

15 February 2024

Australian Energy Market Operator
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To whom it may concern,

Draft 2024 Integrated System Plan

TasNetworks welcomes the opportunity to contribute to the development of the 2024 Integrated System Plan (ISP). TasNetworks is the transmission network service provider (TNSP), distribution network service provider (DNSP) and jurisdictional planner in Tasmania. TasNetworks is also responsible for the progression of the North West Transmission Developments (NWTN), which is a key component of the actionable Project Marinus. We appreciate AEMO's ongoing engagement in the development of the 2024 ISP.

TasNetworks welcomes updates to Project Marinus in the draft 2024 ISP, including updated cost estimates and staging. We are pleased that Project Marinus continues to be identified as an actionable ISP project and that the draft 2024 ISP recognises the critical role Project Marinus will play in facilitating both Tasmania's and Australia's transition to a clean energy future.

In addition to the actionable Project Marinus, there are three future ISP projects identified in Tasmania. TasNetworks considers the Waddamana-Palmerston augmentation should be identified as an actionable ISP project in the final 2024 ISP. The need for this project has been clearly established, noting the optimal timing of 2029-30 under all scenarios.

In the 2023 Transmission Expansion Options Report (refer section 4.5.3), the Waddamana-Palmerston augmentation is given a 'Short' lead time. 'Short' lead time is defined as a delivery timeframe of 3-5 years. TasNetworks expects this augmentation could be delivered within 5 years from the final 2024 ISP—if the project is identified as actionable—and therefore supports the 'short' lead time classification.

However, we would not be able to deliver the project under a future ISP project classification (i.e. waiting for the 2026 ISP for the option to be identified as actionable) as per the optimal timings identified in the ISP. That is, we could not deliver this augmentation by 2029-30 if this project is not made actionable until the 2026 ISP. The Waddamana-Palmerston augmentation delivery timeframe is at the upper end of the 3-5 year timeframe for a 'short' lead time project.

Note that, unlike the other future ISP project that is broadly on the same timeframe in terms of need¹, the Waddamana-Palmerston augmentation has not had any detailed work progressed to date, which means its lead time is relatively longer. We support the future ISP project status of the Hampshire Hills "North West Tasmania REZ Expansion" project.

We look forward to continuing to support AEMO in its preparation of the final ISP.

Yours sincerely



Chantal Hopwood
Head of Regulation

¹ The network augmentation to Hampshire Hills, captured under the "North West Tasmania REZ Expansion". This project has undergone significant early works as part of our North West Transmission Developments supporting Marinus Link.