



NORTH WEST TRANSMISSION DEVELOPMENTS

## MEDIA RELEASE

Friday, 19 June 2026

### TasNetworks officially launches \$10M Bright Futures Fund

Applications are now open for TasNetworks' \$10 million community investment program as part of the North West Transmission Developments (NWTD) project.

The Honourable Nick Duigan, Minister for Energy and Renewables, formally launched the Bright Futures Fund today in Burnie with representatives from local councils, TasNetworks and community members.

The program, which was co-designed with local communities, is focused on creating a positive, lasting legacy for areas surrounding the NWTD.

TasNetworks' NWTD Project Director, Richie Sheather, said the fund would help ensure local communities directly benefit from the project.

"After years of working closely and listening to community to shape the program, we're proud to finally launch it," Mr Sheather said. "The Bright Futures Fund is all about creating lasting value that continues well after the project is up and running.

"It's an important way of acknowledging the role regional communities play in projects like this, and giving back in a meaningful way. It places locals at the heart of the program by supporting community-led ideas that matter to them."

Mr Sheather encouraged community groups and organisations to consider applying for funding, with an independent panel of locals to guide investment decisions.

"We're excited to see the ideas, big or small, that come forward and invite communities across the NWTD project area to take advantage of this opportunity," he said.

Key focus areas include health and wellbeing, environmental enhancement, community infrastructure and services, arts and events, skills and education, and fostering a sense of community.

Applications for the first round of funding for 2026 are open from today until 2 August.

To be eligible, projects must benefit communities within the Burnie, Central Coast, Kentish, Meander Valley and Northern Midlands local government areas.

More community events will be held this week, including:

- Friday 19 June from 2pm–4pm in Ulverstone (Apex Park, 41 Reibey St)
- Saturday 20 June from 10am–12pm in Sheffield (Main Street, adjacent to the Post Office)
- Saturday 20 June from 2pm–4pm in Deloraine (The Pocket Park, 35 Emu Bay Road)
- Sunday 21 June from 10am–12pm in Longford (public park near 4 Archer St)

Find out more and event details at: [www.tasnetworks.com.au/brightfuturesfund](http://www.tasnetworks.com.au/brightfuturesfund)

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