



Consumer Advisory Panel (CAP) &
Gippsland Stakeholder Liaison Group (GSLG)
Combined workshop 14th Sept 2022
Summary Report



Action	Name and title	Date
Prepared by	Laura Browning, Consultant, RPS	14/9/22
Reviewed by	Crystal Serblan, Associate Director, RPS	11/10/22
Authorised by	Heath Dillon, Executive Manager, Customer & Revenue, Marinus Link	11/10/22

Responsibilities

This document is the responsibility of the Marinus Link Team, Marinus Link Pty Ltd PO Box 606 Moonah Tasmania 7009, ABN 47 630 194 562 (hereafter referred to as "Marinus Link").

Enquiries regarding this document should be addressed to:

Bess Clark

CEO Marinus Link

PO Box 606

Moonah TAS 7009

Email: team@marinuslink.com.au

Table of Contents

1	Introduction.....	2
1.1	Engagement purpose.....	2
1.2	Workshop objectives.....	3
1.3	Preparation.....	4
2	Engagement methodology	5
3	Engagement outcomes	6
3.1	Environment	6
3.2	Social.....	7
3.3	Governance	9
4	Engagement evaluation	11

1 Introduction

1.1 Engagement purpose

1.1.1 Consumer Advisory Panel (CAP)

The Consumer Advisory Panel (CAP) provides the key forum for engaging National Electricity Market (NEM) customers on the Marinus Link Revenue Proposal. The CAP aims to be broadly representative of NEM customers. Its purpose is to:

- Provide consumer representatives with a real opportunity to participate in the Marinus Link Revenue Proposal, especially on elements where consumer feedback can have the greatest impact.
- Provide a forum for members to raise questions and concerns on behalf of the consumers they represent.
- Help Marinus Link to ensure that consumers' views and preferences are reflected in the revenue proposal.

The CAP members are:

- Gavin Dufty, Manager policy and research, St Vincent de Paul Society
- John Pauley, Chair, Tasmanian Policy Council, COTA Tasmania
- Professor Richard Eccleston, Director, Tasmanian Policy Exchange, University of Tasmania
- Anne Nalder, Founder & CEO, Small Business Association of Australia
- Nicole Griffin, General Manager, Morwell Innovation Centre, Federation University Australia
- Elizabeth Skirving, Deputy Chair, Council of Small Business Organisations of Australia.
- Leigh Darcy, Tasmanian Minerals, Manufacturing and Energy Council representative
- Andrew Richards, CEO, Energy Users Association of Australia
- Stephen Durney, Senior Policy Officers, Tasmanian Council of Social Services.

1.1.2 Gippsland Stakeholder Liaison Group (GSLG)

The Marinus Link Gippsland Stakeholder Liaison Group (GSLG) provides a forum for regular face-to-face communication and engagement between the Marinus Link Project Team and key stakeholders. The GSLG is an advisory body only and does not have any decision-making authority. It aims to:

- Provide a forum for Marinus Link to provide updates and information on the design and approvals phase of the project.
- Seek input into initiatives to maximise the benefits of the project, including local economic development plans and the project's local social value sharing approach.
- Provide a forum for stakeholders to raise concerns and discussion points on behalf of the organisations or communities they represent.

The GSLG members are:

- Ken Griffiths, South Gippsland Shire Council
- Nick Stephens, Landcare
- Nick Dudley, GLAWAC
- Tony Flynn, Latrobe Valley Authority
- Jeanie Hall, Latrobe Valley Authority
- Tony Cantwell, Committee for Gippsland
- Jeanie Hall, Latrobe Valley Authority
- Martin Fuller, West Gippsland Catchment
- Leigh Kennedy, Federation University
- Mikaela Power, TAFE Gippsland
- Tina Bradshaw, TAFE Gippsland
- Peter Mooney, Gippsland Trades and Labour Council
- Owen Chapman, TAFE Gippsland
- Nicala Oakley, Regional Development Victoria

1.2 Workshop objectives

The objectives of the workshop were to:

- Support the CAP in understanding the need for a community benefit sharing program for Marinus Link as part of the revenue (price) setting for TasNetworks.
- Provide the GSLG with an opportunity to explore how the community can benefit from Marinus Link.

1.3 Preparation

1.3.1 Consumer Advisory Panel (CAP)

Prior to this workshop, CAP members have participated in the following activities:

- Workshop #1 (30 and 31 May 2022) to explore the foundations of the CAP, Marinus Link cost allocation, the Marinus Link procurement strategy, and risk allocation. A summary report from Workshop #1 is available on the Marinus Link website.
- Workshop #2 (17 August 2022) to explore options for CAP involvement in the tender evaluation process for Marinus Link. A summary report from Workshop #2 is available on the Marinus Link website.

The workshops have been preceded by five roundtable discussions that aimed to equip CAP members to participate meaningfully in the CAP process.

Summary reports from each workshop and materials discussed during the roundtable discussions can be found on the Marinus Link website: <https://www.marinuslink.com.au/consumer-advisory-panel/>.

1.3.2 Gippsland Stakeholder Liaison Group (GSLG)

Prior to this workshop, the GSLG have conducted three meetings:

- Meeting 1 familiarised members with the project and established the role of the GSLG and GSLG administration.
- Meeting 2 sought input from the GSLG on economic development for Marinus Link, including to support Marinus Link in understanding what work is already underway in the Gippsland region in relation to economic development.
- Meeting 3 explored potential partnerships for renewable energy education within the Gippsland region.

Meeting minutes from each GSLG meeting can be found on the Marinus Link website:

<https://www.marinuslink.com.au/gippsland-stakeholder-liaison-group/>.

2 Engagement methodology

CAP and GSLG members were invited to participate in a joint two-hour online workshop led by a facilitator from RPS. Workshop participants were provided with pre-reading in the form of a slide pack that included:

- An introduction to Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) frameworks
- A summary of the work completed to date to support the establishment of an ESG Framework for Marinus Link
- A working timeline for ESG development for Marinus Link

The workshop consisted of two parts:

- Introduction

Workshop participants were guided by the facilitator through a short activity to meet each other. They were then introduced to the concept of ESG and briefed by Marinus Link on work completed to date, before being provided an overview of CAP and GSLG key themes to date.

- Breakout discussions

Workshop participants were divided into three groups, with a mix of CAP and GSLG members in each. The groups rotated through three topics to understand what issues are important to them in relation to the topics: 'Environment', 'Social' and 'Governance'. For each topic, a facilitator guided the group through the following:

1. Facilitator provided a brief overview of the topic to set the parameters for the discussion
2. Using the online tool, 'Mural', the group brainstormed issues that are important to them in relation to the topic
3. Facilitator guided the group to prioritise the issues around the parameter of easy vs high value
4. Facilitator guided the group to identify the issue they felt was most key
5. Using Mural, the group brainstormed Marinus Link's roles and responsibilities in relation to their key issue.

3 Engagement outcomes

This section summarises the outcomes of the workshop and how Marinus Link is responding or intending to respond.

3.1 Environment

3.1.1 What we heard

Key priorities

Following a brainstorm and prioritisation activity, participants identified the following three issues to be key priorities for the project under 'Environment':

- **Leading with a Traditional Owner lens and building an indigenous capability and engagement focus.**
- **Planning the legacy and cumulative impacts of the project, including management of redundant assets.**
- **Leaving the environment better than it was found, with particular regard to biodiversity, culture and spirituality, by embedding sustainability within Marinus Link's business-as-usual practices.**

Brainstorm

Workshop participants brainstormed issues that are important to them in relation to 'Environment' in order to identify the above key priorities. The following points were raised during this discussion:

- Emissions reduction and how it will be achieved for the project, including minimising emissions and embedded carbon targets in the construction and operation phase should be set to demonstrate Marinus Link's commitment to low carbon technologies and processes.
 - Applying a "big picture" lens to Marinus Link's environmental solution to decarbonising NEM.
- Collaboration between projects and funding for environment education.
- Considering the cumulative impacts and benefits of transition projects.
- Identifying the project's role in facilitating renewable energy and national emissions reduction.
- Setting good organisational standards at a micro and macro level (e.g. waste reduction).
 - Prioritising accountability and the measurement of sustainability outcomes.
 - Commitment to collaboration and co-design with communities in establishing priority sustainability outcomes .
- Building on work that has already been completed for resource management and biodiversity.

- Utilise the work done here: <https://westgippsland.rcs.vic.gov.au>
- ✓ Building partnerships, connectivity and collaboration to improve benefits and decrease impacts.
- ✓ Prioritising accountability and the measurement of sustainability outcomes.
- ✓ Making project decisions that support sustainable farming and caring for country.
 - Having respect for the land the project is working on and supporting it to be sustainable for future uses.
- ✓ Understanding the long-term marine impacts.
- ✓ Meeting the project’s regulatory requirements.

Supporting information

Workshop participants also discussed who should be involved in addressing the issues raised, what they believe Marinus Link’s roles and responsibilities are, next steps, and timing. This discussion is summarised in the following table:

Figure 1. Supporting information for ‘Environment’.

Who is responsible	ML roles and responsibilities	Current work and Next steps	Timing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traditional Owners • Landcare • Federation University • Agriculture Victoria • South Gippsland Conservation Society • Wildlife Groups (near RAMSAR site) • Regulators and government agencies • Marinus Link • West Gippsland CMA • Wulgunggo Ngalu Learning Place • Landowners • Environment groups • Community representative groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership role • Project will set the tone • Facilitator 	<p>Current work: GLaWAC is developing partnerships</p> <p>Next steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The macro looks different to micro. • Define what “leaving it better than we found it” means. • Understand local next steps vs broad next steps • Marinus Link to define how this looks differently for communities and users • Understand peoples’ expectations early and communicate what is achievable. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These steps have already begun. • Identify when to start communicating more broadly • Identify when to communicate how groups can influence this.

3.2 Social

3.2.1 What we heard

Key priorities

Following a brainstorm and prioritisation activity, participants identified the following three issues to be key priorities for the project under 'Social':

- **Access to jobs and pathways for employment, including with respect to inclusion and diversity.**
- **Housing affordability and availability, and investment in local community infrastructure.**
- **Understanding the cumulative social impact across multiple big projects.**

Brainstorm

Workshop participants brainstormed issues that are important to them in relation to 'Social' in order to identify the above key priorities. The following points were raised during this discussion:

- Jobs, skills and training are the issues with strongest urgency.
 - There has been a loss of jobs in the region, leading to underemployment.
 - It would be beneficial to identify the job profiles that are required and connect in with existing infrastructure.
 - There is an opportunity for people to be reskilled, and to bring skills into the region to be delivered locally. There is an opportunity to build local capacity that goes beyond the project.
 - A good job supports self-worth and participation and is aligned with the person's skills. It also builds capability and confidence, provides opportunity for growth, security of employment, quality work, and fair remuneration.
 - Ensure the recruitment model is fit for purpose.
 - Focus on young people and identify career pathways, particularly in construction. Engage the schools on future opportunities.
 - Inclusive employment.
- Prosperity for everyone.
- Affordability of energy prices.
- Look at existing collaborative project hubs.
- Take learnings from previous major projects where jobs creation was not done well, or could have been better managed for longevity.
- Respect cultural heritage and manage associated risks.
 - Indigenous employment and connection to land.
 - Non-technical roles and training for the long term.
 - Address Indigenous barriers: location, education, background, availability of work.
- Local housing and accommodation affordability and availability.
 - Profiling housing challenges in the region.

- / Sense of belonging and bringing people together.
 - Social connectivity is related to health and wellbeing
- / Marinus Link’s commitment to local industries
 - Consider how the manufacturing investment and the supporting supply chain can build local learning and delivery.

Supporting information

Workshop participants also discussed who should be involved in addressing the issues raised, what they believe Marinus Link’s roles and responsibilities are and next steps. This discussion is summarised in the following table:

Figure 2. Supporting information for ‘Social’.

Who is responsible	ML roles and responsibilities	Current work and Next steps
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programs such as GROW • Schools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing genuine opportunity • Work with schools • Build partnerships and support what's already there • Being clear about managing expectations with the community • Setting a high benchmark for what is to come (cumulative impact) • Investment in local content to support housing availability and affordability • Focus on Tas and Vic housing • A fund that can adapt in time as community needs change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting the networks • Building obligations around social procurement and evaluation processes • Collaboration and early notice

3.3 Governance

3.3.1 What we heard

Key priorities

Following a brainstorm and prioritisation activity, participants identified the following three issues to be key priorities for the project under ‘Governance’:

- / **Structured stakeholder engagement.**
- / **Representative and values-based governance.**

- **With transparency, accountability, and integrity**

Brainstorm

Workshop participants brainstormed issues that are important to them in relation to 'Governance' in order to identify the above key priorities. The following points were raised during this discussion:

- ✓ Working in partnership with others in the region.
 - Long-term, meaningful relationships.
- ✓ Prioritising transparency externally (for example, with landholders).
 - Good governance gives the community confidence in the process.
 - Create excellent communications and regular reporting on project activity and achievements, including progress against issues like jobs creation.
- ✓ Serious engagement with stakeholders on what the issues are.
 - Structured engagement with employment service providers.
 - Better engagement between local, state and the Commonwealth: all agencies have a role to play in energy transition.
 - Making it easy for the project to engage, with one point of contact (i.e., on employment).
 - Inclusive engagement.
- ✓ Being equitable in decision making.
- ✓ Applying strong frameworks for decision making.
- ✓ Honesty.
- ✓ Custodianship.
 - Traditional Owners are custodians for the land. GLaWAC, under native title, have a responsibility to land and water in the region.
 - Recognising that Traditional Owners are being heavily engaged across multiple projects, impacting resourcing.
- ✓ Clearly identifying costs and benefits of the project.
- ✓ Inclusivity
 - Opportunities for people to participate who may not otherwise be able to (due to barriers such as education, transport, digital capability).
 - Ensure representation of stakeholders in project governance (consider the quadruple helix that includes science/education, policy, industry and society).
- ✓ Understanding how governance will change over the project life cycle.

- Community representation on decision making bodies.
- Understanding the cumulative impacts of multiple transition projects in the region.
- Future skills mapping.
- Fairness

Supporting information

Workshop participants also discussed what they believe Marinus Link’s roles and responsibilities are. This discussion is summarised in the following table:

Figure 3. Supporting information for ‘Governance’.

ML roles and responsibilities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage with communities to build social license. • Show leadership in values-based governance. • Ensure contractors do engagement well. • Project branding • Build enduring relationships and a strong legacy regarding engagement of contractors and project ownership. • Place community at the centre – if they build it, they own it. • Include consumers as part of the governance framework. • Utilise the IAP2 Framework to ensure values-based governance. • Ensure the governance represents the Q4: Industry, community, education and research, and government. • Tailor project information to the needs of the diverse project stakeholders to support transparency, accountability and integrity • Engage the silent majority on the project. • Provide support to Traditional Owners to support their effective partnership.

3.4 How Marinus Link will respond

3.4.1 Next steps

Marinus Link will continue to progress development of the ESG Framework, including a detailed materiality assessment informed by the input from internal and external stakeholders. Marinus Link will reconvene with the group once the priority material issues are determined and draft objectives are developed.

4 Engagement evaluation

Workshop participants completed an evaluation at the end of the workshop to provide feedback about their experience of the workshop.

The feedback received on the administration of the workshop (facilitation, tools, supporting information and workshop support) was very positive, with all providing ratings of 4 or 4.5 out of 5.

Of the two respondents, both strongly agreed that the objectives of the session were clear and that they were informed enough to participate meaningfully.

Respondents provided the following additional feedback:

➤ Regarding other feedback or further questions:

- “Just was very quick and felt like being directed by facilitators towards topics of their interest. Would have been good to have some pre work issued to get ideas on ESG prior. A valuable session, so grateful to listen to GLAWC point of view.”

➤ Regarding future opportunities for CAP and GSLG collaboration:

- “Community engagement and use of local resources.”