

MEDIA RELEASE

Monday 16 March 2026

North West Transmission Developments edges closer to construction

TasNetworks is thrilled that after a detailed assessment, the Tasmanian Planning Commission (TPC) has granted a planning permit for the North West Transmission Developments (NWTd).

Broadly, the planning permit provides approval for the development of electricity transmission infrastructure associated with NWTd Stage 1.

TasNetworks' NWTd Project Director, Richie Sheather, said the TPC's decision shows further confidence in the project.

"TasNetworks is building NWTd for Tasmanians who want the lowest possible future prices, strong climate action, clean energy careers, and enough clean energy for Tasmania and Australia's future," Mr Sheather said.

"The TPC's permit is an 'umpire's endorsement' that our crucial project will achieve what it's intended to, complies with Tasmanian laws, adequately manages biosecurity risks, vegetation, waterways and threatened species, has acceptable visual impact, and follows sound engineering principles."

The permit is subject to a comprehensive suite of conditions designed to ensure the project is delivered responsibly and in accordance with the relevant legislation. TasNetworks is now working through the detailed requirements to ensure full compliance prior to the commencement of works.

It is anticipated that the Commonwealth will make its determination on NWTd under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC) in late April 2026, which will then enable the TasNetworks' Board to make its final investment commitment to construct the project.

Early site mobilisation by TasNetworks' head contractor, GenusPlus Group, commenced in December 2025 and continue in earnest.

Full construction works will commence immediately upon the TPC planning permit and EPBC approval taking effect and works being able to lawfully commence under them.

"We're pleased to have achieved voluntary access to more than 96 per cent of the private land needed. All else going well, we look forward to starting construction soon," he said.

NWTD Stage 1 includes new and upgraded transmission lines (129 kilometres), substations and switching stations, with the project extending from Palmerston (near Cressy) to Burnie via Sheffield.

The project will support new renewable energy developments and generate significant benefits and opportunities for Tasmanian communities and businesses, including keeping future power prices as low as possible.

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For media enquiries, please contact:

TasNetworks Media: 6271 6271 / media@tasnetworks.com.au