

# Tasmanian Infrastructure Advisory Council

Minutes of Meeting No. 7  
14 August 2012



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## MINUTES

### 1. Welcome and Declarations of Interest

#### Attendees:

Mr Philip Clark, Chair  
Mr Norm McIlfratrick, Secretary, Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources  
Mr Mark Kelleher, Secretary, Department of Economic Development, Tourism and the Arts  
Mr Kim Evans, Secretary, Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment  
Mr Damien White, CEO, Tasrail  
Dr Peter Davis, CEO, Aurora Energy  
Mr Peter Clark, CEO, Transend Networks  
Mr Neil MacKinnon, CEO, Tasmanian Chamber of Commerce and Industry  
Mr Miles Hampton, Chair, Tasmanian Water and Sewerage Corporations Board  
Mr Matthew Phillips, Manager Commercial Network, NBNC  
Mr Richie Sheather, General Manager, TasGas  
Mr Allan Garcia, CEO, Local Government Association of Tasmania

#### Apologies:

Mr Paul Weedon, CEO, Tasports  
Mr Greg Alomes, Executive Commissioner, Tasmanian Planning Commission

#### In attendance:

Hon Gary Nairn and Ms Kate Kent, Tasmanian Spatial Information Council -  
*Agenda item 3(i)*  
Mr Chris Lock, Department of Treasury and Finance - *Agenda Item 3(ii)*

#### Observers:

Mr David Spence, Ms Angela Conway and Ms Teresa Derrick  
Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources

## **2. Acceptance of Minutes of Meeting No. 6 held 12 July 2012**

The Minutes of Meeting No. 6 held on 12 July 2012 were accepted as a true and accurate record.

## **3. Presentations**

### **(i) Tasmanian Spatial Information Council – *Spatial Information and Infrastructure Synergies and Opportunities***

Gary Nairn and Kate Kent provided an overview of the work of the Tasmanian Spatial Information Council (TASSIC), referring in particular to TASSIC's strategic plan 2009-2012 and the Spatial Information Foundations (SIF) infrastructure project.

The SIF project has been initiated by the Tasmanian Government with funding of up to \$3 million allocated to the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment over the 2011-12 and 2012-13 financial years. The SIF project will enhance the technology framework of the Land Information System Tasmania (LIST), which will in turn facilitate the improved use of spatial information to support key priorities of the Government. The project is being implemented through seven inter-dependent sub-projects, initiated in parallel, covering Services, Mapping, Access, Directory, Common Operating Picture, Cadastre and Imagery.

Discussion ensued about the benefits flowing from the SIF project and how the improvements to spatial data will assist projects such as the gas and NBN roll-outs. Examples were cited of the problems caused by inaccuracies in data sets and the inability to interface with various systems. ([www.tassic.org.au](http://www.tassic.org.au))

Agreed there was a need to maintain momentum with the SIF project. In that regard, it was further agreed to invite TASSIC to provide a demonstration to the November meeting of TIAC of the success of the first products emanating from the project.

### **(ii) Department of Treasury and Finance – *Tasmania's Economy: Recent Trends and Emerging Issues***

Chris Lock gave a PowerPoint presentation on recent trends and emerging issues in Tasmania's economy, covering the following topics: private and public expenditure, business and dwelling investment, value of engineering work done by industry sector, nominal value of international exports, real GSP/GDP growth, Tasmania's estimated net interstate migration, employment in Tasmanian regions, changes in major components of economic activity and Tasmanian economic estimates, forecasts and projections.

It was noted that there is positive news in some sectors such as dairy, agriculture and mining where there are promising prospects of expansion.

#### **4. Advice to IA on Tasmanian Government's 2012 Submission**

The Chair advised that he tabled a draft letter to Infrastructure Australia at his briefing to Cabinet yesterday and received their endorsement.

TIAC also endorsed the draft letter subject to a minor amendment to the wording around the Tasrail submission.

Norm McIlpatrick advised that liaison with the project proponents was continuing regarding their respective submissions being made available publicly via the DIER website. TIAC members will be advised when the submissions are in the public domain.

#### **5. Update on Infrastructure Projects and Reforms**

TIAC members provided verbal updates on their respective agency's/organisation's projects and reforms.

It was noted that:

- The three Regional Economic Development Plans are being finalised and are due to be released in early November 2012.
- The Midlands Water Scheme is gearing up; if funding is forthcoming, further advances can be made on the Central Highlands, Evandale and Brid-Forrester irrigation schemes.
- Transport corridor projects are due to be submitted to the Department of Infrastructure and Transport by 30 September 2012 for consideration for Nation Building 2 funding from 2014-15 for five years.
- Tasrail's revitalisation program is well progressed.
- Aurora's \$30 million worth of projects are on track – new substations at Cambridge and Kingston, upgrade of substations at Hadspen and Mowbray.
- Hydro's Musselroe wind farm project has commenced with the first of the towers installed recently.
- Transend is currently developing its submission to the Australian Energy Regulator for Transend's 2014-2019 revenue determination.
- TasGas has budget forecast for next year of \$6-\$7 million in capital to connect customers to network. Completed Simplot connection in Ulverstone – taking gas this month.
- NBN Co has released an updated Corporate Plan 2012-2015; capital expenditure increased by 3.9%; battery backup for telephony services now

part of opt-in. Noted positively that policy on roll outs now is that connection is to the barge board of properties.

- Local Government projects identified for West Tamar, Devonport, Glenorchy, Kingborough, Derwent Valley, Sorell and Huon Valley (refer attachment).

Discussion ensued about planning reform and regional strategies. Agreed that the TIAC meeting in November would focus on Regional Economic Development Plans, the next phase of the planning reform agenda and Aboriginal Heritage legislation.

## **6. Western Tasmania Industry Infrastructure Study**

David Spence, General Manager Infrastructure Strategy DIER, provided a verbal report on the findings of the recent Western Tasmania Industry Infrastructure Study. Transport infrastructure was clearly identified as a priority with six projects selected for more detailed cost estimate. An application for funding will be made via the Regional Infrastructure Fund.

## **7. Report from Chair on consultations**

The Chair and the Minister for Infrastructure recently met with the editors of the three Tasmanian daily newspapers and the Meander Valley Council.

The Chair briefed Cabinet yesterday on TIAC's annual report and draft letter to Infrastructure Australia regarding the Tasmanian Government's 2012 submission.

The Chair advised he now has an involvement with the Macquarie Point Railyards project.

## **8. Other Business**

Mark Kelleher raised the issue of NBN coverage and the implications for data providers caused by non-coverage across Bass Strait. In terms of retail pricing, he believes Telstra and iNet are not differentiating for servicing Tasmanian customers, however he believes it should be monitored by NBN Co in case the situation changes for class of users.

## **9. Next Meeting**

10.00 am Tuesday 13 November 2012.



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**TASMANIAN INFRASTRUCTURE  
ADVISORY COUNCIL**

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