

Network Planning Workshop

Thursday November 3 2016 - 9:30 am to 12.00 noon

Venue: TasNetworks Offices 1-7 Maria Street (Admin 2 – Multi Purpose Room)

TasNetworks Representatives: Kirstan Wilding (Chair), Mark Drew, Mathew Taylor; Ewan Sherman and Andrew Fraser

Workshop attendees: Charles Scarafiotti (Nekon P/L), Jack Gilding (Tas Renewable Energy), Penny Cocker (AEVA), Mark White (UTAS), Tom Kelleher (Aurora), Bruce Fyfe (Tassal Limited), Greg McQuade (Hobart Airport), Sead Pasalic (Goanna Energy), Kath McLean (TasCoss), Robert Mallett (Tasmanian Small Business Council).

Meeting Notes

The purpose of the meeting was to:

- Inform workshop attendees about the network planning process undertaken each year by TasNetworks.
- Provide information to workshop attendees about how they can provide input into our network planning strategy.
- Inform workshop attendees about the elements that currently make up our transmission and distribution networks.
- Share with workshop attendees the assumptions and estimates about future demand that inform our network planning process.
- Discuss the challenges faced by TasNetworks, existing customers and new customers in relation to transmission and distribution network planning.
- Inform workshop attendees about the various demand management projects and the demand management engagement strategy.
- Inform workshop attendees about the demand management incentive trials being undertaken in Tasmania that TasNetworks is either leading or collaboratively working with a consortium on.
- Provide opportunity for feedback and engagement ideas from workshop members.

Workshop attendees raised a number of queries about network planning and demand management that TasNetworks responded to in the session.

Feedback from the session was limited, the following points were noted as feedback:

- A feedback form was handed out and TasNetworks received nil returns. However, conversation from participants was positive. Attendees considered they had learnt more about network planning and better understand how network demand management and the pricing strategy work together. Attendees were asked to take copies of the APR 2016 and demand management strategy, and encouraged to provide feedback to TasNetworks on the documents.
- TasNetworks are encouraged to work closely with essential services customers like TasWater to consider how network planning challenges affect reliability of their services e.g. water service performance is

affected during certain conditions in Launceston which impacts on TasWater's reliability to customers, sewerage treatments should be classified as critical loads.

- Workshop attendees asked that the network planning report simply and clearly communicate the forecast demand and electricity consumption so the influence of those drivers can be better understood by customers.
- In discussing gas demand management projects conducted by Aurora Energy, such as the hot water control trial in Kingston, a participant queried whether the Tasmanian Government's no interest loan scheme should link to demand management projects and be a better driver for longer term benefits to customers. This is a good suggestion and TasNetworks committed to raise the feedback in future forums with the Tasmanian Government.