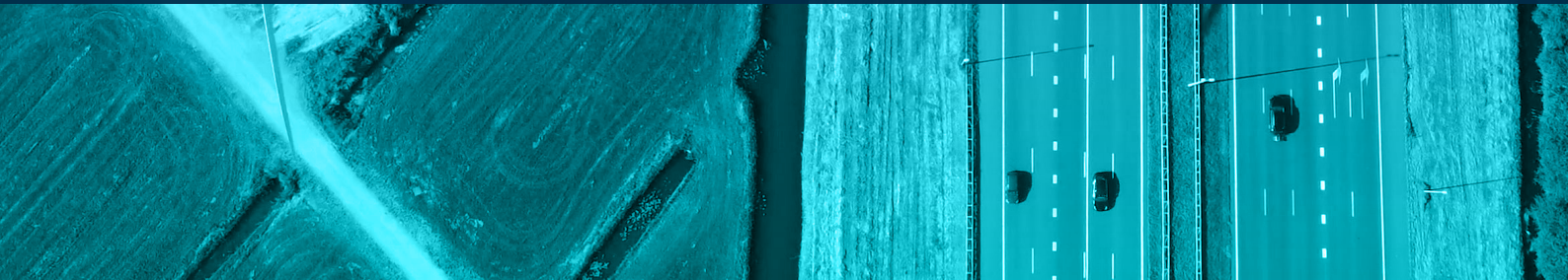




COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT REPORT

January 2024 – December 2024



MARINUS
LINK

About Marinus Link

Marinus Link is a proposed undersea and underground electricity and data interconnector between North West Tasmania and the Latrobe Valley in Victoria.

The project includes high voltage direct current (HVDC) cables, fibre optic cables, a communications station, and converter stations at each end.

The project's cables span 345 kilometres (km). This includes 255 km of undersea cables across Bass Strait and 90 km of underground cables in Gippsland, Victoria.

Marinus Link's 1500 megawatt (MW) capacity is equal to the power supply for 1.5 million Australian homes and approximately three times the capacity of the existing Tasmania to Victoria interconnector, Basslink.

In 2024, we have submitted the following documents for assessment:

- ◇ One combined Environmental Impact Statement / Environment Effects Statement (EIS/EES) for Commonwealth and Victorian jurisdictions
- ◇ One EIS and Development Application for the converter station in Tasmania
- ◇ One EIS for the shore crossing in Tasmania
- ◇ One Planning Scheme Amendment (PSA) in Victoria

Information on future activities will be found on Marinus Link's engagement page at marinuslink.com.au

Marinus Link will improve the connection between Tasmania and the national grid.

It will enable the flow of more electricity in both directions, delivering low-cost, reliable and clean energy for customers in the National Electricity Market (NEM).

Marinus Link is currently in the Design and Approvals phase, with construction commencing in 2026.

Marinus Link is a complex project, crossing national, state and local jurisdictions. The project needs to obtain environment, planning and heritage approvals under Commonwealth, Tasmanian and Victorian legislation.





Community engagement

Marinus Link recognises the importance of engaging with the community throughout the project's development to understand key stakeholder concerns.

This ensures issues and concerns can be addressed and mitigated during all phases of the project. The project team has been engaging with stakeholders and the community in both Tasmania and Victoria since 2018.

The objectives of engagement have been:

- ◇ Raise awareness about the project;
- ◇ Support the Feasibility Study, Business Case Assessment and Regulatory Investment for Transmission (RIT-T) processes;
- ◇ Communicate and engage with communities in Tasmania and Victoria in various ways to ensure they have the opportunity to learn about the project, understand its benefits and impacts, and provide informed feedback;
- ◇ Provide information about Marinus Link's preferred route and why it was chosen, and consult with landowners to minimise impacts on their properties;
- ◇ Support the project team's understanding of issues and concerns to inform the project's design, and their response during the approvals process;
- ◇ Engage with industry, suppliers, and local businesses to ensure they understand the opportunities and have capacity to respond to tenders

This engagement report seeks to provide the community and interested stakeholders with summary details of engagement activities for Marinus link associated with the period January 2024 to December 2024. The report outlines the objectives of these engagement activities, the methods used to connect with stakeholders, and the feedback received from these engagement activities.

Phase 3: Communicating the project's impacts and mitigations, and responding to local concerns

From early 2023, engagement activities continued to focus on building project awareness and for the purposes of sharing information from the initial findings of the technical studies and seeking further feedback on potential impacts and proposed management approaches.

This phase captures all engagement activities undertaken throughout 2024, except for those conducted during the public exhibition period for the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) / Environmental Effects Statement (EES). Engagements that specifically took place as part of the formal public consultation process for the EIS/EES are reported under phase 4, in line with regulatory requirements.

Events	When	Conversations	Themes of conversation/ community interest
Waratah Beach Surf Life Saving Club Current Cruiser	January 2024	200	Environment and community support
Tasmanian JackJumpers games	January 2024	25	Collaboration with Marinus Link Energy transition
Chief Executive Women- Hobart Lunch	February 2024	30	Economic benefit
First Nations Clean Energy Strategy Taskforce Roundtable	February 2024	25	First Nations engagement Jobs
Burnie City Council Community Barbeque and Consultation	February 2024	43	Environmental impacts Project timing Jobs
Foster Agricultural Show	February 2024	250	Landholder enquiries Jobs Project timing
Award ceremony for recipients of the Community Partnership Program	February 2024	10	Jobs
Kinaway and Supply Nation First Nations Trade Fair	February 2024	50	First Nations engagement Project timing Jobs
Gippsland Stakeholder Liaison Meeting #10	February 2024	20	Jobs Project timing Project update
Star of The South Present Planet Wind	February 2024	20	Environmental impacts
South Asia Regional Infrastructure Connectivity program visit (DFAT program)	February 2024	25	Project update Technical components Environmental impacts
First Nations Clean Energy Strategy Roundtable - Tasmania	February 2024	12	Environmental impacts First Nations engagement
Beacon Foundation HIP - Polish program at Montrose Bay High School	February 2024	25	Jobs
Hydro Tasmania, North West Transition Development and Marinus Link Meeting	February 2024	15	Project update Environmental impact
Gippsland Women in New Energy Launch	March 2024	50	Jobs Project update
CCFT Women in Infrastructure Dinner	March 2024	30	Jobs Project update
Farm World	March 2024	300	Project update Environmental impact Project timing Jobs
Presentation to Rotary Club of North Hobart	March 2024	20	Project update
Marinus Link Project update to Regional Development Victoria	March 2024	11	Project update

Events	When	Conversations	Themes of conversation/ community interest
Social procurement training	March 2024	32	Jobs Procurement
CEDA State of the Nation	April 2024	300	Project update Environmental Impacts
Clean Energy Finance Council visit	April 2024	40	Project update
Presentation to Rotary Club of Howrah	April 2024	30	Project update
Marinus Link, Hydro, and North West Transmission Developments	April 2024	12	Community and stakeholder engagement
South Gippsland Shire Council Update	April 2024	12	Project update
Fed Forum	April 2024	19	Innovation and Entrepreneurship
Clean Energy Finance Company visit	April 2024	16	Project update site visit
VicGrid Forum	April 2024	32	Community Benefit update
NET Program	May 2024	16	Student education
Yarning Circle	May 2024	12	Traditional Owners discussion
SEATS presentation	May 2024	30	Project update
Mind Games	May 2024	300	Project update
Gippsland Stakeholder Liaison Group #11	May 2024	20	Project update stakeholder relations
Tender Writing Workshop- Morwell	May 2024	24	Project update Procurement
Tender Writing Workshop- Leongatha	May 2024	27	Project update Procurement
Hitachi Contract Signing	May 2024	14	Project update Procurement
Emerging Industries Careers Expo	May 2024	97	Jobs Project update Environmental impacts
Energy Users Association of Australia Conference	May 2024	200	Project update Environmental impacts
Agfest	May 2024	234	Project update Environmental impact Project timing Jobs
Gippsland Emergency Relief Fund Dinner	May 2024	100	Project benefits
NET Program	May 2024	16	Student education
Cradle Coast Authority Councils EIS EES Meeting	May 2024	11	Government relations
Wellington Renewable Energy Forum 15	May 2024	20	Project update Environmental impact Project timing Jobs

Events	When	Conversations	Themes of conversation/ community interest
First Nations Better Practise Community Engagement Event - The Energy Charter	May 2024	35	First Nations engagement
Hitachi Signing	May 2024	11	Industry relations
Landholder and Stakeholder Catchup (Marinus Link and VicGrid)	May 2024	4	Landholder relations Project update
Tasmanian Energy Development Conference	June 2024	200	Industry and stakeholder engagement Renewable energy development in Tasmania Spokesperson project presentation
South Gippsland Bass Coast Careers Expo	June 2024	100	Education
Cradle Coast Authority Representatives EIS/EES Meeting	June 2024	14	Environmental update
South Gippsland Shire Council EIS/EES Meeting	June 2024	18	Environmental update Project update
South Gippsland Shire Council EIS/EES Meeting	June 2024	12	Environmental update Project update
North West Transmission Developments Stakeholder Liaison Group	June 2024	13	Environmental update Project update
Marinus Link and Vic Grid Land Access Meeting	July 2024	9	Landholder relations Project update
Vic Energy Communications and Engagement Coordination Meeting	July 2024	20	Project update Environmental update
CEDA State of the State	July 2024	200	Environmental update Project update
Jobs Skills Expo	July 2024	250	Careers Student education
Business Northwest Networking Breakfast	July 2024	20	Project Update Jobs
Business Northwest Networking Breakfast	July 2024	25	Project Update Jobs
Social Traders- National Game Changer Award	July 2024	100	Project update
Kinaway Deadly in Melbourne	August 2024	200	On country update EIS/EES update
Federation University Open day	August 2024	146	Careers Student education Project update
Yallourn Power Station Careers day	August 2024	185	Careers Project update

Events	When	Conversations	Themes of conversation/ community interest
Fish Creek Primary School presentation	August 2024	45	Project update Environmental concerns
Round Table- Cradle Coast Authority	August 2024	20	Project update Workforce planning Housing planning
Gippsland Stakeholder Liaison Group Meeting	August 2024	16	Project update Cultural Jobs Careers
North West Transmission Development Stakeholder Liaison Group	August 2024	20	Jobs Project timing
City Country Connect	August 2024	56	Jobs Industry update Procurement to Marinus Link
Business Northwest Networking Breakfast	August 2024	20	Project Update Jobs
Business Northwest Networking Breakfast	August 2024	25	Project Update Jobs
Business Northwest Networking Dinner – Meet the Premier	August 2024	40	Project Update Jobs
Koorie Emerging Leaders in School	August 2024	46	Student careers Education
Churchill Market	August 2024	103	Jobs and careers Project update
Directions Hearing	August 2024	25	Environmental concerns Project update Project timeline
Wellington Renewable Energy Forum	August 2024	25	Project update Project timeline
CCF Tasmania Civil Summit Conference	August 2024	100	Jobs Project update Project timing
Beacon Foundation Yolla District School- Polish Hip Program	August 2024	20	Student careers Education
Beacon Foundation Burnie High School- Polish Hip Program	August 2024	20	Student careers Education
Beacon Foundation Sheffield School	August 2024	20	Student careers Education
Net Program	August 2024	25	Student careers Education
Net Program	August 2024	25	Student careers Education
Burnie City Council Consultation Day	August 2024	100	Jobs Project update Project timing

Events	When	Conversations	Themes of conversation/ community interest
Meeting between ReCFIT and Marinus Link	August 2024	3	Jobs Project update Project timing
Jack Jumpers / Business Northwest Lunch	August 2024	40	Jobs Project update Project timing
Gippsland New Energy Conference	September 2024	800	Jobs Project benefits Timeline
Gippsland Youth Summit	September 2024	200	Jobs
Gippsland Women in New Energy Breakfast	September 2024	100	Project benefits
Briefing with Alistair Parker C4G	September 2024	38	Project update and benefits
U3A Presentation	September 2024	30	Project Update Project Benefits
Burnie Works BIG Science Fair	September 2024	250	Project Update
Business Northwest Networking Breakfast	September 2024	20	Project Update Jobs
Bass Strait Battle 1	September 2024	1000	Project update and benefits
Beacon Foundation Parklands High School	September 2024	16	Student careers Education
Beacon Foundation Penguin High School	September 2024	16	Student careers Education
Beacon Foundation Devonport Polish High School	September 2024	12	Student careers Education
Marinus Link Panel Hearings	September- October 2024	100	Project update Project benefits Environmental
Burnie Show	October 2024	300	Project update Project benefits Jobs Procurement opportunities
Wynyard Tulip Festival	October 2024	300	Project update Project benefits Jobs Procurement opportunities
NET Program	October 2024	20	Student careers Education
Net Program	October 2024	20	Student careers Education
All Energy Expo	October 2024	400	Project update Jobs Procurement

Events	When	Conversations	Themes of conversation/ community interest
Business Northwest Networking Breakfast	October 2024	20	Project Update Jobs
Asia Pacific Renewable Energy Training Centre Launch	October 2024	50	Industry relations
Deadly in Gippsland	October 2024	23	Procurement First people relations
Briefing with Miriam Beswick MHA	October 2024	2	Project timing Jobs Impacts
Cradle Coast Authority North West Renewable Energy Round Table	November 2024	20	Project update Workforce planning Housing planning
North West Transmission Development Stakeholder Liaison Group	November 2024	11	Jobs Project timing
Devonport Chamber of Commerce and Industry Networking Breakfast	November 2024	30	Project Update Jobs
South Gippsland Bass Coast LLEN careers presentation	November 2024	50	Jobs
Energy Infrastructure and Community Engagement Conference	November 2024	200	Jobs Industry development
Tarwin Lower Lifestyle Festival	November 2024	150	Project timing Jobs Impacts Environmental update
REX Foster Offshore Wind Day	November 2024	300	Project location Project update
Bell Bay Major Projects Conference	November 2024	102	Jobs Project update
Burnie City Market	November 2024	100	Jobs Project update Project timing
Wynyard Foreshore Market	November 2024	100	Jobs Project update Project timing
Tasmania Tender Writing Workshop	November 2024	19	Project timing Project update Jobs
Women in Industry Network event	December 2024	200	Project update Jobs Careers
Prom Coast Country Market	December 2024	100	Project update Jobs
Bass Strait Battle 2	December 2024	2000	Project update

Events	When	Conversations	Themes of conversation/ community interest
Mannalargenna Day	December 2024	30	Jobs Cultural Project timing
Briefing with Federal Senator Tammy Tyrrell	December 2024	4	Project timing Jobs Impacts
Total conversations: 12,264			



Phase 4: Public exhibition

In June 2024, Marinus Link's combined Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Environment Effects Statement (EES) were placed on public exhibition, allowing community members to review the project's potential impacts and provide formal submissions.

In late December 2024, Marinus Link placed its Development Applications and two Environment Effects Statements on public exhibition in Tasmania. This consultation period, which ran until February 2025, included engagement activities across North West Tasmania and webinars to inform the community about the process.

During this phase, Marinus Link focused on ensuring stakeholders had access to clear and accurate information to support informed submissions. Engagement efforts were guided by the relevant authorities and aimed at fostering meaningful community participation.

Events	When	Conversations
Victorian EIS/EES Process		
Mirboo North community drop-in session EIS/EES	June 2024	3
Fish Creek drop-in session EIS/EES	June 2024	9
Dumbalk landholder drop-in session EIS/EES	June 2024	5
Dumbalk community drop-in session EIS/EES	June 2024	2
Sandy Point landholder drop-in session EIS/EES	June 2024	6
Sandy Point drop-in session EIS/EES	June 2024	20
Churchill pop-up session EIS/EES	June 2024	25
Churchill community drop-in session EIS/EES	June 2024	2
Meenyian landholder drop-in session EIS/EES	June 2024	5
Landholder EIS/EES Webinar	June 2024	10
Community EIS/EES Webinar	June 2024	15
Burnie drop-in session EIS/EES	June 2024	3
Tasmanian DA and EIS Process		
Burnie Cradle Coast Authority drop ins	January 2025	4
EIS Webinar 1	January 2025	5
EIS Webinar 2	January 2025	19
Cradle Coast EIS Drop in	January 2025	3
Cradle Coast EIS Drop in	January 2025	3
Burnie Plaza drop in	January 2025	20
Burnie City Market	February 2025	40
Wynard Foreshore Market	February 2025	100
Heybridge drop-in	January 2025	15
Business Northwest networking breakfast presentation	January 2025	50
Total conversations: 299		

A summary of what we heard during this phase

As mentioned above, we conducted broad engagement across Tasmania and Victoria during this phase. The topics of discussion and key areas of interest varied depending on the state and location of each event.

In Tasmania, there was greater interest in project benefits, internet capacity, and the operational impacts of the project. In Victoria, discussions focused more on the overall project, the route, construction, and environmental impacts. There was also interest in broader energy sector developments, including offshore wind and other non-Marinus Link news.

Key themes in Tasmania/Bass Strait

◇ The Project

- » Project status
- » Timeline and key stages
- » Route location and alignment
- » Rationale and cost for undergrounding
- » Technical questions about the cables, converter stations, and system
- » Ownership and costs – who will own, who will pay, and cost to Tasmanians
- » Tender timeframes
- » Balance of Works Partner
- » Cable provider details
- » Converter station supply and kit

◇ Benefits

- » Benefits for Tasmania and Tasmanians
- » Benefits of the fibre optic cable and increased internet access
- » Benefits to residents of the North West
- » Community benefit sharing

◇ Heybridge Converter Station

- » Project progress
- » Location and visibility
- » Noise impacts
- » Signage

◇ Construction

- » Timelines and duration
- » Construction impacts and their management
- » Landholder and road access during construction
- » Noise impacts
- » Access to the beach
- » Traffic hazards and impacts to road users
- » Impacts to short-term accommodation

◇ Electricity

- » Trading with Victoria – transfer and direction
- » Electricity costs in Tasmania
- » Electromagnetic Fields (EMF)

◇ Subsea Cable

- » Location and depth
- » Maintenance requirements
- » Navigational safety considerations
- » Supplier details

◇ The North West Transmission Developments (NWTD)

- » Route and location
- » Environmental impacts
- » Project timing
- » Marinus Link's involvement with NWTD

◇ Employment and Procurement

- » Job opportunities and skills pathways
- » Upskilling and training initiatives
- » Engaging with government to ensure a skilled workforce
- » Early works and opportunities for local businesses

Key themes in Victoria

◇ The Project

- » Project purpose
- » Project timeline and stages
- » Route alignment / location/ options
- » Project cost
- » Rationale and cost for undergrounding
- » Technical questions about the cables, converter stations and the system
- » Easement requirements (size, width etc) and compensation
- » The type and location of above- ground infrastructure
- » Hazelwood Converter station
- » Use of the Mardan Farm purchased by Marinus Link
- » Planning scheme amendments and environmental approvals
- » Future engagement and the approach

◇ Impacts

- » At Waratah Bay
- » To future land use and property sales
- » To local towns
- » To native habitat
- » To native wildlife
- » To organic certification
- » To residential electricity costs
- » To noise levels
- » To telecommunications
- » Visual impacts
- » Vegetation screening

◇ Construction

- » Impacts and their management
- » Landholder and road access during construction
- » Marine construction
- » Environmental impacts
- » Horizontal Directional Drilling sites

◇ Employment and procurement

- » Jobs, opportunities
- » Early works and access for local businesses
- » Skills pathways
- » Cable provider details
- » Balance of Works Partner
- » Converter station supply and kit

◇ Affiliations

- » Marinus Link not being affiliated with offshore wind proposals, projects or policy
- » Marinus Link not being affiliated with Basslink

◇ Benefits

- » Community benefits
- » Community benefit sharing
- » Of renewable energy

◇ Traffic and transport

- » Traffic changes during construction
- » Transport of the cable on land

◇ Electricity

- » EMF and distance from houses
- » The NEM and firming power
- » Timing of coal fired generation assets closure and ML's construction
- » Assessing, mitigating and/ or offsetting emissions



How we are using this feedback

During this phase of engagements, we focused on understanding landholder and community concerns to help address them during the upcoming construction phase. As in previous phases, we used feedback to update our written and digital materials such as our website, newsletters and fact sheets, and to refine presentations for webinars and engagement. This included developing project key messages, presentation talking points and visual materials to simplify complex technical information.

A summary of community feedback including values, interests and concerns will be shared with contractors as part of the tender process and again upon award to ensure consistency, continuity and effective issue management during construction.

Next Steps

As we approach our Financial Investment Decision in mid 2025, we remain committed to engaging with local communities to keep them informed about the project's progress. Ongoing discussions and project communications will ensure stakeholders have access to the latest updates and can provide feedback as we move forward.

Key engagements in early 2025 will focus on connecting supply chain and contractors with the project in readiness for project delivery in 2026.

Engagements will also focus on providing updates related to our environmental approvals process, with outcomes for our applications due in mid to late 2025.



Contact us

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Interpreter

If you require an interpreter,
contact TIS National on 131 450
and ask to be connected to
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