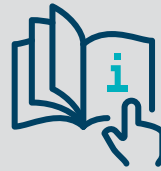


Community and social Victoria



We understand that the communities we are working in are integral to the success of Marinus Link.

In Victoria, Marinus Link extends 90km north through Gippsland, from Waratah Bay, through Buffalo, Fish Creek and Stony Creek, to Dumbalk, Mardan and Mirboo North on the Strzelecki Ranges, before reaching Hazelwood, via Driffield, in the Latrobe Valley.



More information

For more information on community and social impacts in Victoria view Chapter 16: Social in Volume 4 of the Environmental Impact Statement/Environment Effect Statement (EIS/EES) via Marinus Link's website at marinuslink.com.au/assessment/eis-ees.

Assessing impacts to the community

As part of the EIS/EES, Marinus Link undertook a social impact assessment in Victoria to evaluate the positive and negative social impacts of the project on community identity, the local economy and people's health and wellbeing.

Construction activities may lead to temporary changes to visual amenity, changes to the road network, impaired

access to recreational areas and general amenity changes caused by noise and dust generation. These changes may temporarily impair residents' enjoyment of their properties.

The project will result in both positive and negative impacts for the local economy and livelihood of the community.

Potential negative impacts affect the affordability and availability of housing. The influx of workers for the project has the potential to put additional pressure on the region's infrastructure and services.

Potential positive impacts include the direct and indirect employment opportunities from the project.

What we heard

Through consultation with local communities via community drop-in sessions, webinars, stakeholder meetings, interviews and attendance at local events, Marinus Link gained valuable insights regarding the areas and places that hold significance to them.

This feedback has helped identify community concerns and potential social impacts associated with the project, informing the impact assessment in the EIS/EES and supporting measures outlined in this fact sheet.

Key themes raised during the consultation include:

Maintaining access to affordable housing.

Maintaining access to recreation areas.

Protecting a strong sense of community and highly valued regional lifestyle.

Protecting flora and fauna within the area, including from the risk of bushfires.

Protecting and preserving First Peoples heritage and cultural values.

Maintaining a safe, functional road network.

Maintaining the visual amenity of the area.

Protecting the local tourism industry.

Retaining the agricultural capacity of farmland.

Providing long-term employment opportunities.

Maintaining commercial fishing operations in Bass Strait.



Support for local communities

As part of our Sustainability Framework, we have made a commitment to understand the local community's needs and how we work with governments and local partners to leave a positive legacy.

To ensure we deliver on this commitment, we are working across the regions to ensure we engage with current and future communities to plan the delivery of the project.



Landholders and the community

We have been working closely with landholders since late 2019 to understand their needs and concerns, refine the cable route, provide updates and create a greater understanding of the project. We will continue to engage with the community and landholders to provide information about the project and develop solutions to potential project impacts as the project progresses. We will also work closely with our contractors to develop tailored communications and engagement plans as we move into construction.



Stakeholder Liaison Group

We've established the Gippsland Stakeholder Liaison Group to maximise the project's benefits across the region. The Group provides Marinus Link with important information about potential cultural and environmental impacts on the community. It is also an important engagement forum to share collaboration opportunities between Marinus Link and the community, including workforce development and transition opportunities.



First Peoples Advisory Group

We have established a First Peoples Advisory Group representative of Traditional Owners in Gippsland, including Boonwurrung Land and Sea Council, Bunurong Land Council

Aboriginal Corporation and GunaiKurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation. The forum facilitates ongoing conversations between Traditional Owners in Gippsland related to the impacts and opportunities of the project. It provides Marinus Link with valuable information and advice on issues important to First Peoples living in Gippsland, including matters related to environmental approvals and social licence.



Community Benefits Sharing Program

We will co-design a Community Benefits Sharing Program in consultation with local communities in Victoria. We will implement the program throughout the construction phase and beyond.



Industry and jobs participation

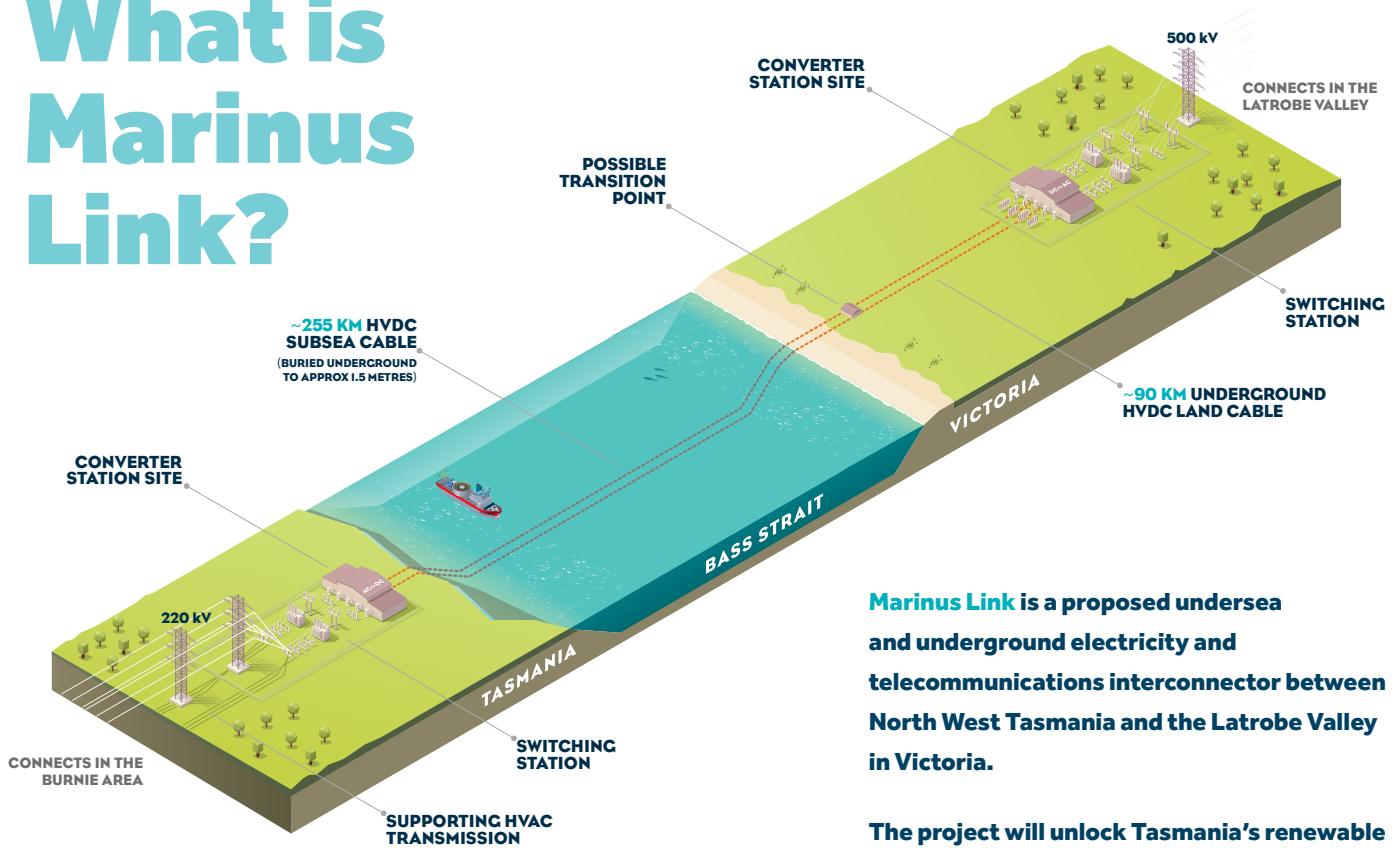
We are engaging with industry, schools, tertiary education providers and training institutions to plan for the future workforce required to construct, operate and maintain Marinus Link. An Industry Participation Plan will be developed prior to construction and will include local and First Peoples employment targets and social procurement opportunities.



Workforce and accommodation

We have worked collaboratively with stakeholders and are developing a workforce accommodation guide, which will inform contractors on opportunities for local workforce accommodation throughout the construction phase of the project. We will prioritise the use of a local workforce and focuses on training local people to reduce the burden on housing and social infrastructure from an influx of outside workers.

What is Marinus Link?



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

The project will unlock Tasmania's renewable energy and storage resources to deliver reliable and clean energy for customers in the National Electricity Market.



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More information

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