



MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday 22 August, 2024

Protecting Tasmanians and rewarding our people

TasNetworks is standing firm on an Enterprise Agreement (EA) offer that protects Tasmanians against much higher power prices, while supporting and rewarding employees better than ever before.

The current average base salary of TasNetworks' EA-covered employees is over \$100,000. Our standing offer will increase this by seven percent in year one (not including overtime or allowances).

TasNetworks CEO, Seán Mc Goldrick, said TasNetworks' average salaries already compare favourably to overall average Tasmanian wages.

"We're offering a good deal that supports and rewards our people better than ever before, while protecting Tasmanians on power prices. We hope to reach an agreement soon," Dr Mc Goldrick said.

"Inflation's been tough on living standards in recent years. We completely understand why union demands for wage rises of up to 35 per cent are very appealing to our people, even if they're unaffordable and would drive up Tasmanians' prices.

"As you've probably heard in recent weeks, unions want to frame this issue completely around 'interstate pay parity'. We're proud that our wages are on-par with many mainland electricity companies. However, we're a Tasmanian company paid for by Tasmanians.

"For every Tasmanian who's looking to get ahead, looking to endure the cost of living, looking to achieve security and prosperity for themselves and their families - we must keep power prices under control. That includes for our own people.

"That's why those extreme wage requests are out of the question. And it's why we have to stand our ground, amid disruptive industrial action, on behalf of Tasmanian electricity customers," he said.

To prioritise unplanned outages and help minimise the impact of union-led industrial action, TasNetworks has suspended all planned work from at least Tuesday 20 August to Sunday 1 September.

TasNetworks has thanked all team members and contractors currently helping to minimise the impact of union-led industrial action. It's also thanked Tasmanians for their ongoing patience and support as the business stands its ground in protection of power prices.

TasNetworks' current 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.

TasNetworks continues to meet with union representatives and individual bargaining representatives, with the next meeting scheduled for Tuesday 27 August.

More information: Rowan Dix - 0436 919980 / media@tasnetworks.com.au