



MEDIA RELEASE

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Protecting reliability for Tasmanians

TasNetworks is confident any disruption from imminent industrial action will be kept to a minimum.

The Communications, Electrical and Plumbing Union (CEPU) has had a successful ballot to begin protected action, in response to TasNetworks' revised Enterprise Agreement offer.

TasNetworks respects team members' right to take lawful protected industrial action. Industrial action's only lawful and protected for union members. It must remain within the described actions parties have given notice of.

Because TasNetworks performs an essential service for Tasmanians, there are laws to protect safety and reduce the community impact of industrial action.

TasNetworks CEO, Seán Mc Goldrick, said the business is offering an Enterprise Agreement that supports and rewards its people, while keeping power prices under control for Tasmanians.

"We need to keep power prices down. We're offering a good deal that supports and rewards our people better than ever before, while protecting Tasmanians on power prices," Dr Mc Goldrick said.

"Tasmanians can't afford the unrealistic wage increases being sought (up to 35 per cent). That would put huge pressure on power prices.

"Industrial action brings some disruption. But Tasmanians can rest assured that laws to protect essential services will shield the network and minimise disruption. As ever, safety's our top priority.

"We've seen the scope of lawful industrial action proposed by the union, and have preparations in place. Provided only lawful action's taken, we're confident we can protect Tasmanians from the impact of that action," he said.

TasNetworks' revised Enterprise Agreement offer includes:

- A Year 1 wage increase of seven per cent, plus a one-off payment of \$2,000;
- Year 2 and 3 increases linked to CPI, with no capped maximum (keeping pace with inflation);
- Paid parental leave of 15 weeks for both parents;
- Days off (no longer charged as annual leave) during Christmas to New Years Day shutdown;
- Many other improved provisions.

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