



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **Building respectful and co-operative relationships**

TasNetworks is pleased to be one of the first partners to the Farm Access Code of Conduct.

The Code sets out mutually-agreed timelines, processes and courtesies to be followed by infrastructure proponents looking to consult with farmers about developing on their land.

It's been developed by TasFarmers and the Victorian Farmers Federation to help protect farmers' rights, build better co-operation, and help prevent long and stressful disputes that can delay crucial projects.

TasNetworks CEO, Seán Mc Goldrick, said Tasmanians need electricity that's safe, clean, reliable and affordable, while expecting good community and environmental outcomes.

"We're at the front-line of doubling Tasmania's clean energy. That'll help give Tasmanians the lowest possible future prices, slash Australia's emissions, and help bring the clean energy careers of tomorrow to our island," Dr Mc Goldrick said.

"That crucial work often requires us to build new transmission projects or expansions across agricultural land – most notably with our North-West Transmission Developments (NWTG).

"It's very important that we listen and engage with farmers in a way that protects the present and future interests of Tasmanian electricity customers, while also causing minimal farming disruption and benefitting farmers wherever possible.

"We won't always see eye-to-eye and share exactly the same initial imperatives. That's why an agreed set of processes and expectations is important for plotting a positive way forward.

"The new Code is a firm but practical platform for building strong, respectful and more productive relationships between TasNetworks and Tasmanian farmers," he said.

The Farm Access Code of Conduct's consistent with The Australian Energy Charter's national Better Practise Social Licence Guidelines, and complements TasNetworks' existing work to strengthen relationships with landowners affected by the NWTG.

**More information:** Rowan Dix - 0436 919980 / [media@tasnetworks.com.au](mailto:media@tasnetworks.com.au)