharing Program](#) was provided, including the scheduled launch events occurring in each of the five impacted municipalities.
 - Expressions of interests (EOIs) to join the newly named Bright Futures Fund (BFF) independent community assessment panel have now closed, with interviews to be held shortly.
 - While EOIs are officially closed, TasNetworks is still seeking some younger panel members and welcomes suggestions from SLG members
 - TasNetworks' presence at [Agfest](#) (7-9 May) will include a BFF display.
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NWTD landholder update

- Across Stage 1 of NWTD, work to secure voluntary agreements is continuing, with TasNetworks having secured agreements for 97 per cent where a new easement is required.
 - TasNetworks is progressing the development of Property Management Plans (PMPs) with landholders which will be finalised prior to construction.
 - Images of towers located in Romaine up behind Burnie were displayed. These towers in community members' backyards will be removed as part of the upgrades.
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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.

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- Members were asked to provide input to meet obligations for climate risk and resilience planning. The feedback gathered in-session will help satisfy the requirements of the 2.1 Bronze Rating that TasNetworks is aiming to achieve. The group also reviewed and identified major interdependent assets and vulnerable communities.
 - It was noted that the NWT D will be one of the first projects in Tasmania to undertake an IS Rating.
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Future of SLG

- The future of [SLG](#) was discussed, including purpose, expectations of TasNetworks, the Independent Chair's role, optimal meeting cadence and current membership.
 - TasNetworks will amend the [group's Terms of Reference](#) based off the feedback to ensure the function can best support the NWT D project through construction phase.
 - Feedback remains open, either through the independent chair or direct to TasNetworks. Once the TORs are updated they will be circulated for comment before endorsement is sought from the group.
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Any other business

- N/A
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Meeting close

Next meeting: 23 June 2026
