

MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday, 25 June 2026

ISP reinforces need for transmission investment to deliver lower-cost energy

TasNetworks welcomes the release of the 2026 Integrated System Plan (ISP), which confirms Project Marinus Stage 1 has advanced to anticipated status on the Optimal Development Path.

The ISP identifies the least-cost way to support secure and reliable electricity supply as decarbonisation and electrification of the National Electricity Market (NEM) continue to surge.

The Optimal Development Path recognises the critical role of transmission in supporting projected growth in electricity consumption to almost 390TWh and enabling a fivefold increase in utility-scale wind and solar generation by 2050.

Project Marinus Stage 1 has advanced to anticipated status, meaning it is assumed to proceed under all scenarios considered in the ISP. TasNetworks welcomes this recognition of the project's importance as it progresses towards construction later this year.

The report also maintains Project Marinus Stage 2 as actionable, signalling the project's ongoing role in supporting energy security and stability.

TasNetworks Interim Chief Executive Officer Renée Anderson said the report recognises a strong year of action across Project Marinus, which is made up by the North West Transmission Developments (NWTd) and Marinus Link.

“As we continue moving towards construction of the North West Transmission Developments, we welcome the ISP's confirmed signalling that transmission projects are needed to deliver electricity at least cost for consumers,” says Ms Anderson.

“Transmission is and will continue to be the backbone of our energy system, helping unlock renewable energy resources and support greater resilience across the market.”

Also confirmed in today's report is the Tasmanian REZ Expansion project as actionable, as required to support further growth in renewable energy.

The designation of this project as actionable triggers an obligation for TasNetworks to commence the Regulatory Investment Test for Transmission (RIT-T) process, and TasNetworks is currently working through credible options.

[The 2026 Integrated System Plan can be viewed on AEMO's website.](#)

NWTD reached financial close in May 2026, providing certainty to move into the construction phase once remaining regulatory approvals are finalised.

NWTD is a major upgrade of Tasmania's electricity network to ensure it remains strong and stable. Stage 1 includes 129 kilometres of new and upgraded transmission lines, substations and switching stations, extending from Cressy to Burnie via Sheffield.

The project will support new renewable energy developments and create significant opportunities for Tasmanian communities and businesses, while helping keep future electricity prices as low as possible.

Learn more about the project at www.tasnetworks.com.au/nwtd

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