


ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT  
STATEMENT -  
HEYBRIDGE CONVERTER STATION



January 2025



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We acknowledge the First Peoples of the Country on which Marinus Link is proposed in Tasmania, across Bass Strait and in Victoria. We recognise the Tasmanian Aboriginal Community and Traditional Owners in Victoria and their continuing connection to land, sea, waterways, sky, and culture and pay our respects to all elders past and present.

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**MARINUS**  
LINK

## Document status

Document Version	Date	Author
Revision 0	6 December 2024	Marinus Link Pty Ltd

Marinus Link, Environmental Impact Statement – Heybridge Converter Station (2024).

This assessment concerns a proposed development at the intersection of Minna Road and Bass Highway, Heybridge, Tasmania.

## Responsibilities

This document is the responsibility of the Marinus Link Team, Marinus Link Pty Ltd, PO Box 721, Hobart Tasmania 7001, ABN 47 630 194 562 (hereafter referred to as "Marinus Link").

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## Abbreviations

Acronym and abbreviation	Definition
μT	Microteslas
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
AC	Alternating current
ACM	Asbestos containing materials
AEMO	Australian Energy Market Operator
AEP	Annual exceedance probability
ASS	Acid sulfate soils
BoM	Bureau of Meteorology
CCTV	Closed circuit television
CEMP	Construction Environmental Management Plan
CFEV	Conservation of Freshwater Ecosystem Values
CNVG	Construction Noise and Vibration Guidelines
CO <sub>2</sub>	Carbon dioxide
Cwlth	Commonwealth
DA	Development application
DAC	<i>Eucalyptus amygdalina</i> coastal forest and woodland
dB	Decibel
DC	Direct current
DCCEEW	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
DGV	Default guideline value
DPIWE	Department of Primary Industries, Water and Environment
DV	Direct current
DVC	<i>Eucalyptus viminalis</i> – <i>Eucalyptus globulus</i> coastal forest and woodland
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EES	Environment Effects Statement
EIS guidelines	EIS Guidelines: Heybridge Converter Station for Marinus Link September 2022
EMF	Electromagnetic fields
EMI	Electromagnetic interference
EMPC Act	<i>Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994</i>
EMS	Environmental Management System
EPA	Environment Protection Authority (Tasmania)
EPA Board	Board of the Environment Protection Authority (Tasmania)
EPBC Act	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Act 1999</i>
EPP	Tasmanian Environment Protection Policy
EPRs	Environmental performance requirements
ESD	Ecologically sustainable development

Acronym and abbreviation	Definition
FPA	Forest Practices Authority
FTE	Full time equivalent
GDE	Groundwater dependant ecosystem
GHG	Greenhouse gas
GW	Gigawatt
ha	Hectare
HDD	Horizontal directional drilling
HVAC	High voltage alternating current
HVDC	High voltage direct current
IAQM	Institute of Air Quality Management
ICNIRP	International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection
IEC	International Electrotechnical Commission
ISP	Integrated service plan
km	Kilometre
kV/m	Kilovolt per metre
kV	kilovolt
kVA	Kilo-volt-amperes
L <sub>Aeq</sub>	A-weighted, equivalent continuous sound level
LGA	Local government area
LUPA Act	<i>Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993</i>
mg/L	Milligrams per litre
MLPL	Marinus Link Pty Ltd (the proponent)
MNES	Matters of National Environmental Significance
MW	Megawatts
NM	nautical miles
N/m <sup>2</sup>	Newton per metre squared
NC Act	<i>Nature Conservation Act 2002</i>
NEM	National electricity market
NEPM	National Environment Protection Measure
NRE	Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania
NSESD	National Strategy for Ecologically Sustainable Development (1992)
NSW ICNG	The New South Wales <i>Interim Construction Noise Guideline</i>
NVA	Natural Values Atlas
NWTD	North West Transmission Developments
OEMP	Operational Environmental Management Plan
PEVs	Protected environmental values
PFAS	Poly-fluoroalkyl substances
PFOS	Perfluorooctane sulfonate



Acronym and abbreviation	Definition
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	Particles with a diameter of 2.5 micrometres or less
PM <sub>10</sub>	Particles with a diameter of 10 micrometres or less
PMST	Protected matters search tool
RBL	Rating background level
REZ	Renewable energy zone
SF <sub>6</sub>	Sulfur hexafluoride
tCO <sub>2</sub> -e	Tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent
TasNetworks	Tasmanian Networks Pty Ltd
TDS	Total dissolved solid
TFS	Tasmanian Fire Service
The LIST	Land Information System Tasmania
TSP Act	<i>Threatened Species Protection Act 1995</i>
WQOs	Water quality objectives

## Glossary

Term	Definition
acid sulfate soils	Naturally occurring soils, sediments or organic substrates formed under waterlogged conditions. These soils contain iron sulfide minerals or their oxidation products. In an undisturbed state below the water table, acid sulfate soils are benign. However, if the soils are drained, excavated or exposed to air by a lowering of the water table, the sulfides react with oxygen to form sulfuric acid.
acidic	Conditions or properties with a pH less than 7.
active transport	Transport involving activities such as walking or cycling.
anthropogenic	Effects, processes or materials originating from human activities.
aquifer	A formation of rock or sediment that is saturated with water and sufficiently permeable to transit quantities of water to wells and springs.
artefact	An object thought to be produced by a human being that is culturally or historically significant.
arterial	Arterial roads provide a major thorough fair and carry a large volume of traffic though a region. They are declared under the <i>Roads and Jetties Act 1935</i> and managed by the Department of State Growth on behalf of the Tasmanian Government.
baseline conditions	The existing environmental conditions, including physical, chemical, and biological characteristics of an area, established before the commencement of any construction or development activities.
bed	Unconsolidated material, or sediment mixture, of which the bottom of a stream or sea is composed.
catchment	The collection of rainfall over a natural drainage area.
construction	Construction of the proposal comprises all work required to construct the proposal as described in Section 2.3 of this EIS (but may exclude low impact works).
culverts	A drain or channel crossing under a road, etc.; a sewer; a conduit.
cumulative impacts	Changes that are caused by a combined impact of other projects that occur at the same time and within the vicinity of the Marinus Link project in Tasmania.
decommissioning	The act of permanently removing infrastructure from operation; involving such activities as assessment of alternatives uses (including continued use for the same purpose, conversion to another use or retention in-situ for possible future use), safe isolation (and purging) of hazardous infrastructure for removal or in-situ retention (underground infrastructure) remediation of contaminated land, demolition and disposal of above ground infrastructure, and rehabilitation of site in accordance with standards and guidelines applicable at the time.
dewatering	The process of pumping or draining water from an excavation.
discharge	Removal of water from or flow out of an aquifer, including flow to surface water, another aquifer, or artificial means such as pumping.
dispatchable energy	Electricity supply that can easily be turned on and off in response to demand and at short notice
disturbance	The physical displacement of existing features that may lead to impacts.
drainage	A hydrologic process where surface or sub-surface water flows within an area or a catchment.
earthworks	Activity to excavate and haul earth.
ecosystem	An interacting system of animals, plants, other organisms and non-living parts of the environment.
electromagnetic field	A field of force containing electrical and magnetic.
electromagnetic interference	Unwanted noise or interference in an electrical path or circuit caused by an outside source.

Term	Definition
erosion	The process of gradually wearing away exposed soil, earth, or rock surfaces by an abrasive action such as wind and water or other natural agents.
fire ignition	Refers to the beginning of a fire when an ignition source (i.e., material or equipment) such as a spark, flame, or heat, comes into contact with fuel and begins the combustion process.
First Peoples	Culturally distinct ethnic groups who are native to a place which has been colonised and settled by another ethnic group.
fuel hazard	Refers to the type of potentially combustible vegetation or materials that could contribute to the spread and intensity of a bushfire, influencing the fire's behaviour and impact.
geology	Geology is the study of the rocks of which the Earth is composed.
geomorphology	Geomorphology is the study of the Earth's physical features, the processes that shape them and their change over time.
greenhouse gas	A gas that contributes to the greenhouse effect by absorbing infrared radiation and redirecting it back onto the earth's surface.
groundwater	Water stored in geological formations below the land surface.
groundwater dependent ecosystems	Natural terrestrial and aquatic (both saline and fresh) ecosystems that require access to groundwater to meet all or some of their water requirements to maintain their ecological communities, processes and services.
horizontal direct drilling	Drilling technique used to install underground pipes, cables or conduits without disturbing the ground surface.
impact assessment	Formal process of identifying and evaluating the actions and changes of a process.
infrastructure	The supporting installations and services that supply the needs of a project.
ingress	Unwanted introduction of foreign objects.
in-situ	In the original location or place.
landform	A feature of the earth's surface.
low impact works	<p>Low impact works include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ground preparation (that is not earthworks), e.g., grubbing, pot holing, stump removal, weed control.</li> <li>• Clearing of vegetation.</li> <li>• Site access works for the purpose of undertaking low impact works.</li> <li>• Works associated with minor utilities including modification or relocation of existing utilities.</li> <li>• Installation of temporary services, temporary fencing, temporary parking, or temporary buildings.</li> <li>• Installation of any noise barriers or site signage.</li> <li>• Replacement and/or repair of existing boundary fencing.</li> </ul> <p>Low impact work becomes 'Construction' with the approval or endorsement of a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP).</p>
outcrop	A rock formation that is visible on the surface
particulate	Of, relating to, or in the form of a minute separate particles.
pH	A parameter used to indicate acidity or alkalinity in soils and is measured in pH units.
principal contractor	Contractors directly engaged by MLPL for works packages. Principal contractors may engage sub-contractors to perform project works.
project approvals	Includes all primary approvals and key secondary consents.
proposal site	The proposal site includes:



Term	Definition
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two converter stations</li> <li>• One switching station</li> </ul>
Quaternary	Relating to or denoting the most recent period in the Cenozoic era, following the tertiary period and comprising of the Pleistocene and Holocene epochs.
rating background level	The overall single figure background noise level representing each assessment period (day/evening/night) over the whole monitoring period. This is the level used for assessment purposes.
scour	Refers to the erosion of base layer sediment caused by water.
seabed alignments	Subsea cable installation from the HDD exit point (at approximately 10 m water depth) to within 3 nautical miles within Tasmanian coastal waters. Once in Bass Strait, the subsea cables would be laid in two bundles that each comprise two power cables and one fibre-optic cable (referred to as the site of the seabed alignment).
sensitive receptor	Locations or groups that may be adversely affected by environmental impacts, such as noise, air quality, or changes to natural habitats; often includes residential areas, schools, hospitals, and parks.
soil	The upper layer of material covering the Earth's surface. It comprises inorganic and organic particles, air, water and living organisms.
species	The basic category of biological classification, intended to designate a single kind of animal or plant, any variations existing among the individuals being regarded as not affecting the essential sameness which distinguishes them from all other organisms within the category.
stakeholder	Individuals, organisations, and groups with an interest in the project.
study area	The area required to characterise baseline conditions and to enable assessment of impacts for each technical study. The study area would vary for each technical study and may be larger or smaller than the survey area.
survey area	The area that was subject to ground surveys. The survey area would vary for each technical study and may be larger or smaller than the study area.
The project	Marinus Link project
The proponent	Marinus Link Pty Ltd
The proposal	Heybridge Converter Station
threatened species	Species of flora or fauna that are at risk of extinction. The term "threatened" is applied to species and ecological communities that are considered "critically endangered", "endangered" or "vulnerable" under state or Commonwealth legislation.
topography	The arrangement of the natural and artificial physical features of an area.
underground crossings	Six HDD bores, and cable installation, from the HDD launch pads and drilled below Bass Highway and the Western Line Railway extending approximately 1 km into Bass Strait (at approximately 10 m water depth) (referred to as the site of the underground crossings).
watercourse	Ephemeral or permanent flow of water in a natural drainage line including river, creek and stream.
water table	The upper limit of ground saturated with water.
wetland	Area in which the soil is frequently or permanently with or under water.