Staverton to Hampshire Hills community engagement update

North West Transmission Developments - March 2021





The preferred Staverton to Hampshire Hills transmission route, released in August 2020, was determined following a detailed analysis of the area, field investigations and feedback from landowners, the local community and key stakeholders.

Engagement undertaken so far

TasNetworks commenced consultation on the proposed route for the Staverton to Hampshire Hills section of the North West Transmission developments in late 2019. The initial route was identified using detailed desktop studies undertaken by a team of experts in the fields of land use planning, power system engineering, economics, environment and cultural heritage.

As part of the consultation process, we met with landowners, held community pop-up sessions, conducted an online survey, and ran face-to-face community workshops held in Ulverstone, Gunns Plains, Burnie and Sheffield.

Through this consultation process, we obtained valuable feedback from landowners and the community about what they value about the area, and whether they thought the route selection process had taken into account what mattered to them.

TasNetworks also engaged with relevant local councils, State and Commonwealth government agencies and other industry, business and broader stakeholders, to ensure their feedback was also considered.

We are listening

The wide range of feedback received from our initial engagement process on the Staverton to Hampshire Hills transmission route was used to inform our selection of the preferred route.

Following the initial engagement process, TasNetworks received requests for changes to the proposed route from directly affected landowners, neighbours and community groups. We then met with these interested parties to better understand their concerns and suggestions for realignment.

To address landowner and community concerns and suggestions, we then undertook further investigations into variations to the proposed route. These investigations included eagle nest surveys, which were undertaken in late April and early May 2020.

Variations to the initial route have now been made, and a final preferred route has been selected. The new preferred route has been selected to address a number of key issues, impacts and concerns raised.

Landowners, neighbours and community members will have several opportunities to comment during the environmental, land use planning and cultural heritage approvals process. These will include formal opportunities required by the approvals processes and informal opportunities through planned engagement activities. Additionally there will be opportunities for the community to have their say on the North West Transmission Developments, including the Regulatory Investment Test for Transmisison.

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Engagement timeline



We're here and **ready** to engage

We will continue to review our engagement approach, in accordance with health advice. We will engage face-to-face where appropriate, and where this can achieve good health and safety outcomes.

The coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic may continue to impact how we engage in 2021.

Government restrictions may lead to last-minute changes to our schedule. We will do our best to communicate any changes quickly.

How can I find out more?

TasNetworks remains committed to working closely with community, businesses and landowners as planning for Marinus Link and the proposed North West transmission developments continues.

More information on engagement opportunities, can be found at: <u>https://talkwith.tasnetworks.com.au/</u> <u>north-west-transmission-upgrades</u>



You can contact us with any questions about the proposed developments to the North West Tasmanian transmission network via our project email and phone line.

visit: tasnetworks.com.au email: projectmarinus@tasnetworks.com.au call: 1300 127 777

