



ON LAND CONSTRUCTION

August 2024

MARINUS
LINK

Planning is underway to identify the best construction methods for Marinus Link

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

The project includes high voltage direct current (HVDC) cables, fibre optic cables, a communications station, and converter stations at each end. The converter stations will connect Marinus Link directly into the transmission networks in both Tasmania and Victoria.

The project's cables span 345 kilometres (km). This includes 255 km of undersea cables across Bass Strait and 90 km of underground cables in Gippsland, Victoria.

Marinus Link is currently in planning and development, known as the project's 'Design and Approvals' phase.

Marinus Link will be delivered in two stages. Initially as a 750 megawatt (MW) project (Stage 1) with a second 750 MW link to follow at a later date (Stage 2).

INSTALLING THE LAND CABLES

The land cables for Marinus Link will be installed using open trenching wherever possible. Horizontal directional drilling (HDD) will be used when the cable route needs to cross rivers, environmentally sensitive areas, railways, roads or utility services.

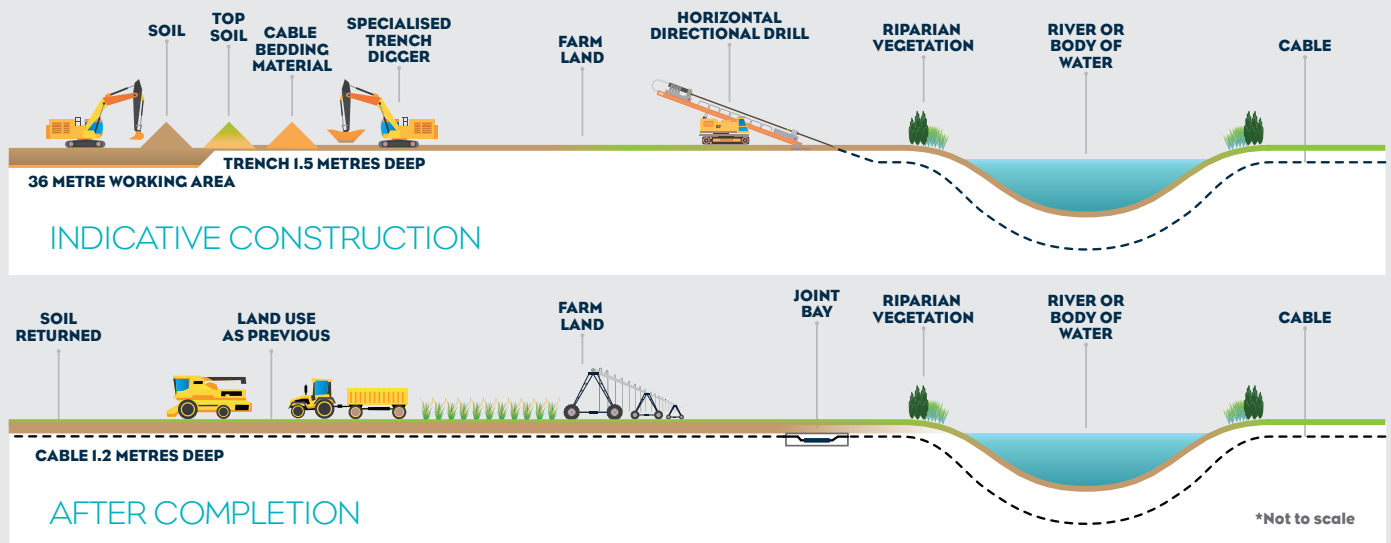
The standard construction corridor for trenching will be up to 36 metres wide to allow for trenches, drainage, machinery (like excavators) and utilities. The construction corridor width will be adjusted where necessary to avoid impacts to vegetation and existing infrastructure.

Horizontal directional drilling (HDD)

HDD is an underground construction method which uses a horizontal directional drill to create a bore hole in places where trenching is not suitable.

The ability to use HDD, as well as the length of time needed for drilling, depends on ground and other land conditions.

Findings from our geotechnical and environmental investigations will help determine where HDD will be used.



LAYING OF THE CABLES

The land cables will be installed in lengths of approximately 1200 metres.

The cable lengths will be connected at joint bays, which are below ground engineered concrete pits. Joint bays are approximately 12 metres long, 2.5 metres wide and 2.5 metres deep, buried at least 0.5 metres below the ground surface. Where possible, joint bay locations will be selected in consultation with landholders to reduce impacts.

The construction corridor and other access areas will be reinstated and rehabilitated following construction and inline with Property Management Plans, developed between Marinus Link and its landholders.

Victorian shore crossing

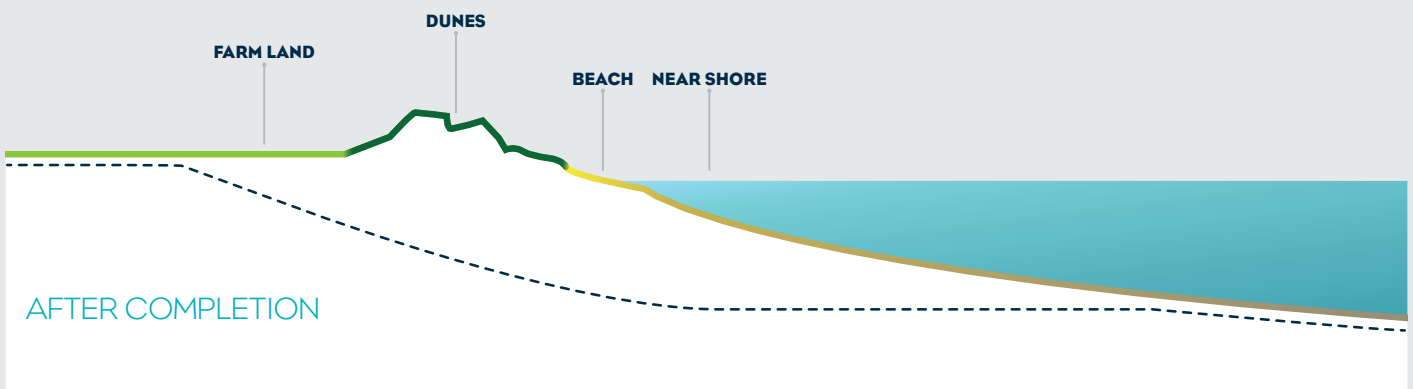
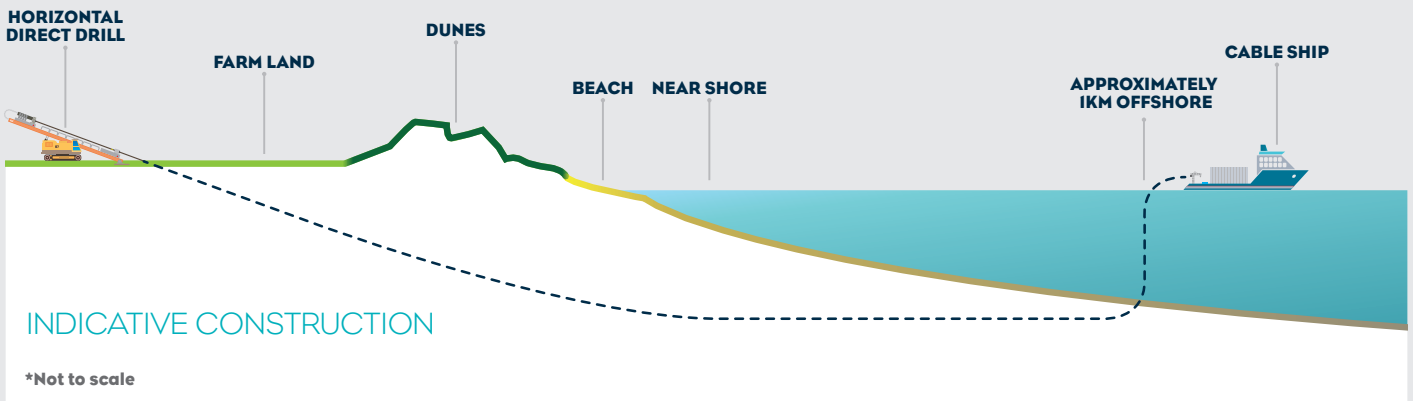
The Victorian shore crossing is proposed to be constructed using HDD.

To construct the shore crossing, a large temporary HDD drill pad of crushed rock will be laid on cleared farmland behind the sand dunes in Waratah Bay. From the pad, a drill will bore into the ground at an angle, working toward the water. The Victorian shore crossing will be constructed in Waratah Bay using HDD to approximately 10 metres water depth.

This method means the shore crossing can be constructed with minimal disruption to the dunes, the beach and beach goers. It will also reduce the impacts on any environmental and cultural heritage values identified in the area.

Disruption to the beach

Beaches at Waratah Bay should remain open during the shore crossing construction. The community will be advised of any temporary closures that may be needed to manage public safety during project activities. There will be no permanent access restrictions to the beach once construction is completed.



Minimising construction impacts

Most impacts to native plants, animals and cultural heritage values will be minimised either through minor changes to the route or by using HDD to install the cable in specific locations.

Plants

Vegetation may be removed for open trenching and for the construction of the converter and transition stations.

On-site environmental surveys will help determine which vegetation needs to be removed and where adjustments to the route can be made to minimise the impacts.

Animals

Desktop and field studies have been completed to identify animal species within the project area.

These surveys will help advise us of measures which may need to be put in place to minimise impacts.

Field surveys will help determine which of these species are found within our project area and what measures may need to be put in place to minimise impacts.

Cultural heritage

An assessment of Aboriginal and historic cultural heritage was completed in 2021.

The project is working with Traditional Owners in the area to ensure any Aboriginal cultural heritage sites and areas of significance are respected in accordance with their requirements, values and beliefs.

No places of historic cultural heritage significance have been located within the survey area to date, however on-site studies are ongoing.

Visual impacts

Using underground cables will minimise the visual impacts of Marinus Link.

Above ground structures such as the converter and transition stations will be designed to blend into the local environment through building placement, colour schemes and vegetation screening.

MORE INFORMATION

For further information on the project:

visit	marinuslink.com.au
email	team@marinuslink.com.au
call	1300 765 275

MARINUS
LINK