

# NWTD Stakeholder Liaison Group

24 March 2026

# Today's agenda

- Round robin
- Marinus Link update
- NWTD head contractor
- Project update
- Community investment
- Landholder update
- Infrastructure Sustainability Rating
- Future of SLG

Member round robin

Marinus Link update

# Community Engagement – Jan to Mar 2026

- ✓ Burnie New Years Eve Celebration
- ✓ Hellyer College
- ✓ Summerfest
- ✓ Burnie Community House – Energy Info Hub
- ✓ Burnie Works Change Agenda Symposium
- ✓ DCCI Women in Business Summit
- ✓ Heybridge family event @ Cuprona Football Club
- ✓ Food and Feedback with Burnie City Council

# Community Engagement – Jan to Mar 2026

- Industry and Workforce Development Working Group established
- Community Focus Group advertised
  - Letterbox drop Heybridge
  - Doorknocking in Heybridge
  - The Advocate
  - 7BU / SeaFM

**Sorry we missed you** **MARINUS LINK**

date:  time:

**We called in today** to answer any questions about our preparatory works at the Marinus Link Heybridge site - on the corner of Minna road and Bass Highway.

Marinus Link is a new undersea and underground electricity and telecommunications interconnector between North West Tasmania and the Latrobe Valley in Victoria.

Get in touch with us

JOIN OUR COMMUNITY FOCUS GROUP

**Heybridge community information session** **MARINUS LINK**

Drop in to chat with the team delivering Marinus Link.

- Learn what's happening at the Heybridge site
- Sign up for project updates
- Tell us how you'd like us to keep in touch

**Event details:**

- Cuprona Bulldogs Football Club
- Thursday 19 March - 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM
- Free BBQ and kids' activities until 5:30 PM

Drop in anytime - we'd love to see you there.

marinuslink.com.au

# Anti Renewables Protest – Burnie 1 March

- Speakers from BBF, Greens, NWTDLandholder, Craig Garland
- Protestors from all over Tasmania
- Their message is not what I hear in the community



# Marinus Link – Status Update

## ▸ **TasCAT Appeal**

- Mediation session held 19 March
- Tribunal scheduled for June
- Normal and expected part of process
- Helps project social license

## ▸ **Construction**

- Preparatory works happening now in Heybridge and Gippsland
  - Surveys, site amenities, fencing, service location, as per EPA approvals
- Construction on schedule for July start

# Upcoming

## ✓ **Workforce and Accommodation Strategy**

- ✓ Strategy (due in April) will outline peak construction periods and expected local content
- ✓ 7 sub contracts awarded so far
  - ✓ 6 contracts to Tasmanian businesses
  - ✓ 5 contracts to North West Coast businesses

## ✓ **Community Benefit Sharing Framework**

- ✓ Broader Framework to outline immediate, enduring, and legacy benefits
- ✓ Considers consumers, financial, and non-financial benefits
- ✓ Release of draft Framework for feedback expected in coming months
- ✓ Q1/2 2026 Grants and Sponsorships program open now

## ✓ **Community Engagement planning with TVGL**

- ✓ Events
- ✓ Stakeholder and community updates
- ✓ Process / systems alignment

NWTD head contractor

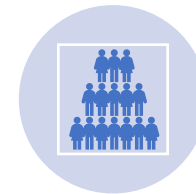
# General Update



Genus has taken possession of the upgraded office building in East Devonport.



The office has undergone significant upgrades, completed by local contractors.



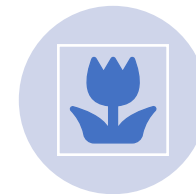
A small contingent of Genus staff is currently operating from the facility.



The laydown yard and office space were previously vacant and unused properties.



Rental agreements are contributing positively to the local economy.



Genus' presence is already providing a boost to local businesses, goods and services.

# General Update

Genus is attending the Hobart and Southern Tasmanian Employment and Careers Expo (today).

This is the biggest jobs expo in Tasmania, with 100+ employers, training organisations, and support services.

Genus will utilise this event to launch its recruitment campaign and promote employment opportunities with Genus and key subcontractors.

# Local Procurement & Employment To Date

**Gradco** – Vegetation clearance and access track construction, utilising local workforce and recruiting additional local staff.

**Hazell Bros** – Civil works contractor and concreting, engaging local personnel.

**Nubco** – Supplying hardware supplies, tools and equipment.

**Office National (Devonport)** – Local supplier for stationery and printing services.

**Cranes Combined and Billings (Burnie)**

**Tasmanian Heavy Haulage** – Being utilised and will continue to be utilised for heavy transportation needs.

# APPRENTICESHIPS



## Cert III – ESI Transmission

### Approx. 20 roles

Focuses on work in the high-voltage transmission network — typically transmission lines, towers, poles, structures, conductors and associated hardware. It prepares people for roles such as overhead transmission lineworker, including installing, inspecting and maintaining transmission infrastructure. For a project like NWTD, this is the most directly relevant of the three.



## Cert III – ESI Distribution

### Approx. 5 roles

Focuses on the distribution network, which is the part of the electricity system that delivers power out to homes, businesses and local areas. Depending on the stream, this can cover overhead distribution linework or underground cable jointing / underground distribution work, including installation, maintenance and inspection of poles, lines, cables and electrical equipment.



## Cert III - Electrotechnology

### Approx. 5 roles

This is the standard qualification pathway for becoming an electrician. It covers selecting, installing, testing, fault-finding, repairing and maintaining electrical systems and equipment in buildings and premises, and includes the competencies linked to an unrestricted electrician's license in Australia.

Project update

# Key milestones

Milestone	Scheduled date
CPA 2 Determination by AER for construction costs	February 2026
Community Benefits Sharing Program panel recruitment	Feb / Mar 2026
Permit application granted by Tasmanian Planning Commission	March 2026
Land access finalised	April 2026 (Subject to appeals)
Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation approvals	April 2026 (Subject to appeals)
Financial Close	April 2026 (Subject to appeals)
Construction commences (Sheffield to Burnie)	April 2026 (Subject to appeals)

# Out and about

It was great to connect with community at Sassafras and celebrate the incredible work of Rural Alive & Well (RAW) at their 'All together in the vineyard' event.

The day featured snake encounters, goat cuddles, live music, face painting, and a silent auction of local art, with all proceeds supporting RAW.

Our team enjoyed speaking with community members about TasNetworks' Bright Futures Fund and our search for independent assessment panel members.

The team also attended the Tasmanian Women in Agriculture 'Ladies Day' at Wesley Vale on 19 March alongside Genus (top left).



# Community investment

# Community Benefits Sharing Program update

## Launch events (TBC)

Date	Location
Thurs, 30 April (10am-12pm)	Burnie / Shorewell Park*
Thurs, 30 April (2pm-4pm)	Ulverstone
Friday, 1 May (10am-12pm)	Sheffield
Friday, 1 May (2pm-4pm)	Deloraine
Saturday, 2 May (10am-12pm)	Longford

\*Burnie will double as the official launch with Energy Minister, TasNetworks CEO, local TasNetworks Board members, independent Chair / panel members and general public invited along with media. The event will be held at Wiseman Street Reserve next to the Burnie Community House.

- Expressions of interest to join the BFF independent community assessment panel have now closed, with interviews to be held shortly.
- We're still looking for a local in the 18-24 age group that would be interested in joining the panel. Do you know of anyone?
- TasNetworks' presence at Agfest (7-9 May) will include a BFF display.



**BRIGHT  
FUTURES  
FUND**

NORTH WEST TRANSMISSION DEVELOPMENTS

Landholder update

# Land access & acquisition update

## Land Access

- Accessing private properties for pre-construction surveys is ongoing, with cadastral, geotech, cultural heritage and environmental surveys underway. TasNetworks has approximately 98.5 per cent access across Stage 1 of NWTD.

## Licence and Easement Option Agreements

- Of the 142 private landholders where a new easement is required, TasNetworks has achieved voluntary agreements on 97 per cent.
- TasNetworks has been highly committed to working with landholders to reach agreement wherever possible, with the majority now having signed.
- Authority to use the statutory easement acquisition laws for the purpose of the project was granted to TasNetworks and will be used as a last resort for the remaining landholders.

## Property Management Plans

- TasNetworks is continuing the development of Property Management Plans (PMPs) with landholders which will be finalised prior to construction. The PMPs detail landholder specific requirements including access, farming operations and specific biosecurity requirements.

# Removal of Burnie towers



# Infrastructure Sustainability Rating

# Resilience – requesting SLG input

- NWTD is obtaining a sustainability rating to drive sustainability in project delivery
- An important part of this is meeting requirements for climate risk and resilience planning
- This is a simplified process to facilitate external stakeholder input
- The process follows the requirements Genus/TasNetworks must satisfy for the rating

## Part 1

Understanding and planning for the effects of:

- Climate change
- Natural hazards

## Part 2

Identifying:

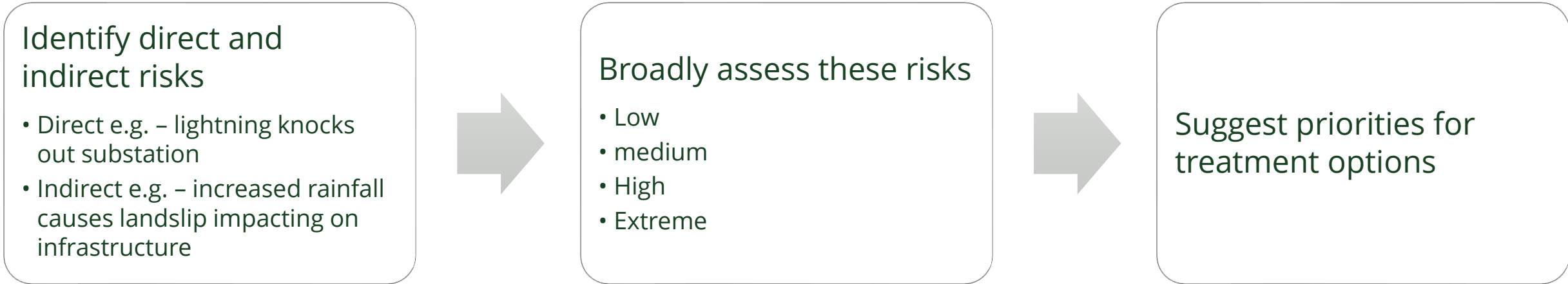
- Shocks (e.g. failure of the digital network)
- Stresses (e.g. ageing infrastructure)
- Interdependent assets and vulnerable communities

# Input we need from you today

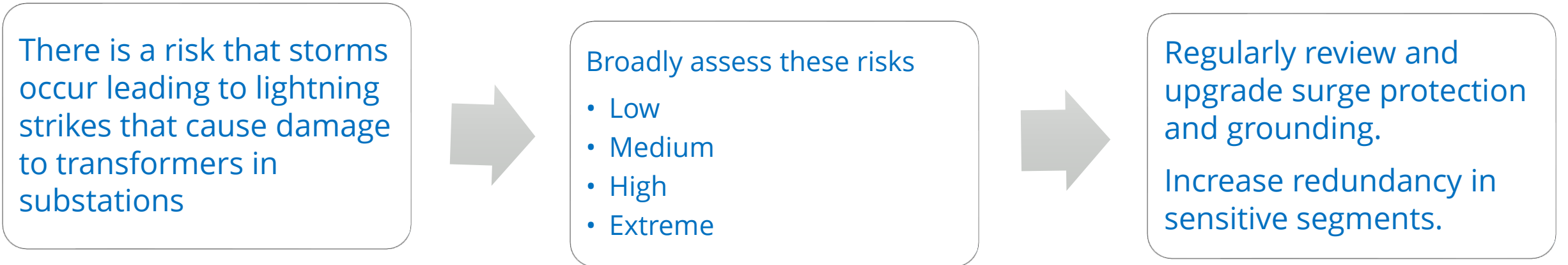
- 1. Identification of relevant climate risks and treatment options [10mins]
- 2. Identification of shocks and stresses and treatment options [10mins]
- 3. Review and identification of major interdependent assets and vulnerable communities [5mins]

*Forms to capture additional info will be distributed following the meeting. Please fill in if you wish and email to Rashnith Grewal ([rashnith.grewal@genus.com.au](mailto:rashnith.grewal@genus.com.au)) by **31 March 2026***

# 1. For climate and natural hazards, we would like you to help us...



**EXAMPLE:**



# 1. Let's discuss – Identify & assess climate risks

Of the climate risks below which have the **highest risk of impacting the asset?**

More bushfires

Flooding

Higher average temperatures

Rising sea levels

More intense and frequent lightning storms

Hail

Less annual rainfall

Heatwaves

Drought

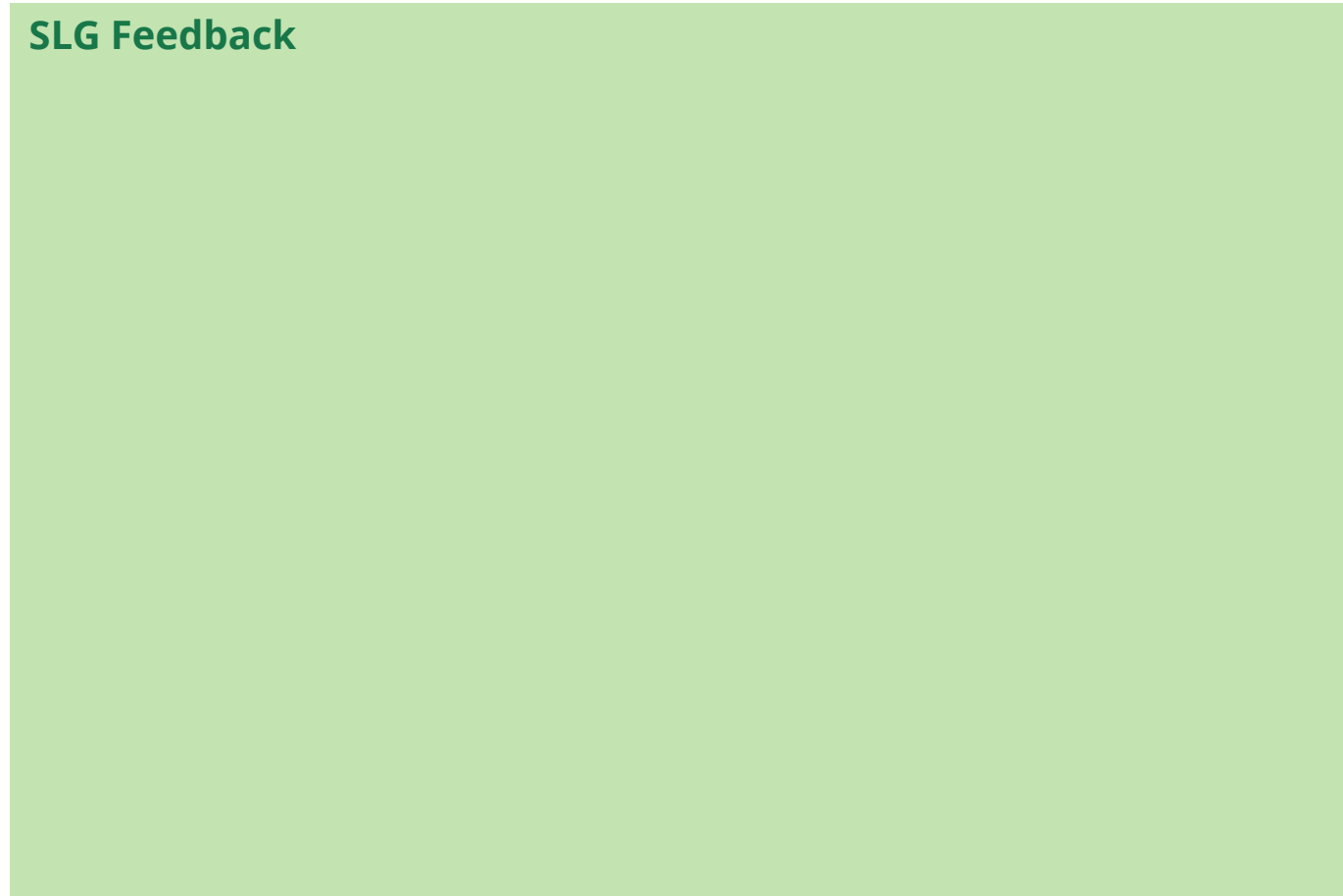
SLG Feedback

# 1. Let's discuss – Treatment options for identified high-rated risk/s

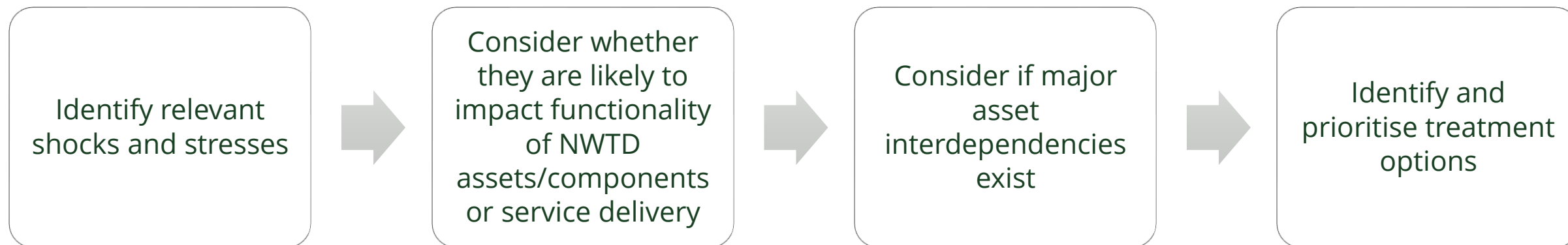
*Of the climate risks we discussed – pick one risk and identify treatment options for that risk.*

- |  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| More bushfires                             | Flooding          |
| Higher average temperatures                | Rising sea levels |
| More intense and frequent lightning storms | Hail              |
| Less annual rainfall                       | Heatwaves         |
|  | Drought           |

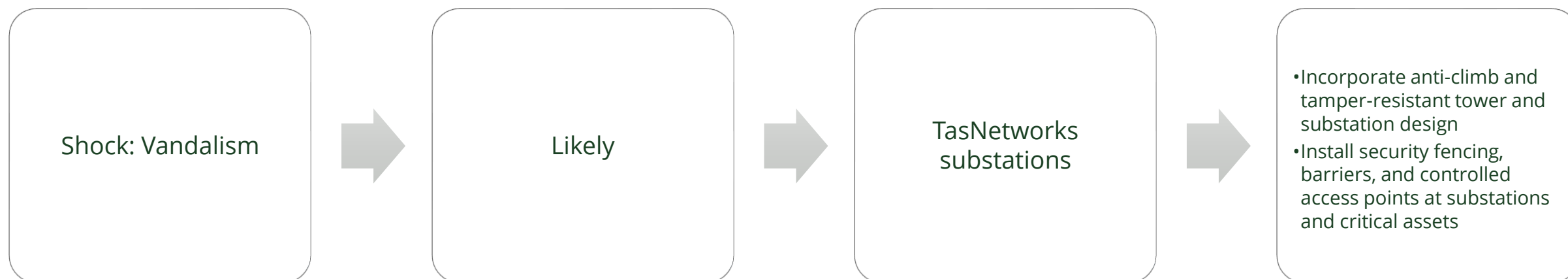
**SLG Feedback**



## 2. For Shocks and Stresses, we would like you to help us...



### EXAMPLE:



# Some questions to guide selecting and assessing shocks and stresses

How likely is it that the shock or stress will:

- Impact on functionality of NWTD during operation?
- Significantly constrain its ability to function and support the surrounding community for at least a month (if/where relevant)?
- Constrain its ability to function for 1-4 weeks?
- Result in injury or loss of life?
- Constrain economic growth and activity (if/where relevant)?

# Shocks and Stresses Identification

## Acute shocks

- Cyber attack
- Digital network failure
- Terror attack
- Critical infrastructure failure
- War and conflict
- Financial system collapse
- Natural disasters
- Water crises
- Pandemic, diseases
- Vandalism
- Biosecurity
- Landowners and accidental activities
- Aircraft collision

## SLG Feedback

- Shocks....?

## Chronic stresses

- Diminishing social cohesion
- Homelessness
- Increasing chronic illness
- Increasing energy costs
- Increasing unemployment
- Ageing infrastructure
- Inadequate urban planning
- Rising economic disparity
- Rising cyber dependency
- Loss of housing affordability
- Lack of transport accessibility
- Demand on health services
- Ageing population
- Depleted natural resources
- Competition for construction plant and equipment

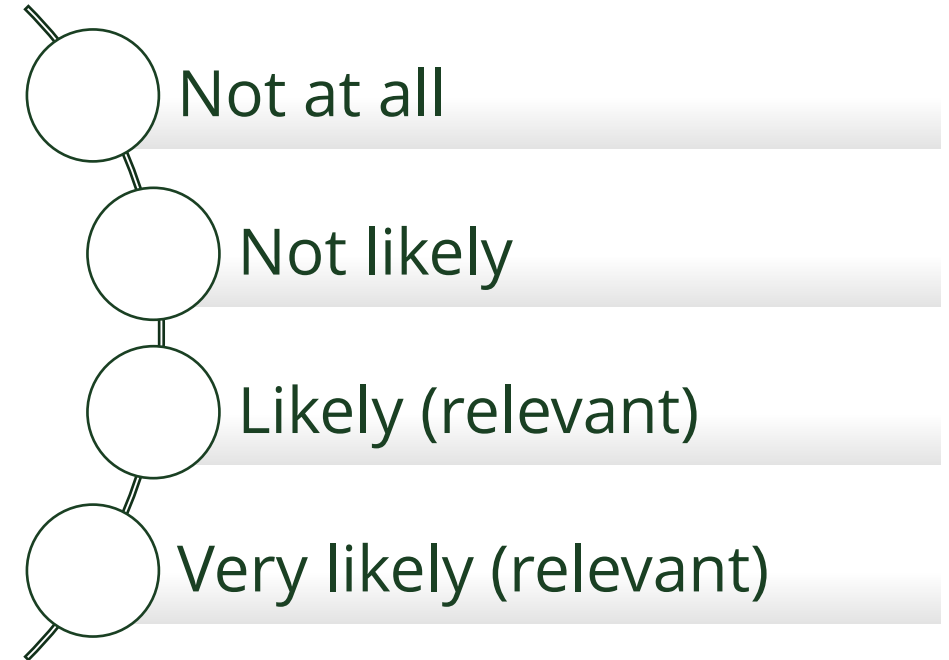
## SLG Feedback

- Stresses....?

# Opportunity Identification - Discussion

For each stress identified - does the NWTD project provide an opportunity to:

- a. **Reduce the impact** of the associated stress, or
- b. **Enhance community resilience** during asset operations?



# Opportunity Identification

## Chronic stresses

- Diminishing social cohesion
- Homelessness
- Increasing chronic illness
- Increasing energy costs
- Increasing unemployment
- Ageing infrastructure
- Inadequate urban planning
- Rising economic disparity
- Rising cyber dependency
- Loss of housing affordability
- Lack of transport accessibility
- Demand on health services
- Ageing population
- Depleted natural resources
- Competition for construction plant and equipment

## SLG Feedback

- Stresses....?

*Example:  
The project may provide an opportunity to address **increasing unemployment** by creating job opportunities within new substations and the expanded network*

# Identification of treatment options – Shocks and stresses

*Let's identify treatment options for one of the high-priority shocks/stresses identified earlier.*

## SLG Feedback

Example:

**Shock/stress:** Vandalism

**Treatment option/s:**

Incorporate anti-climb fences at substations

**Shock/stress:**

**Treatment option/s:**

# Identification of treatment options – Opportunities

*Let's identify treatment options for one of the high-priority opportunities identified earlier.*

## SLG Feedback

Example:

**Shock or stress that presents an opportunity:** Increasing unemployment

**Treatment option/s:**

Engage with local education centres to advertise job opportunities in the industry.

**Shock or stress that presents an opportunity:**

**Treatment option/s:**

# 'Interdependent assets'

- A desktop review by the project team considered the potential for assets to be interdependent with NWTD
- Only those that may be affected to a **major** extent by reduced functionality of NWTD need to be assessed
- We looked at 109 potential interdependent assets of many types, including: **water, power, telecommunications, transport, health, emergency services, parks and community facilities**
- Due to the nature of the transmission line asset, it found reduced functionality would only have a **major** effect on TasNetworks substations at Burnie, Heybridge, Palmerston and Sheffield, and its Regional Response Centres
- SLG thoughts are welcome and will be recorded

# Vulnerable members of the community

## Vulnerable members of the community considered in this project:

- People for whom English is a second language (Culturally and Linguistically Diverse communities)
- People aged 65 years or above and living alone
- Full dependents (4 years and under)
- People with physical and mental health problems
- Low-income earners defined as those earning less than 50% of the median income in the region of the project
- Those experiencing financial hardship and distress; includes renters receiving financial assistance and people in social housing

## Question for you:

**In addition to those already listed**, are there any other vulnerable members that would be likely to be impacted or disadvantaged if NWTD failed?

## SLG Feedback



# Quick recap of today

- 1. Identification of relevant climate risks and treatment options
- 2. Identification of shocks and stresses and treatment options
- 3. Review and identification of major interdependent assets and vulnerable communities

**Reminder:** forms to capture additional info will be distributed following the meeting. Please fill in if you wish and email to Rashnith Grewal ([rashnith.grewal@genus.com.au](mailto:rashnith.grewal@genus.com.au)) by **31 March 2026**

# Thank you

## **Contacts:**

Genus: Rashnith Grewal, 0424 179 922, [rashnith.grewal@genus.com.au](mailto:rashnith.grewal@genus.com.au)

TasNetworks: Simon Hooper, 0418 316 187, [simon.hooper@perspektiv.com.au](mailto:simon.hooper@perspektiv.com.au)

Consultant: Scott Losee, 0404 467 228, [scott@loseeconsulting.com.au](mailto:scott@loseeconsulting.com.au)

*Please email any further forms or thoughts to all 3 of the above*

# Future of SLG

# Group discussion

- What do you see as the main purpose of the SLG in the construction phase?
- What are your expectations of TasNetworks?
- What has worked well to date? What challenges or barriers do you think the group faces?
- Would you like the group to continue with an Independent Chair?
- What is the optimal meeting cadence?
- Should sitting fees be offered to SLG members in line with other TasNetworks advisory groups?
- Is there anyone you can suggest being approached to become a member or suggest the type of new member that's needed moving into the construction phase?

Any other business?



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Bright Future

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