

# North West Transmission Developments

Engagement Update July to December 2025





## Contents

### About the project

5

### Introduction

5

### How we have engaged

6

### Getting out in the community

8

### What we heard

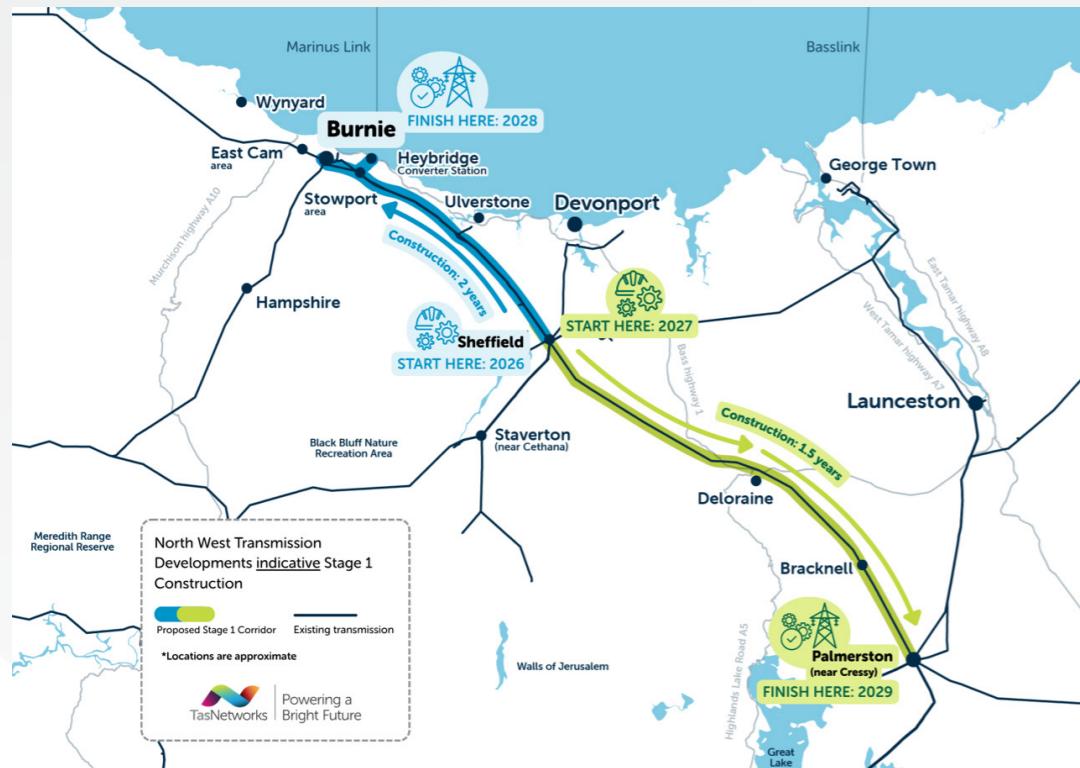
10

### Community investment

11

### Contact us

12



NWTD Project Map - Indicative Stage 1 Construction

## About the project

The North West Transmission Developments (NWTD) project, being progressed by TasNetworks, is a once in a generation upgrade to the electricity transmission network.

As Tasmania's energy demands increase, TasNetworks needs to strengthen the state's transmission network. NWTD will include new and upgraded transmission lines, substations and switching stations.

The project is proposed to be delivered across two stages. The first stage will link Cressy and Burnie.

NWTD will support new renewable energy developments and generate significant benefits and opportunities for Tasmanian communities and businesses.

The project is currently in the design and approvals phase, with construction for Stage 1 due to start in mid 2026.

## Introduction

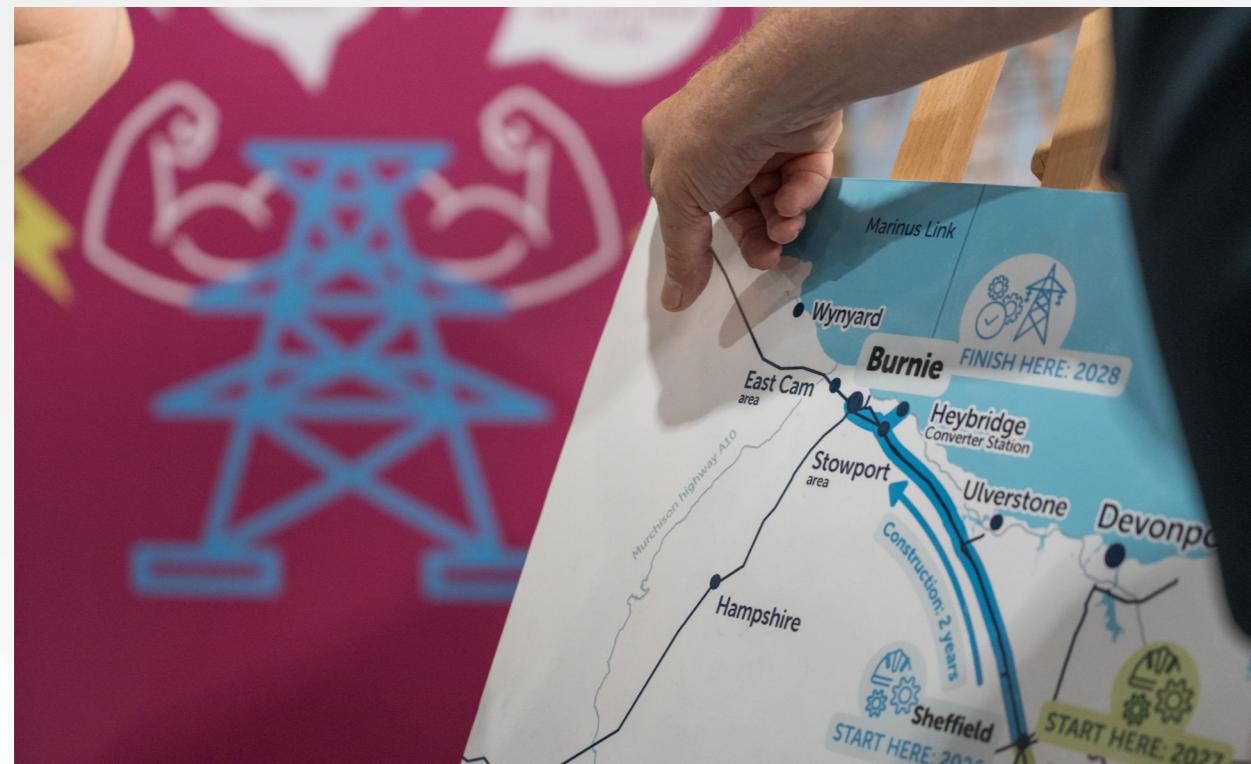
This document provides an outline of the project's engagement activities between July and December 2025. It builds on previous engagement reports which you can find [here](#).

**We are committed to engaging in a way that is meaningful, fair and achieves the best outcomes for landholders, the community and the environment. Feedback continues to help shape the direction of the NWTD and we remain committed to working alongside Tasmanians as the project progresses to construction.**

This report focuses on feedback gathered from stakeholders and the general community about the project and does not include detailed feedback from landholders. Engagement with landholders, each with a dedicated land agent, is ongoing and will continue throughout all phases of the project.

## Project timeline





## How we have engaged

We engaged with a range of stakeholders and community members between July and December 2025 to raise awareness and collect feedback about the project.

Feedback collected during this phase of the project has helped us understand concerns, the topics that are important to people and what people want to know more about.

Our engagement activities over this period included:

-  **Two Stakeholder Liaison Group meetings held in October and December**
-  **Three engagement stalls at community events in Burnie, Wynyard and Deloraine**
-  **Two Community Benefits Sharing Program workshops in Burnie and Deloraine**
-  **An online webinar about construction costs for NWTD**
-  **Six e-newsletters (July to December) to over 950 subscribers per issue.**

We promoted NWTD using a range of communication channels, including:

- TasNetworks website
- E-newsletters
- Facebook and LinkedIn
- Media
- Webinar
- Meetings
- Drop-in sessions.



## Welcoming Richie Sheather – NWTD Project Director



In September 2025, TasNetworks welcomed Richard (Richie) Sheather to the position of Project Director for NWTD, a pivotal role as the project transitions to the construction phase. Richie brings over two decades of experience in leading large-scale infrastructure and energy projects across Australia, New Zealand, and India.

During Richie's first four months, he prioritised getting out to meet key stakeholders, from landholders and local councils to industry partners. For Richie, these conversations have reinforced the importance of balancing technical requirements with community

needs and expectations. At the same time, close collaboration with Marinus Link and NWTD head contractor, GenusPlus Group (Genus), is ensuring project plans remain aligned and construction ready.

"For me, these first months have been about listening, learning, and laying the groundwork for success as we move into this next critical phase," Richie said.

**"Looking ahead, NWTD will help deliver enormous benefits for Tasmania: clean energy careers, the lowest possible power prices, strong climate action, and enough electricity to support our state and the nation's growing energy needs."**

## Public exhibition of permit application

Following TasNetworks' submission of a permit application to the Tasmanian Planning Commission (TPC) in April 2025, it was publicly exhibited for 28 days commencing on 20 September 2025. This was an important step

in the formal NWTD assessment process and an opportunity for public analysis of what is being proposed.

The permit application demonstrates how TasNetworks will satisfy the TPC's planning criteria developed for the project and importantly how any potential environmental impacts will be minimised, managed or mitigated. The TPC received 28 submissions

during the exhibition period and is required to consider these submissions when finalising its assessment and determining whether to grant a permit and any permit conditions. A determination by the TPC on the permit application is expected in early March 2026. Further information is available in the 'Assessments, approvals and studies' fact sheet.

## Getting out in the community

During the second half of 2025, we continued to connect with the community by attending local events including the Burnie Show, the Wynyard Tulip Festival and the Tasmanian Craft Fair in Deloraine. Our focus was to raise awareness, share information and gather valuable feedback. Our head contractor, Genus, joined us to provide information about construction activities and timeframes. The conversations we had at these events helped us refine our plans, address concerns and strengthen our connections across the region.



### Community engagement sessions

Date	Event	Number of attendees
3-4 October	Burnie Show	~60
11 October	Wynyard Tulip Festival	~40
15-16 October	Community Benefits Sharing workshops	~19
31 October -2 November	Deloraine Craft Fair	~300

### Community information sessions

22 October	CPA online webinar	~60
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### Engaging on construction costs for NWT

TasNetworks submitted a contingent project application to the Australian Energy Regulator on 31 October 2025 to obtain the revenue allowances for construction and delivery works associated with Stage 1 NWT (Cressy to Burnie via Sheffield).

A webinar was held ahead of the submission to provide information about the NWT project, construction costs and to give an overview of transmission charges.

The recording of the webinar and presentation slides are available [here](#).

**A contingent project application determination is required for TasNetworks to recover the efficient costs of delivering the NWT. The determination is expected to be handed down in March 2026.**



### Crafting Connections at the Tasmanian Craft Fair

TasNetworks was a proud sponsor of the iconic Tasmanian Craft Fair, recognised as Australia's largest celebration of creativity, arts and small business, attracting an estimated 18,000 visitors over the three-day event.

Our stall was bustling with crafts, giveaways and great conversation. We enjoyed chatting about the NWT project, responding to questions and sharing what's ahead.

Kids unleashed their creativity with our Power Patches activity, designing quilt squares that capture their hopes and dreams for our clean energy future. We transformed them into a digital patchwork quilt (pictured) that celebrates community and a bright future for Tasmania. It was a joy to see creativity and conversations flowing over the three days.

**As TasNetworks moves closer to construction, open dialogue with the community will remain at the heart of how we operate.**

## What we heard

### Community feedback



The most common questions raised by event attendees related to the following topics:

- Scope and location of the NWT project
- Timing of construction for Stage 1 NWT
- How the project will impact power prices
- Employment opportunities during construction
- Environmental management and sustainability
- How Tasmania's electricity network operates
- Renewable energy zones (REZ) and wind farm developments
- Tasmania's energy connection to mainland Australia and the National Electricity Market (NEM)

Community feedback helps us to communicate more effectively. Our monthly e-newsletter, sent to over 950 subscribers, aims to address current issues, including questions raised at engagement sessions.

Additionally, a range of resources covering topics of interest are available on our website: [tasnetworks.com.au/resources](http://tasnetworks.com.au/resources)

Recently, we published a fact sheet titled 'Sustainability objectives and targets'. This fact sheet outlines how



TasNetworks is delivering NWT in alignment with the Infrastructure Sustainability Council's IS v2.1 Design and As Built framework. TasNetworks' vision is to deliver a transmission network that supports Tasmania's energy future while creating lasting environmental, social, and economic value.



Scan to sign up  
our e-newsletter  
for monthly  
project updates  
and engagement  
opportunities!

### Stakeholder Liaison Group

The NWT Stakeholder Liaison Group (SLG) is an independently chaired group made up of 15 members with representation across key industry groups, peak bodies, education, skills and training sectors and state government organisations. The meetings provide an opportunity for us to understand stakeholder perspectives and receive input and feedback on a range of matters related to the NWT.

Two SLG meetings were held between July to December 2025 at the Cradle Coast Authority in Burnie. The group discussed a range of topics including:

- Key project milestones
- Land access
- Community engagement activities and investment
- Head contractor updates

- Workforce development, skills and training
- Worker accommodation options
- Contingent project application process and costs
- Sustainability objectives

The SLG provided feedback on the common concerns and opportunities raised by the communities they represent, as well as engagement and communications activities. More information about the SLG, including agendas, presentations and meeting minutes can be found [here](#).

## Community investment

Through sponsorships, partnerships and community grants, we're connecting with and investing in the communities we're a part of, to make a meaningful difference in the lives of those who live in the region of north-west Tasmania.

### Community Benefits Sharing Program

TasNetworks has been working with stakeholders and the community over the past few years to develop a Community Benefits Sharing Program (the Program). The Program, which has a \$10 million allocation of funding for communities impacted by the NWT, is planned to commence alongside construction of the project, anticipated to be April 2026.

In October 2025, we invited community members from across five local government areas in north west Tasmania to participate in workshops held across two days in Burnie and Deloraine. The workshops were

attended by 19 participants who represented a variety of businesses, organisations and clubs.

During the workshops we shared key elements of the Program and sought insights on how it could be best implemented including:

- guidance on potential barriers to participation
- the types of support community groups may need to be able to apply for funding
- how best to promote the program to ensure maximum coverage and to reach the right people
- other considerations to ensure the most effective outcomes from the Program for both applicants and the community.

We found participants' lived experiences of other grants programs and application processes extremely valuable. Several practical issues were raised for our consideration, as well as advice to ensure the efficacy of the program.

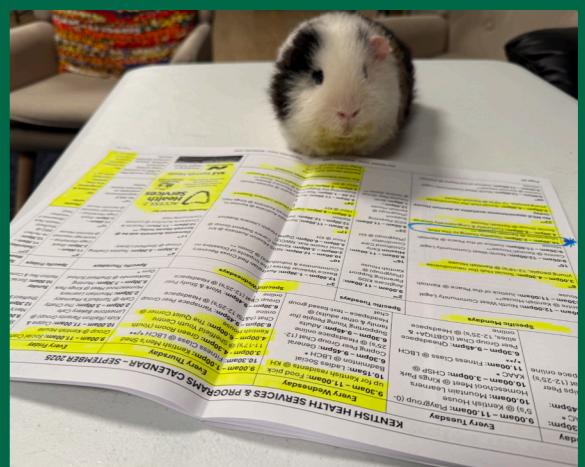
Feedback was sought on the name 'Community Benefits Sharing Program'. Responses were that the name was confusing and that the word 'sharing' was particularly problematic. Suggestions for a name that reflects the Program were provided by participants. Stay tuned for a re-name coming soon!

### Supporting Sheffield: Kentish House in action

Kentish House, located just off the Main Street in Sheffield, works closely with community members and service providers to deliver tailored programs that support the needs of the local community. Run by one full-time coordinator, two part-time staff members and four volunteers, Kentish House hosts playgroup sessions, parenting programs and workshops, youth activities, and emergency and food relief.

In 2024, NWT provided funding to Kentish House to help them expand their creation of a welcoming, supportive space. Leesa Butler from the NWT team visited the House recently and was thrilled to see Playgroup in action as a group of toddlers played with the new sensory toys and furniture, purchased with our funding, while their carers enjoyed a cuppa and a chat.

In August 2025 we renewed our support by sponsoring the monthly Kentish Health Services calendar in the local newspaper, Kentish Voice, for the second-year running. This publication is



gratefully received by community members, as one local resident provided their view on the calendar, explaining:

"Its presence in both digital and physical formats, particularly the A3 copies displayed at Kentish House, has ensured that even our most vulnerable populations have access to important information that improves accessibility to health and social services."



## Burnie Surf Life Saving Club boosts safety and inclusion with NWTd grant

The Burnie Surf Life Saving Club (Burnie SLSC) secured funding from NWTd via TasNetworks' Community Grants Program, enabling the purchase of essential new equipment for its volunteer rescue teams.

Our support equipped volunteers with dry suits and advanced safety gear - enhancing both year-round operational safety and team inclusivity.

Burnie SLSC President Jacqueline de Jonge described the grant as a "game changer" for volunteers who regularly face the cold,

unpredictable waters of Bass Strait.

"Our inflatable rescue boat teams play a crucial role in keeping the coastline safe, often in harsh conditions," Ms de Jonge said. "Dry suits are essential as they keep our volunteers warm and dry during long patrols, emergency callouts, and training."

The grant also funded eight purpose-designed portable flotation devices, supporting a newly trained group of female members. "Having the right gear encourages more women to take on these important volunteer roles," Ms de Jonge added.

Burnie SLSC is among the oldest surf lifesaving clubs in Australia and, as one of the largest clubs in Tasmania, remains integral to the Burnie community for health, wellbeing and safety.

## Contact us

We are committed to making improvements to our engagement approach. Let us know how we can better understand what is important to you and what we need to consider to achieve the best outcomes for the environment, landholders, and community.



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