

Understanding the different approvals processes for Marinus Link - Tasmania

Marinus Link is a proposed undersea and underground electricity and telecommunications interconnector between Northwest Tasmania and the Latrobe Valley in Victoria. The project comprises high voltage electricity cables, fibre optic cables, and converter stations in both Tasmania and Victoria. The converter stations will connect directly into the transmission networks in both Tasmania and Victoria.

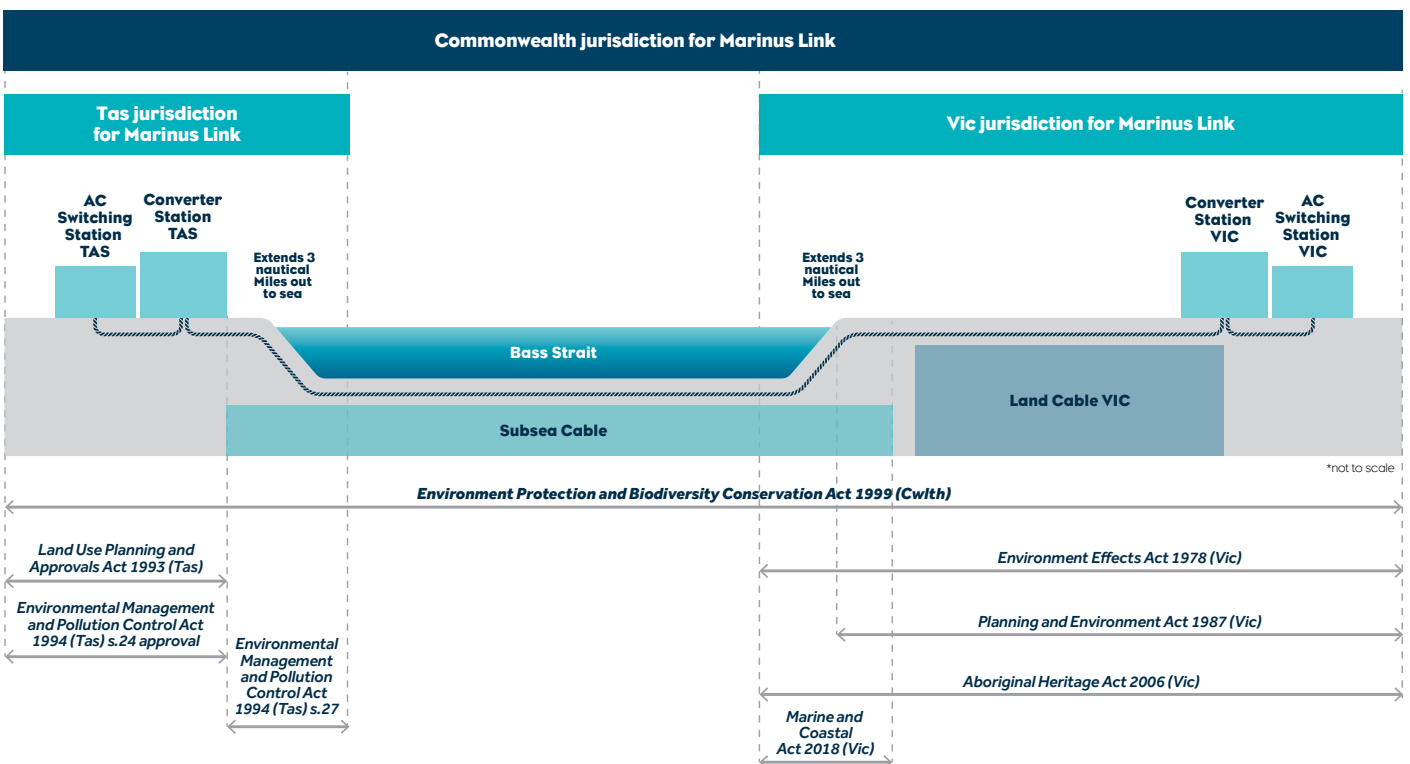
As Marinus Link crosses Tasmania, Victoria and Commonwealth waters, the project needs to be assessed and approved under the planning and environment laws relevant to each of the jurisdictions.

In consultation with the key regulatory agencies Marinus Link Pty Ltd (MLPL) has made every effort to coordinate the assessment and approval processes. However, with

a project of this size, nature, and complexity, it has been challenging to align the different processes, including the public exhibition periods. We have been able to align the Commonwealth and Victorian public exhibition periods, with the Tasmanian public review expected to take place shortly after.

We would like the community to be aware of the staggered process and the opportunities to make comment. Ultimately, each decision maker in each jurisdiction will consider all of the matters relevant under their applicable laws.

This brochure provides advice on the public exhibition processes and timings for the primary approvals as they relate to the various jurisdictions.



Commonwealth and Victoria

MLPL has prepared a combined draft Environmental Impact Statement (**EIS**) under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (**EPBC Act**) and Environment Effects Statement (**EES**) under the Victorian *Environment Effects Act 1978* (**EE Act**) through a coordinated process. The combined EIS/EES is now available for public comment.

The EIS/EES is required under the EPBC Act due to the potential for significant impacts on listed threatened species and communities and listed migratory species in Commonwealth, Victoria and Tasmania, and the environment of the Commonwealth marine area. After the public input process has been completed, the Commonwealth Minister for the Environment and Water will decide whether the project is approved, approved with conditions, or refused under the EPBC Act.

The combined EIS/EES also addresses the environmental effects of the project in Victoria. Following public exhibition and a subsequent inquiry, the Victorian Planning Minister's assessment will be used to inform Victorian decision-makers for the project approvals required under Victorian legislation.

Details of the public exhibition process are detailed on the Public Notice which can be found on the Marinus Link website: marinuslink.com.au/assessment.



Tasmania

Separate approvals are required under Tasmanian planning and environment legislation for the project components located in Tasmania. A development application under the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* (**LUPA Act**) and an EIS under the Tasmanian *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994* (**EMPC Act**) are being prepared for the Heybridge converter station. An EIS is also being prepared under the EMPBC Act for the Heybridge shore crossing.

Public comment on the development application and EISs will be sought on these components through the statutory process in Tasmania, which is proposed to occur later in 2024.

If you have questions or need help understanding the different assessment processes and opportunities to make a submission, we encourage you to contact us by phoning Marinus Link on 1300 765 275 or emailing team@marinuslink.com.au.

How to access the EIS/EES

The EIS/EES addressing Commonwealth and Victorian matters is on public exhibition from 9:00am Friday 31 May to 5:00pm Friday 12 July 2024.

The EIS/EES documents will be available to read and download, free of charge, at marinuslink.com.au/assessment.

The full EIS/EES will be made available in hard copy at Burnie Future Energy Hub – 1 to 3 Spring Street, Burnie TAS 7320.

For those who may have accessibility issues, or where electronic options are impracticable, hard copies of some documents, or other assistance may be requested, by phoning Marinus Link on 1300 765 275 or emailing team@marinuslink.com.au.

How to Make a submission

Anyone may make a submission on the EIS/EES now on exhibition. You don't have to identify what jurisdiction it is relevant to.

Submissions must be made in writing and received by 11:59pm on Friday 12 July 2024.

Submissions can be lodged via the Victorian Government's Engage Victoria website: engage.vic.gov.au/MarinusLink-IAC.

More details about providing a submission on the EIS/EES can be found on MLPL's website: marinuslink.com.au/documents-and-resources.

Upcoming engagement opportunities near you

We're hosting drop-in sessions in Heybridge and Burnie to answer questions and provide information on the EIS/EES documents and approvals process addressing Commonwealth and Victorian matters.

If you can't attend an engagement, we're also hosting and recording a webinar.

Engagement session details:

Burnie drop-in session

- ◇ **Where:** Burnie Future Energy Hub - 1 to 3 Spring Street, Burnie TAS 7320.
- ◇ **When:** Thursday, 20 June – 10am-12pm

Heybridge drop-in session

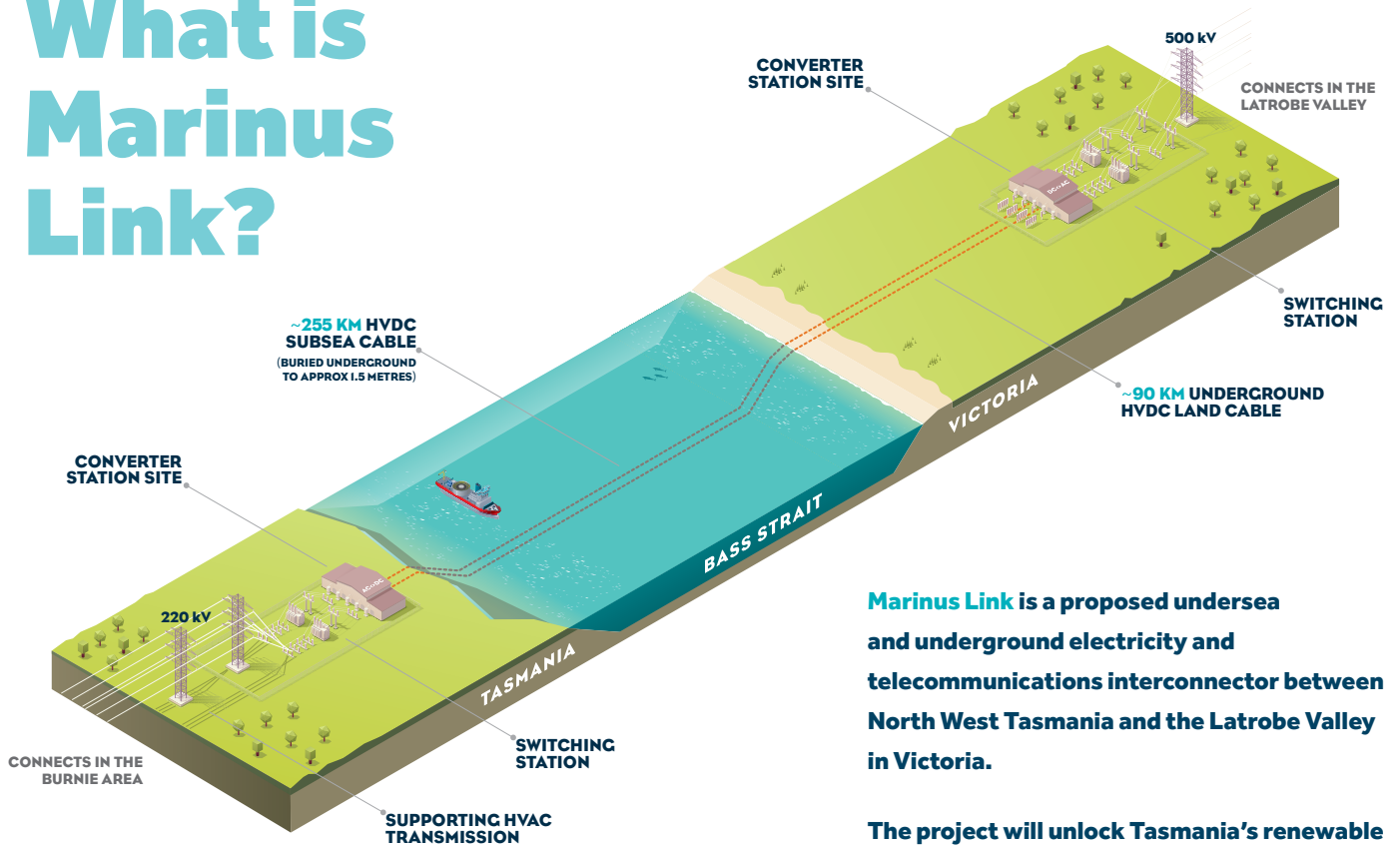
- ◇ **Where:** Cuprona Football Clubhouse – 94 River Ave, Heybridge TAS 7316
- ◇ **When:** Thursday, 20 June – 3-5pm

Community webinar

- ◇ **When:** Wednesday, 19 June 2024 – 3pm
- ◇ **To register:** <https://forms.office.com/r/xH95HnbebA>



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

- visit marinuslink.com.au
- email team@marinuslink.com.au
- call **1300 765 27**