

# MINUTES MARINUS LINK GIPPSLAND STAKEHOLDER LIAISON GROUP

Date: 10 May 2022

Location: Microsoft Teams

Meeting Number: 03

Chair: Jane Leslie

## Attendees

Tony Flynn (TF), Latrobe Valley Authority	Mikaela Power (MP), TAFE Gippsland
Mercedes J Stewart (RDV)	Benjamin White (BW), Marinus Link
Leigh Kennedy (LK), Federation University	Jeanie Hall, LVA
Ken Griffiths (KG), South Gippsland Shire Council	Tony Cantwell (TC), Committee for Gippsland
Peter Mooney (PM) Gippsland Trades and Labour Council	Owen Chapman, TAFE Gippsland
Holly Perriam (HP), Skills Victoria	Kate Lancaster (KL), Marinus Link
Crystal Serblan, RPS (minutes)	

## Apologies

Charles Solomon, GLaWAC	Daniel Miller, GLaWAC
Cameron Spence, GROW – Cam no longer working for GROW	Nick Stephens, South Gippsland Landcare Network
Owen Chapman, TAFE Gippsland	Peter Mooney, Gippsland Trades and Labour Council
Tina Bradshaw (TB), TAFE Gippsland	

## Abbreviations

AC	Alternating current
AEMO	Australian Energy Market Operator
DC	Direct current
EES	Environment Effects Statement
FID	Final Investment Decision
GLaWAC	Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation
GSLG	Gippsland Stakeholder Liaison Group

ISP	Integrated Service Plan
NEM	National Electricity Market

---

## **Minutes**

---

### **Introduction (JL)**

- Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country
- Previous minutes endorsed

### **Project update (BW & KL)**

- Marinius Link has just received an additional \$150M in funding. \$75M funding from Tasmanian Government and \$75M funding grant from the Commonwealth Government
  - Marinius Link no longer moving to ownership by Commonwealth. It will remain owned by TasNetworks with Commonwealth as a partner and membership on the Board.
  - Summary of recent and upcoming engagement activities.
    - -Farm World (Completed. The project had a lot of mostly positive conversations about the project)
    - -Rotary Club Presentations (Upcoming)
    - -Fish Creek Tea Cosy Festival (21 May)
    - -Dumbalk Community Drop-in Session (22 May)
  - Marinius Link undertaking on the ground survey work. Recently wrapped up some marine survey activities. We'll also be starting some geotech investigations across the alignment.
  - Marinius link will be subject to the offshore Energy Infrastructure Act and needs a licence to occupy the seabed.
  - Project continuing ongoing landowner engagement. This engagement started 18-months ago.
  - The process is a voluntary process with landowners. To date around one third have signed on to the Access Agreements
  - Access Agreements provide permission for Marinius Link to undertake survey work and field investigations. This is different to the agreements for an easement.
  - Landowners are compensated for easements. Compensation is determined by a number of factors including, length of easement, commercial uses of property, future land use etc.
  - Marinius Link is working with landowners and investigating the potential for annualised payments for easements which is a different model to the normal upfront payment approach.
  - We see some themes around areas of concerns for landowners, including:
    - -biosecurity
    - -future land use
    - -protecting organic certifications
  - Project working with landowners around future land use. 20 metre wide easement and cables will be buried 1.5 metres underground. Once it's reinstated most shallow-crop, grazing and irrigation
-

---

activities will be able to continue. You can't pile posts or build structures over the easement but that's the main restriction.

**Question:** Has Marinus Link experienced a change in how landowners are receiving or discussing our project to the knowing there's a lot of other projects?

**Answer:** Engagement with landowners has been a long process so there was COVID, floods, earthquakes. Engagement was delayed and then restarted several times to respond to this. It also took us a while to get an on the ground team in place. Early on there was some confusion with landowners on what types of access the projected needed.

Marinus Link has listened to landowners and their concerns and we've taken lessons from previous projects in the area and we've amended our approach, this and being able to get out on the ground has helped.

We have noticed there is a lot of confusion between projects and we get asked a lot about whether Marinus Link is related to projects like Star of the South or the Delburn Wind Farm. We get asked a lot can we share our alignment and coordinate our infrastructure with other projects to have less of a footprint.

It's possible in some regards and not possible in others. Marinus Link technology, assets and the necessary configuration means we can accommodate some additional things but not others. There's a lot of technical considerations, not just land use that goes into these decisions. not just land use considerations.

**Question** – Are there any pockets of landowners or themes where there is resistance to signing onto agreements or is it a timing issue?

**Answer:** Dependant on the individual landowner and their concerns, for some landowners it is about compensation, for others it is about possible impacts.

There are some areas like Mirboo North where we've had less landowners sign up to Access Agreements.

We also know the project needs to address some misinformation which has been circulating. For example, we know people have heard they won't be able to sell their property without permission from Marinus Link. This is not true so we're working to develop some material to try and clarify some of these rumours.

- Marinus Link recruitment update – interviewing for Indigenous Engagement Advisor, Regional Engagement Specialist and Economic Development Advisor. No candidates for Economic Development Advisor and looking for feedback
- SLG members suggested title might not full represent the role as it is more commonly a title used in local government and for someone with less decision making ability. Changing the title might get more candidates. Might also look at secondment opportunities from organisations already doing work in this space. It was suggested the ideal candidate would be a local who has strong relationships and has experience developing successful partnerships.
- **Action** – If there is any other GSLG feedback on the position description or role, please email thoughts to Crystal or Jane.

### **Presentation Skills Victoria, Holly Perriam (BW & KL)**

- Holly is the Principal Regional Adviser and the role is based in the community to provide skills solutions to help industry when they are unable to source training or skills that they require. They work closely with TAFE Gippsland and also with the team at the Skills and Job Centre which also sit under the Victorian Skills Authority.
  - Focus on future skills required for the region.
-

- 
- Mapping the skill supply and demand. So that's some of the work that's happening at the moment in Gippsland utilizing a future skills innovation front and other products like the skills and job centres to increase skills development.
  - The Future Skills Innovation fund will be launching services to connect students and community and industries, job skills and jobs and commissioning. They'll be sharing high quality curriculum to increase excellence, consistency and efficiency in cost delivery.
  - There are a couple of arms of the Victorian Skills Authority, they have carriage of the Skills Gateway and the TAFE and training line. They also look after the VET Development Centre and will be looking at teacher professional development then professional development. They will also be doing the skills and insights. The intent is there will be a website available to the public that will publish data on skills that will be up to date and current. There's a couple of parallel pieces of work that are happening alongside the Victorian Skills Plan, which is probably the major piece of work that we have at the moment.
  - On 1 July last year, the Victorian Skills Authority was established as well as the Office of TAFE Coordination and Delivery. Two separate entities that have their own CEO as well as the higher Education Skills Group, which is the Traditional Department of Education, which has a Dep Sec that looks after that piece of work.
  - Higher ed skills is policy and funding and a lot of the funding streams that come out of the Department of Education are coming out of higher education skills group. The Skills Authority is working on the on-the-ground problem solving.
  - In region, people to talk to VSA about what's going on, and then the VSA tried to find solutions for those skills issues and the Office of TAFE Coordination. Delivery is really about the TAFE network, so not private RTOs, but the TAFE network working together, sharing resources, connecting things up so there is better delivery and efficiency across the TAFE system.
  - VSA have a CEO, Craig Robinson, and an Advisory Board. The Board provides independent device to the Minister for Training and Skills and the VSA. The CEO reports directly to the Minister. He also chairs 10 industry advisory groups
  - The Victorian Skills Plan is due at middle of the year. The plan will be done yearly.
  - Learnings used to streamline the process for next year and engagement around the Skills Plan. So they will cover off all of the industry advisory group areas that we have will have a section of the Victorian Skills Plan as an appendix that will also be released.
  - The objectives of the Skills Plan are to define current and emerging skills needs, set priorities for post school education and training in Victoria, determine community opportunities for education and training that meet current and emerging individual and industry needs, align priorities across industry and government to support improved outcomes for all Victorians.
  - There's been student forums to get their feedback about how they're currently finding the skills delivery in Victoria and what will be looking for is to see how we can influence the national skills agenda.
  - For education, anyone with a vocational major will be required to do placements and that will increase the number of placements that are going out.
  - The Skills Plan will be by occupation. The research for this gives us a demand profile. The plan looks at industries that are growth industries for Gippsland. The Skills Plan has done that across our industry advisory groups, drilling down to see what occupations are needed, what skills are needed and putting an Australia forecast on that. Skills Victoria is doing the planning and using the skills plan as our base. The plan looks at what are we going to need in the next three years? What can we start working on now? It will be a base for people to work on alongside the regional economic development plans that RDV are releasing. Skills Victoria working very closely with regional and rural Victoria to deliver these plans.
  - The skills will be the response that is required. In some areas what is needed is bodies on the ground, so they simply don't have a workforce to draw on. Gippsland, a little bit different, there is an
-

---

untapped workforce, with unemployment high for difference pockets of the population like youth. The challenge is to create a pathway for them. Some of the barriers to accessing skills and training will be highlighted within the task force. Distance, lack of transport etc

- Report will be released to Tas Force Members for comment which will help produce the Regional Skills Demand Profile toward late June.

**Comment :** There is an opportunity to tap into some of the smaller businesses and create a framework for cadetships and hosting students. This might also help small businesses to become larger businesses.

- The capability and capacity of small to medium enterprises has really come to the fore around how do you become an employer of choice. There's training representation for small to medium businesses on the Task Force and the training that they're delivering and what they're seeing in terms of upskilling and innovation that businesses require.

**Question:** What the difference is between the plan that's getting released and the skills demand profile or is that demand profile built into the plan?

**Answer:** The Victorian Skills Plan is an overarching Victorian plan with key industries, statistics, recommendations and then the skills demand profiles are appendices to that Skills Plan and will feed in information. If there are key aspects of Gippsland growth or industries or skills needs that will be fed into the plan, they'll be released.

#### **Renewable Power Works (KW and BW)**

- Marinus Link sees a need for broader education about the various projects and the renewable energy transition happening in the region
- Latrobe Valley had strong literacy in thermal power generation thanks to Power Works and the jobs in that region. How do we look at similar opportunity for renewables.
- Can we build an online platform like Power Works to make it more accessible and affordable for students. What would it look like, who would support this and need to be involved? What would we need to do to develop the business case?

#### **Discussion**

- Online component is important but have a physical presence and being based in the Valley is probably also important
  - Need to understand the audiences, is it an education experience for kids? Is it education for the broader Gippsland communities to get on board, given it is a key priority in the Gippsland regional plan and there seems to be a real economic development push for the region?
  - Need to define who we need to get on board and understand this opportunity, even from Invest Gippsland's point of view, they might see it as an opportunity to partner and attract investors and skills and other opportunities and providers into this area. We can think about the the school kids as being a a key market and obviously the curriculums are really full anyway. How do you get it into the curriculum to make it worthwhile.
  - What about the rest of the community and identifying advocates. This could also help with landowner conversations, so that when you're starting those conversations, there's a degree of awareness of the project and why they are being approached for access etc.
  - Need to identify For what purpose are we wanting to do it? Who really are we wanting to target? And then what's the best way to connect with them? And then here's the advocates. One Gippsland
  - Transition to renewables will see a larger economic development opportunity than was potentially delivered by thermal generation, so this could be a useful vehicle to actually get that narrative out into the community at all levels of community workers, existing workers, future generations, school kids. And those thinking they haven't got a future in energy. Power Works was good at telling the history but it never really got to the next step by telling the future opportunity.
-

- 
- TasNetowrks has partnered with Cradle Coast Authority to deliver something similar on the Tassie side. Pumped hydro and energy education. Started simple but has opportunity to grow.
  - Staff have got one in Yarram you know, if you could have, what else is happening in the region corners within each of those offices, where each of you have a display or an interpretive board or something like that to show that there's collaboration to show that there's a real future and drive aspiration. And particularly, I did Churchill fellowship in about 100 years in anyway.
  - In the UK they did some really cool things that were quite left of centre because they did things like master the art of storytelling and art works and all that sort of stuff to tell the story of the past. But linked it to the aspirations of the future. And I just think you could do some really cool things and that space. You know some beautiful photography or something like that from the community. It can be an educational and aspirational tool
  - Marinus Link will talk to Wellington Shire Council to see what information they've got with the project map and then start to pull together a business case. This can be presented to the GSLG.
  - Speak to Tech Schools and Climate Change networks

### Meeting close

---

Actions	Who	Due Date	Progress
Any feedback from GSLG members on Marinus Link job ads send to Jane or Crystal	All	27-05-22	In progress