

Smith, Gemma

From: Bendeich, Stephen (DoJ)
Sent: Thursday, 5 June 2025 1:24 PM
To: Morgan-Wicks, Kathrine; Gregory, Shane; Healey, Mathew
Cc: Swain, Gary; Limkin, Craig (StateGrowth); Pinto, Vanessa (StateGrowth); Voss, Anton (StateGrowth); Jacobi, Jason (NRE)
Subject: RE: s 31

Hi Kath

s 31

Please let me know if you would like to discuss.

Thanks



Stephen Bendeich

Crown Solicitor

Department of Justice

P: s 36 | M: s 36 | s 36

www.justice.tas.gov.au

GPO Box 825 Hobart TAS 7001 | Level 4, 111 Macquarie Street, Hobart, TAS 7000

We act with Integrity Respect Accountability **Our workplaces are** Inclusive Collaborative

In recognition of the deep history and culture of this Island, I acknowledge and pay my respects to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past and present custodians of the Land.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

This email and any attachments are confidential and may be legally privileged (in which case neither is waived or lost by mistaken delivery). Please notify us if you have received this email in error. Any unauthorised use of this email and the attachments is expressly prohibited. Any liability in connection with any viruses or other defects in this email and any attachments is limited to re-supplying this email and any attachments.

From: Morgan-Wicks, Kathrine s 36
Sent: Thursday, 5 June 2025 1:12 PM
To: Bendeich, Stephen s 36; Gregory, Shane (DPaC) s 36
 s 36; Healey, Mathew (DPaC) s 36
Cc: Swain, Gary s 36; Limkin, Craig (StateGrowth) s 36
 s 36; Pinto, Vanessa (StateGrowth) s 36; Voss, Anton (StateGrowth) s 36; Jacobi, Jason (NRE) s 36
Subject: RE: s 31

Thank you Stephen.

s 31

With thanks
Kath

Kathrine Morgan-Wicks PSM
Secretary, Department of Premier and Cabinet
Head of the State Service

Department of Premier and Cabinet

T: 03 6232 7230 | E: Secretary.Executive@dpac.tas.gov.au | W: www.dpac.tas.gov.au



Respect + Excellence + Professional + Customer focus + Working together

'I acknowledge Aboriginal people as the traditional owners of this Land and respect their culture and identity which has been bound up with the Land, Sea, Waterways and Sky for generations.'

From: Bendeich, Stephen s 36
Sent: Thursday, 5 June 2025 8:12 AM
To: Morgan-Wicks, Kathrine s 36; Gregory, Shane
s 36; Healey, Mathew s 36
Subject: FW: s 31

Apologies all, I should have included you in this yesterday.



Stephen Bendeich

Crown Solicitor

Department of Justice

P: s 36 | M: s 36 | s 36

www.justice.tas.gov.au

GPO Box 825 Hobart TAS 7001 | Level 4, 111 Macquarie Street, Hobart, TAS 7000

We act with

Integrity

Respect

Accountability

Our workplaces are

Inclusive

Collaborative

In recognition of the deep history and culture of this Island, I acknowledge and pay my respects to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past and present custodians of the Land.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

This email and any attachments are confidential and may be legally privileged (in which case neither is waived or lost by mistaken delivery). Please notify us if you have received this email in error. Any unauthorised use of this email and the attachments is expressly prohibited. Any liability in connection with any viruses or other defects in this email and any attachments is limited to re-supplying this email and any attachments.

From: Bendeich, Stephen

Sent: Wednesday, 4 June 2025 7:31 PM

To: Limkin, Craig (StateGrowth) s 36 ; s 36

s 36

Cc: Pinto, Vanessa (StateGrowth) s 36 ; Voss, Anton (Treasury)

s 36 ; Jacobi, Jason (NRE) s 36

Subject: s 31

Hi all

s 31

s 31

s 31

I have kept the distribution on this e-mail narrow, consistent with this morning's discussion, however, it can be distributed to your broader teams if you wish.

Regards



**Tasmanian
Government**

Stephen Bendeich

Crown Solicitor

Department of Justice

P: s 36 | M: s 36 | s 36

www.justice.tas.gov.au

GPO Box 825 Hobart TAS 7001 | Level 4, 111 Macquarie Street, Hobart, TAS 7000

We act with

Integrity

Respect

Accountability

Our workplaces are

Inclusive

Collaborative

In recognition of the deep history and culture of this Island, I acknowledge and pay my respects to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past and present custodians of the Land.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

This email and any attachments are confidential and may be legally privileged (in which case neither is waived or lost by mistaken delivery). Please notify us if you have received this email in error. Any unauthorised use of this email and the attachments is expressly prohibited. Any liability in connection with any viruses or other defects in this email and any attachments is limited to re-supplying this email and any attachments.

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE AND DISCLAIMER

The information in this transmission may be confidential and/or protected by legal professional privilege, and is intended only for the person or persons to whom it is addressed. If you are not such a person, you are warned that any disclosure, copying or dissemination of the information is unauthorised. If you have received the transmission in error, please immediately contact this office by telephone, fax or email, to inform us of the error and to enable arrangements to be made for the destruction of the transmission, or its return at our cost. No liability is accepted for any unauthorised use of the information contained in this transmission.

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE AND DISCLAIMER

The information in this transmission may be confidential and/or protected by legal professional privilege, and is intended only for the person or persons to whom it is addressed. If you are not such a person, you are warned that any disclosure, copying or dissemination of the information is unauthorised. If you have received the transmission in error, please immediately contact this office by telephone, fax or email, to inform us of the error and to enable arrangements to be made for the destruction of the transmission, or its return at our cost. No liability is accepted for any unauthorised use of the information contained in this transmission.

From: [Willcox, Jodi](#)
To: [Gregory, Shane](#); [Gray, Melissa](#)
Subject: Project Marinus and Caretaker
Date: Tuesday, 24 June 2025 5:19:00 PM
Attachments: [Caretaker advice to DSG - ref Project Marinus.docx](#)
[image001.jpg](#)
[Email from Vanessa.msg](#)
Importance: High

Hi Shane and Mel

As discussed with you both in recent days I have pulled together some high-level comments on Caretaker and Project Marinus. Although there has been discussion of this issue at various meetings, I think it is worthwhile highlighting some of the specific requirements of the 2025 Caretaker Guidelines so DSG and the EESC can ensure that it has fully considered the caretaker conventions. This is particularly in the context of the DSG Minute to the Minister sent yesterday recommending **s 27** [REDACTED] and an email from Ness late last week which raised a number of technical and specific questions – some relating to caretaker (note most of the questions raised in the emailed have been dealt with separately).

Really keen for feedback (and have provided in word so it is easier to mark up). I feel I'm going in circles a little bit and am trying to balance telling DSG what to do as opposed to drawing attention to the relevant parts of the conventions.

Not relevant [REDACTED]

V happy to discuss.

J

Jodi Willcox | Executive Director
 Policy and Intergovernmental

Department of Premier and Cabinet
 Level 7, 15 Murray Street, Hobart TAS 7000

Phone: **s 36** [REDACTED]

s 36 [REDACTED] | www.dpac.tas.gov.au



From: [Willcox, Jodi](#)
To: [Willcox, Jodi](#)
Subject: Email from Vanessa
Date: Tuesday, 24 June 2025 5:16:35 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[RE URGENT FEEDBACK Req - Draft EAP report - due cob tomorrow.msg](#)
[Project Marlinus - 2 Page Summary_20 June VP.docx](#)
[Cabinet Communications and Engagement Strategy - 20 July 2025 VP.docx](#)

From: Pinto, Vanessa [s 36](#)
Sent: Friday, 20 June 2025 2:10 PM
To: Heap, Sonia [s 36](#)
Cc: Stevens, Anna (StateGrowth) [s 36](#); Sharples, Stewart
(StateGrowth) [s 36](#); Terry, Sean (StateGrowth)
[s 36](#)
Subject: RE: Quick check in

Internal Deliberative and Cabinet in Confidence

Hi Sonia

Thank you for reaching out. I've been mid-writing this email for the last hour -- but been distracted with other urgent tasks.

What I ask is in three parts

Not relevant

Not relevant

Part 2

My second question is broader to the matter of Policy during a time of Caretaker:

I've attached the draft of the Cabinet Comms Plan and a two page summary – which are working documents at the moment. To assist with that question – as they raise some specific matters I've highlighted in my comments (start with the 2 pager)

What we need to be clear on – is what we can put forward in the policy space.

This was an area actively discussed at the last EFSC meeting

S 35

Not relevant

Not relevant

Happy to discuss

Thanks so much, Ness

Vanessa Pinto (*she, her, hers*) | Acting CEO Renewables, Climate and Future Industries Tasmania & Resources
Department of State Growth
10 Murray Street, Hobart TAS 7000 | GPO Box 536, Hobart TAS 7001
Mobile: s 36
s 36
www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au

Courage to make a difference through:
TEAMWORK | INTEGRITY | RESPECT | EXCELLENCE

In recognition of the deep history and culture of this island, I acknowledge and pay my respects to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past, and present custodians of the Land.

From: Heap, Sonia s 36
Sent: Friday, 20 June 2025 12:39 PM
To: Pinto, Vanessa s 36
Subject: Quick check in

Hi Ness

Not relevant

yourself.

Cheers

Sonia

Sonia Heap

Policy Branch | Senior Policy Analyst



Department of Premier and Cabinet

Executive Building, Level 4, 15 Murray Street,

Hobart, Tasmania 7000 Australia

P:

s 36

E:

W: www.dpac.tas.gov.au

I work Monday to Thursday inclusive.

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE AND DISCLAIMER

The information in this transmission may be confidential and/or protected by legal professional privilege, and is intended only for the person or persons to whom it is addressed. If you are not such a person, you are warned that any disclosure, copying or dissemination of the information is unauthorised. If you have received the transmission in error, please immediately contact this office by telephone, fax or email, to inform us of the error and to enable arrangements to be made for the destruction of the transmission, or its return at our cost. No liability is accepted for any unauthorised use of the information contained in this transmission.

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE AND DISCLAIMER

The information in this transmission may be confidential and/or protected by legal professional privilege, and is intended only for the person or persons to whom it is addressed. If you are not such a person, you are warned that any disclosure, copying or dissemination of the information is unauthorised. If you have received the transmission in error, please immediately contact this office by telephone, fax or email, to inform us of the error and to enable arrangements to be made for the destruction of the transmission, or its return at our cost. No liability is accepted for any unauthorised use of the information contained in this transmission.

Cabinet Communications and Engagement Strategy

Positive Final Investment Decision – Project Marinus Stage 1

Not relevant

s 26

Commented [VP3]: Do we change this to policy considerations - as we can't provide definitive policy advice at this stage due to caretaker

s 26

Commented [VP6]: Just testing that - I think that is sound as it is merely indicating the areas policy will need to focus on than state actually what the policy solutions are.

Not relevant

Commented [VP8]: Need to discuss that statement - is that Policy position? Appreciate Sena/Jodi's advice

Commented [VP9]: Same comment - is that locking in a policy response - should it be softer?

Not relevant

Not relevant

s 26

Commented [VP14]: That's a new policy position - do we hold back on that?

Not relevant

Smith, Gemma

From: Willcox, Jodi
Sent: Wednesday, 25 June 2025 10:48 AM
To: Gregory, Shane; Voss, Anton (Treasury); Bendeich, Stephen (DoJ); Limkin, Craig (StateGrowth); Swain, Gary; Pinto, Vanessa (StateGrowth); Morgan-Wicks, Kathrine
Cc: Craigie, James (Treasury); Terry, Sean (StateGrowth); Waldron, Nic (StateGrowth); Hanson, Christie; Heap, Sonia
Subject: RE: URGENT - Renegotiation - Marinus Link

Hi Vanessa

Thank you for your email to Sonia on Friday which raised some specific questions in relation to Caretaker. I have taken the opportunity to try and consider this issue more fully.

Caretaker Conventions

The unprecedented nature of Project Marinus, its scale and intergenerational financial impact, means that the decision to proceed, or withdraw, will be subject to the highest scrutiny.

The Department of State Growth has recommended to the Minister for Energy and Renewables (Minute dated 23 June 2025) **s 26**

In effect, not making a decision during Caretaker would have the same outcome as making a decision to take a negative FID.

Taking a FID during caretaker triggers the 2025 Caretaker Guidelines and the need for consultation. **s 26**

as outlined under the Guidelines on the Caretaker Conventions – Tasmania State Election 2025 (2025 Caretaker Guidelines) and as such a rigorous interpretation of the Caretaker Guidelines should be applied.

The 2025 Caretaker Guidelines require the Minister to consult with the Opposition when making major policy decisions, and when entering into contracts and agreements in caretaker. A narrow interpretation of the 2025 Caretaker Guidelines could limit consultation to the Labor Party as the largest minority party. However, section 11 provides that leaders of non-government parties may also request to be consulted. Section 11.3 provides that other Members of Parliament may be present at consultation.

By virtue of this section, the Greens could request to be consulted, other Members of Parliament could also request to attend. **s 26**

Sections 1.12 provides that sound judgement and common sense is required in applying the Caretaker Guidelines. Section 1.13 provides that responsibility for observing the conventions rests with Heads of Agencies in matters where they are involved, together with the relevant Ministers. DPAC is available to provide advice on the 2025 Caretaker Guidelines.

Consultation with other parties

Initial consultation should focus on key timelines and the need for a FID during caretaker. **s 26**

s 26

In developing a consultation plan to address the requirements of the 2025 Caretaker guidelines, Section 2 (Major Policy Decisions) and Section 4 (Major contracts and agreements) of the 2025 Caretaker Guidelines are particularly relevant and include the following specific requirements.

- Consultation with the Opposition on Major Policy Decisions should be undertaken before a decision is made (2025 Caretaker Guidelines – Section 2.5).

s 26

- Section 4.3 of the 2025 Caretaker Guidelines provides that new contracts entered into during the caretaker period include clauses providing for termination in the event of an incoming government not wishing to proceed.

s 26

- Section 4.7 of the 2025 Caretaker Guidelines provides that if it is necessary for the Government to participate fully in the negotiation or renegotiation of intergovernmental agreements, the Government should either seek the Opposition's agreement on negotiating positions or advise the other parties (in this case Victoria and Australian Governments) that any agreement will need to be authorised by the incoming government.

s 26

As renegotiation started prior to Caretaker, it is being progressed according to the original Cabinet approved principles, although finalising negotiations and executing the Agreement has not yet occurred.

s 26

Note: the draft Letter (Minister Duigan to Minister Bowen) does not explicitly refer to the requirements under the Caretaker Conventions at 4.3 or 4.7.

s 26

As per the Caretaker Guidelines (sections 1.10 and 1.11) the public service is to remain apolitical and avoid using government resources in a manner to advantage a party.

Careful consideration should be given to providing policy advice and communications to the Government during caretaker.



S 26

It is acknowledged that the outcome of the State election may not be known before 28 July, and communications material may need to be provided to the Government during caretaker but the timing for providing this information should be considered closer to any public announcement. Section 1.10 also provides useful context to guide the framing of communications material - a key objective of the caretaker conventions is to avoid major policy decisions that are likely to commit an incoming government or limit its freedom to act. Having regard to this section, communications material that is high level and does not include specific policy decisions best captures the intent of the 2025 Caretaker Guidelines and will provide maximum flexibility to an incoming Government.

Please don't hesitate to reach out if you wish to discuss further.

Regards

Jodi

Jodi Willcox | Executive Director
Policy and Intergovernmental

Department of Premier and Cabinet
 Level 7, 15 Murray Street, Hobart TAS 7000
 Phone: s 36

s 36 | www.dpac.tas.gov.au



CUSTOMER FOCUS • EXCELLENCE • WORKING TOGETHER • PROFESSIONAL

From: Gregory, Shane s 36
Sent: Wednesday, 25 June 2025 8:09 AM
To: Voss, Anton (Treasury) s 36; Bendeich, Stephen (DoJ) s 36; Limkin, Craig (StateGrowth) s 36; Swain, Gary s 36; Pinto, Vanessa (StateGrowth) s 36; Morgan-Wicks, Kathrine s 36
Cc: Craigie, James (Treasury) s 36; Terry, Sean (StateGrowth) s 36; Waldron, Nic (StateGrowth) s 36; Hanson, Christie s 36; Willcox, Jodi s 36
Subject: RE: URGENT - Renegotiation - Marinus Link

Hi all

Jodi Willcox has prepared some specific advice that will come through today.

In short, under the caretaker conventions, I don't see how a decision can be taken without at least consulting with the opposition.

Shane Gregory
 Associate Secretary

Department of Premier and Cabinet
 Level 6, 15 Murray Street
 Hobart, Tasmania 7000
 (m) s 36

s 36 | www.dpac.tas.gov.au

From: Voss, Anton s 36
Sent: Tuesday, 24 June 2025 1:23 PM
To: Bendeich, Stephen (DoJ) s 36; Limkin, Craig (StateGrowth) s 36; Swain, Gary s 36; Gregory, Shane s 36; Pinto, Vanessa (StateGrowth) s 36; Morgan-Wicks, Kathrine s 36
Cc: Craigie, James (Treasury) s 36; Terry, Sean (StateGrowth) s 36; Waldron, Nic (StateGrowth) s 36; Hanson, Christie s 36; Willcox, Jodi s 36
Subject: RE: URGENT - Renegotiation - Marinus Link

Hi all

Given the “renegotiation” is now contemplating legally binding deeds and future FFAs, I’d note that the caretaker conventions indicate a higher ‘bar’ for intergovernmental arrangements - compare clause 4.3 to clause 4.7 - (and more broadly there are also general termination provisions):

4.3 If it is not possible to defer the commitment until after the caretaker period, for legal, commercial or other reasons:

- *the Minister, after agreement with the Premier, should **consult** the relevant Opposition spokesperson regarding the commitment*
- *agencies should also ensure new contracts entered into during the caretaker period **include clauses providing for termination in the event of an incoming government not wishing to proceed.***

While clause 4.3 (above) of the guidelines only require consultation, the section covering intergovernment arrangements goes further.

*4.7 If it is necessary for the Government to participate fully in the negotiations, it should advise the other parties to the negotiations that **any outcomes will need to be authorised by the incoming government**, or it could seek from the **relevant Opposition spokesperson’s agreement on negotiating positions.***

Thanks

Anton

From: Bendeich, Stephen s 36
Sent: Monday, 23 June 2025 4:43 PM
To: Voss, Anton s 35; Limkin, Craig (StateGrowth) s 36
Cc: Swain, Gary s 35; Gregory, Shane (DPaC) s 36
 Pinto, Vanessa (StateGrowth) s 36; Waldron, Nic (StateGrowth) s 36
 Hanson, Christie s 36; Morgan-Wicks, Kathrine (DPaC) s 36
Subject: RE: URGENT - Renegotiation - Marinus Link

Hi all

I have marked up a few further changes. Please let me know if any of them do not make sense.

s 31

Regards



Stephen Bendeich

Crown Solicitor

Department of Justice

P: (03) s 36 | M: s 36 | s 36

www.justice.tas.gov.au

GPO Box 825 Hobart TAS 7001 | Level 4, 111 Macquarie Street, Hobart, TAS 7000

We act with Integrity Respect Accountability **Our workplaces are** Inclusive Collaborative

In recognition of the deep history and culture of this Island, I acknowledge and pay my respects to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past and present custodians of the Land.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

This email and any attachments are confidential and may be legally privileged (in which case neither is waived or lost by mistaken delivery). Please notify us if you have received this email in error. Any unauthorised use of this email and the attachments is expressly prohibited. Any liability in connection with any viruses or other defects in this email and any attachments is limited to re-supplying this email and any attachments.

From: Voss, Anton s 36
Sent: Monday, 23 June 2025 3:29 PM
To: Limkin, Craig (StateGrowth) s 36
Cc: Swain, Gary s 36; Bendeich, Stephen s 36
 Gregory, Shane (DPaC) s 36; Pinto, Vanessa (StateGrowth) s 36
 Waldron, Nic (StateGrowth) s 36; Hanson, Christie s 36
 Morgan-Wicks, Kathrine (DPaC) s 36

Subject: FW: URGENT - Renegotiation - Marinus Link

Hi Craig

Please see comments attached.

Thanks

Anton

From: Voss, Anton s 36
Sent: Monday, 23 June 2025 2:38 PM
To: Swain, Gary s 36
Subject: RE: URGENT - Renegotiation - Marinus Link

Hi Gary

See attached my markups to the letter - I am the view that the attachment should be deleted.

Thanks

Anton

From: Swain, Gary s 36
Sent: Monday, 23 June 2025 12:51 PM

To: Voss, Anton s 36
 Subject: FW: URGENT - Renegotiation - Marinus Link

Please discuss

From: Limkin, Craig s 36
 Sent: Monday, 23 June 2025 11:43 AM
 To: Swain, Gary s 36; Morgan-Wicks, Kathrine (DPaC) s 36
 s 36; Gregory, Shane (DPaC) s 36; Bendeich, Stephen (DoJ)
 s 36
 Cc: Pinto, Vanessa (StateGrowth) s 36; Waldron, Nic (StateGrowth)
 s 36; Hanson, Christie s 36
 Subject: URGENT - Renegotiation - Marinus Link

Hi All

Thank you for everyone team for their collaboration on the proposed response to Minister Bowen. Please find attached the final document and the original letter for ease. If you have any comments, can you please track your changes and provide them back by 3pm today. If you have any question, please give me a call

Regard

Craig!

Craig Limkin PSM (he/him)
Secretary - Department of State Growth
 Level 6, 4 Salamanca Place, Hobart TAS 7000 | GPO Box 536, Hobart TAS 7001
www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au

Courage to make a difference through:
TEAMWORK | INTEGRITY | RESPECT | EXCELLENCE

In recognition of the deep history and culture of this island, I acknowledge and pay my respects to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past, and present custodians of the Land.

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE AND DISCLAIMER

The information in this transmission may be confidential and/or protected by legal professional privilege, and is intended only for the person or persons to whom it is addressed. If you are not such a person, you are warned that any disclosure, copying or dissemination of the information is unauthorised. If you have received the transmission in error, please immediately contact this office by telephone, fax or email, to inform us of the error and to enable arrangements to be made for the destruction of the transmission, or its return at our cost. No liability is accepted for any unauthorised use of the information contained in this transmission.

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE AND DISCLAIMER

The information in this transmission may be confidential and/or protected by legal professional privilege, and is intended only for the person or persons to whom it is addressed. If you are not such a person, you are warned that any disclosure, copying or dissemination of the information is unauthorised. If you have received the transmission in error, please immediately contact this office by telephone, fax or email, to inform us of the error and to enable arrangements to be made for the destruction of the transmission, or its return at our cost. No liability is accepted for any unauthorised use of the information contained in this transmission.

Smith, Gemma

From: Limkin, Craig (StateGrowth)
Sent: Saturday, 28 June 2025 8:15 AM
To: Morgan-Wicks, Kathrine; Gregory, Shane; Swain, Gary; Craigie, James (Treasury)
Cc: Pinto, Vanessa (StateGrowth)
Subject: FW: Urgent: Minute - Project Marinus Final Investment Decision - Caretaker Arrangements (1 of 2)
Attachments: Attachment 2-Letter from Marinus Link Pty Ltd, 18 June 2025.PDF; Attachment 1 - Letter from TasNetworks, 18 June 2025.PDF; ER - Minute - Project Marinus Final Investment Decision - Caretaker Arrangements - 280625 Signed.pdf; Attachment 10 - REPLY - Minister Duigan to Minister Bowen - Renegotiation - Marinus Link - 27062025.docx

FYI

Regards
 Craig!

From: Limkin, Craig
Sent: Saturday, 28 June 2025 8:14 AM
To: Duigan, Nick (DPaC) s 36; Bourke, Ilise (DPaC) s 36
 Wallace, Andrew (DPaC) s 36
Cc: Pinto, Vanessa s 36; Caretaker <caretaker@stategrowth.tas.gov.au>; Minister Duigan (DPaC) <Minister.Duigan@dpac.tas.gov.au>; secretariat <secretariat@stategrowth.tas.gov.au>
Subject: Urgent: Minute - Project Marinus Final Investment Decision - Caretaker Arrangements (1 of 2)

Dear Minister and Team

Please find attached the minute providing advice on caretaker arrangements for Project Marinus Final Investment Decision (there is a second email with more attachments). This has been prepared and endorsed through the ESC.

A response to Minister Bowen's letter received yesterday is attached as Attachment 10 (included in this email for ease) for consideration. Note in Attachment 10 there is a highlighted part and comment for your consideration as this is a risk-based judgement.

Should you wish to discuss please feel free to reach out to Vanessa or myself.

Regards
 Craig!

Craig Limkin PSM (he/him)
Secretary - Department of State Growth
 Level 6, 4 Salamanca Place, Hobart TAS 7000 | GPO Box 536, Hobart TAS 7001
www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au

Courage to make a difference through:
TEAMWORK | INTEGRITY | RESPECT | EXCELLENCE

In recognition of the deep history and culture of this island, I acknowledge and pay my respects to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past, and present custodians of the Land.

Smith, Gemma

From: Bendeich, Stephen (DoJ)
Sent: Monday, 30 June 2025 11:40 AM
To: Limkin, Craig (StateGrowth); Jacobi, Jason (NRE); Morgan-Wicks, Kathrine; Craigie, James (Treasury)
Cc: Terry, Sean (StateGrowth); Pinto, Vanessa (StateGrowth); Gregory, Shane; Flint, Carolyn (DoJ); Ma, Tim (AU); Waldron, Nic (StateGrowth); Voss, Anton (Treasury)
Subject: RE: URGENT FEEDBACK REQ - FID Documentation - DUE 12pm MONDY 30/6
Attachments: 1A - Cabinet Minute - Final Investment Decision (FID) Assessment - Project Marinus (SB comments 20250629).docx; 1F - Draft FID Assessment 16.6.25 WORKING DOCUMENT (SB comments 20250629).docx; Project Marinus - Legal Summary - FID FOR CABINET BRIEFING(150625784.7) (SB clean 20250630).docx

Hi all



Please let me know if there are any queries.

Regards



**Tasmanian
Government**

Stephen Bendeich

Crown Solicitor

Department of Justice

P: s 36 | M: s 36 | s 36

www.justice.tas.gov.au

GPO Box 825 Hobart TAS 7001 | Level 4, 111 Macquarie Street, Hobart, TAS 7000

We act with Integrity Respect Accountability **Our workplaces are** Inclusive Collaborative

In recognition of the deep history and culture of this Island, I acknowledge and pay my respects to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past and present custodians of the Land.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

This email and any attachments are confidential and may be legally privileged (in which case neither is waived or lost by mistaken delivery). Please notify us if you have received this email in error. Any unauthorised use of this email

and the attachments is expressly prohibited. Any liability in connection with any viruses or other defects in this email and any attachments is limited to re-supplying this email and any attachments.

From: Terry, Sean s 36
Sent: Saturday, June 28, 2025 9:17 AM
To: Bendeich, Stephen s 36
Subject: Fw: URGENT FEEDBACK REQ - FID Documentation - DUE 12pm MONDY 30/6

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Major Energy Projects – ReCFIT <MEP@ReCFIT.tas.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, June 27, 2025 6:31:16 PM
To: Limkin, Craig s 36; Jacobi, Jason (NRE) s 36
 Morgan-Wicks, Kathrine (DPaC) s 36; Craigie, James (Treasury)
 s 36
Cc: Secretary <secretary@stategrowth.tas.gov.au>; 'sec.admin@treasury.tas.gov.au'
 <sec.admin@treasury.tas.gov.au>; Gregory, Shane (DPaC) s 36; Secretary (DPaC)
 <Secretary.Executive@dpac.tas.gov.au>; Executive, AssociateSecretary (DPaC)
 <AssociateSecretary.Executive@dpac.tas.gov.au>; Pinto, Vanessa s 36; Terry, Sean
 s 36
Subject: URGENT FEEDBACK REQ - FID Documentation - DUE 12pm MONDY 30/6

Dear Secretaries

As discussed at EESC this week, please find attached and below a schedule of documents for your urgent feedback. The primary documents are bolded in the below table.

We kindly ask that you provide your feedback as soon as possible, and not later than **12pm Monday 30 June**. This is so we can finalise documentation for EESC next week.

Not relevant

Not relevant

Thanks kindly
Christie

Christie Hanson

Renewables, Climate and Future Industries Tasmania | Department of State Growth

Salamanca Place, Hobart TAS 7000 | GPO Box 536, Hobart TAS 7001

Phone: s 36

www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au

Courage to make a difference through

TEAMWORK | INTEGRITY | RESPECT | EXCELLENCE

In recognition of the deep history and culture of this island, I acknowledge and pay my respects to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past, and present custodians of the Land.

From: Major Energy Projects – ReCFIT

Sent: Wednesday, 25 June 2025 4:11 PM

To: Christian, Ace s 36; Stevens, Anna s 36; Voss, Anton (Treasury) s 36; Flint, Carolyn (DoJ) s 36; Hanson, Christie s 36; Limkin, Craig s 36; Peters, Dan s 36; Barbour, Danielle s 36; Burgess, Dean (Treasury) s 36; DeputySecretary.PD (DPaC) <DeputySecretary.PD@dpac.tas.gov.au>; Secretary <secretary@stategrowth.tas.gov.au>; sec.admin@treasury.tas.gov.au s 36; Jacobi, Jason (NRE) s 36; Willson, Jeremy s 36; Willcox, Jodi (DPaC) s 36; Morgan-Wicks, Kathrine (DPaC) s 36; Halliday, Katherine s 36; Healey, Mathew (DPaC) s 35; Waldron, Nick s 36; Merse, Nick (Treasury) s 36; Terry, Sean s 36; Gregory, Shane (DPaC) s 36; Heap, Sonia (DPaC) s 36; Bendeich, Stephen (DoJ) s 36; Sharples, Stewart s 36; Pinto, Vanessa s 36; Craigie, James (Treasury) s 36; Burgess, Dean (Treasury) s 36

Subject: EESC Action: Timeline - FID Documentation

Dear all

As committed to in EESC today, please see below timeline to finalise FID documentation.

Action	Due
--------	-----

Not relevant

Thanks
Christie

Christie Hanson

Renewables, Climate and Future Industries Tasmania | Department of State Growth
Salamanca Place, Hobart TAS 7000 | GPO Box 536, Hobart TAS 7001

Phone: s 36

www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au

Courage to make a difference through

TEAMWORK | INTEGRITY | RESPECT | EXCELLENCE

In recognition of the deep history and culture of this island, I acknowledge and pay my respects to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past, and present custodians of the Land.

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE AND DISCLAIMER

The information in this transmission may be confidential and/or protected by legal professional privilege, and is intended only for the person or persons to whom it is addressed. If you are not such a person, you are warned that any disclosure, copying or dissemination of the information is unauthorised. If you have received the transmission in error, please immediately contact this office by telephone, fax or email, to inform us of the error and to enable arrangements to be made for the destruction of the transmission, or its return at our cost. No liability is accepted for any unauthorised use of the information contained in this transmission.

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE AND DISCLAIMER

The information in this transmission may be confidential and/or protected by legal professional privilege, and is intended only for the person or persons to whom it is addressed. If you are not such a person, you are warned that any disclosure, copying or dissemination of the information is unauthorised. If you have received the transmission in error, please immediately contact this office by telephone, fax or email, to inform us of the error and to enable arrangements to be made for the destruction of the transmission, or its return at our cost. No liability is accepted for any unauthorised use of the information contained in this transmission.

Not relevant

4.2

s 26

Not relevant

Smith, Gemma

From: Willcox, Jodi
Sent: Monday, 30 June 2025 11:49 AM
To: Morgan-Wicks, Kathrine; Healey, Mathew; Gregory, Shane
Subject: RE: URGENT FEEDBACK REQ - FID Documentation - DUE 12pm MONDY 30/6
Importance: High

Hi Kath

Draft email for you to send to Craig. Shane has provided detailed comments on the key documents, these are pretty consistent with issues DPAC has been raising through the Taskforce on a consistent basis.

Against this background I have drafted a high-level email that reinforces the issues already raised. Happy to discuss.

Hi Craig

Not relevant

• Not relevant

- The Minute to the Minister dated 27 June outlines the proposed timeline and approach to consultation given Caretaker, including the option of consulting more broadly than the Labor party given the significance of this issue. The timelines are particularly tight and I am keen to understand the Minister's decision in relation to this Minute and whether the briefing with the Opposition spokesperson has been scheduled.

• Not relevant

Regards

From: Morgan-Wicks, Kathrine s 36
Sent: Saturday, 28 June 2025 3:18 PM
To: Willcox, Jodi s 36; Healey, Mathew s 36; Gregory,

Shane **s 36**

Subject: Fwd: URGENT FEEDBACK REQ - FID Documentation - DUE 12pm MONDY 30/6

For advice please

Kath

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Major Energy Projects – ReCFIT <MEP@recfit.tas.gov.au>

Date: June 27, 2025 at 6:32:46 PM GMT+10

Duplicate

Smith, Gemma

From: Willcox, Jodi
Sent: Monday, 30 June 2025 8:50 PM
To: Morgan-Wicks, Kathrine; Gregory, Shane
Subject: Project Marinus - UPDATE

Importance: High

Hi Kath and Shane

I wanted to provide an update on a number of issues following our Taskforce meeting today, may also be useful in the context of the meeting with Craig in the morning.

Not relevant

Not relevant

Caretaker

- The Minute you provided over the weekend has been provided to the Minister.
- DSG couldn't provide an update on the approach to consultation.
- The critical date for a FID will impact how caretaker conventions are managed.
- DSG are updating a timeline. IT is likely we will have significant comments on this.
- s 26
- With the FID Assessment being re-written, renegotiations ongoing and possible additional time to make a FID decision, could mean a decision is made in the week leading up to the State election.
- s 26

Happy to discuss more in the morning.

J

Jodi Willcox | Executive Director
Policy and Intergovernmental

Department of Premier and Cabinet
Level 7, 15 Murray Street, Hobart TAS 7000
Phone: s 36

s 36 | www.dpac.tas.gov.au



CUSTOMER FOCUS • EXCELLENCE • WORKING TOGETHER • PROFESSIONAL

Smith, Gemma

From: Limkin, Craig (StateGrowth)
Sent: Wednesday, 9 July 2025 2:24 PM
To: Gregory, Shane
Subject: FW: Marinus FID Cabinet Minute (Cabinet in Confidence)

From: Limkin, Craig
Sent: Wednesday, 9 July 2025 10:31 AM
To: Bourke, Ilise (DPaC) s 36
Cc: Pinto, Vanessa s 36; Conway, Angela s 36
Subject: Marinus FID Cabinet Minute (Cabinet in Confidence)

Hi Ilise

Further to your question last night, I have sought advice on the below section in the cabinet minute -



The Departments advice regarding the timing remains consistent as set out in MIG25/290 "Project Marinus Final Investment Decision – Caretaker Arrangements" being it is necessary for Cabinet to make a Final Investment Decision (FID) on Project Marinus during the caretaker period, based on the advice provided by TasNetworks (Attachment 1), Marinus Link Pty Ltd (MLPL) (Attachment 2), the Australian Government (Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) - Attachment 3) and the Expert Advisory Panel (Attachment 10).

Hope that helps to clarify the situation.

Regards
 Craig!

Craig Limkin PSM (he/him)
Secretary - Department of State Growth
 Level 6, 4 Salamanca Place, Hobart TAS 7000 | GPO Box 536, Hobart TAS 7001
www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au

Courage to make a difference through:
TEAMWORK | INTEGRITY | RESPECT | EXCELLENCE

In recognition of the deep history and culture of this island, I acknowledge and pay my respects to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past, and present custodians of the Land.

CABINET ADVISORY

Cabinet Minute/Brief No: CABM-250700006

Title: Project Marinus Stage One FID Assessment

Advice:

s 26 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

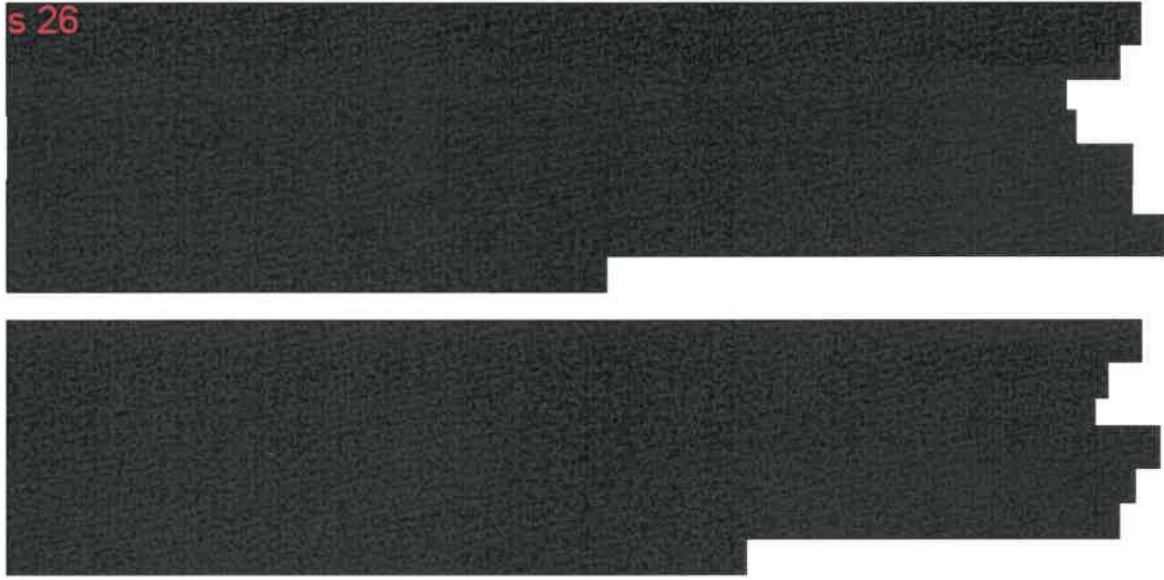
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

s 26

s 26



Recommendation:

That Cabinet **supports** the recommendations.



Shane Gregory
Associate Secretary

9 July 2025

Smith, Gemma

From: Craigie, James (Treasury)
Sent: Tuesday, 15 July 2025 2:57 PM
To: Gregory, Shane
Subject: FW: ER - Minute - Project Marinus Final Investment Decision - Caretaker Arrangements - Further Advice
Attachments: ER - Joint Minute - Project Marinus FID.PDF; Attachment 12 - Caretaker Conventions Advice - 7 July 2025.DOCX; FW: Contractual treatment of deferral of MLPL FID; FW: Marinus FID [SEC=OFFICIAL]; FW: OFFICIAL: Re: URGENT. SENSITIVE COMMERCIAL INFORMATION: Re - Follow on Email. FID timing for next week - consequences of possible need to shift.; FW: URGENT. SENSITIVE COMMERCIAL INFORMATION: Re - FID timing for next week - consequences of possible need to shift.; Approved, Signed & Annotated Minute - ER - Project Marinus Final Investment Decision - Caretaker Arrangements - 280625 Signed.PDF; REPLY - Minister Duigan to Minister Bowen - Marinus Link - 010725.PDF; Letter from the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, 18 June 2025.PDF; Letter to the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, 13 June 2025.PDF; Letter to TasNetworks, 16 June 2025.PDF; Letter to Marinus Link Pty Ltd, 13 June 2025.PDF; Letter from Marinus Link Pty Ltd, 18 June 2025.PDF; Letter from TasNetworks, 18 June 2025.PDF

From: Voss, Anton \$ 36
Sent: Tuesday, 15 July 2025 12:01 PM
To: Craigie, James \$ 36
Subject: FW: ER - Minute - Project Marinus Final Investment Decision - Caretaker Arrangements - Further Advice

From: Stevens, Anna \$ 36
Sent: Tuesday, 15 July 2025 9:53 AM
To: Merse, Nick \$ 36 Voss, Anton \$ 36 Willcox, Jodi (DPaC) \$ 36 Heap, Sonia (DPaC) \$ 36
Subject: FW: ER - Minute - Project Marinus Final Investment Decision - Caretaker Arrangements - Further Advice

Hi all – I just wanted to share the final joint Minute that went up ahead of a likely Cabinet, providing similar advice that's already gone to our minister, but jointly for Premier, Treasurer and Minister.

We have also been asked to summarise into a Cabinet Brief that will accompany our other 2 packages.

Regards,

Anna Stevens | Assistant Director, Renewables Enablers (Major Renewable Energy Projects)
 Renewables, Climate and Future Industries Tasmania | Department of State Growth
 Podium, 10 Murray Street, Hobart TAS 7000 | GPO Box 536, Hobart TAS 7001
 Phone: \$ 36
www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au



DEPARTMENT OF STATE GROWTH

Dept. Ref MIG25/955
Critical Signing Date ASAP

NOTED	NOTED	NOTED
SIGNED:	SIGNED:	SIGNED:
DATE:	DATE:	DATE:

JOINT MINUTE FOR THE PREMIER, THE TREASURER AND THE MINISTER FOR ENERGY AND RENEWABLES

SUBJECT: PROJECT MARINUS FINAL INVESTMENT DECISION

Ministers' notations:

Recommendation:

That you:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

s 27

s 27

Caretaker Conventions

s 27

s 27

Craig Limkin
Secretary

14 July 2025

Prepared by:	Anna Stevens	Cleared by:	Vanessa Pinto
Position:	Assistant Director	Position:	Acting CEO, ReCFIT
Email:	s.36	Email:	
Date:	18/06/2025	Date:	
Phone:	9 30	Phone:	

Attachments:

- Attachment 1 – Minute to the Minister for Energy and Renewables (MIG25/920)
- Attachment 2 – Letter to Marinus Link Pty Ltd, 13 June 2025
- Attachment 3 – Letter to the Australian Government (Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water), 13 June 2025
- Attachment 4 – Letter to TasNetworks, 16 June 2025
- Attachment 5 – MLPL Advice 11 July 2025
- Attachment 6 – Victorian Government Advice 11 July 2025
- Attachment 7 – Australian Government Advice 11 July 2025
- Attachment 8 – Crown Solicitor Advice 9 July 2025
- Attachment 9 – Reply – Minister Duigan to Minister Bowen – Marinus Link 1 July 2025
- Attachment 10 – Letter from Marinus Link Pty Ltd, 18 June 2025
- Attachment 11 – Letter from the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, 18 June 2025
- Attachment 12 – Letter from TasNetworks, 18 June 2025
- Attachment 13 – Caretaker Conventions Advice, 8 July 2025

GAH
14/7/25



DEPARTMENT OF STATE GROWTH

Dept. Ref MIG25/920
Critical Signing Date 28 June 2025

APPROVED/~~NOT APPROVED~~SIGNED: 

DATE: 03/07/2025

MINUTE FOR THE MINISTER FOR ENERGY AND RENEWABLES

**SUBJECT: PROJECT MARINUS FINAL INVESTMENT DECISION – CARETAKER
ARRANGEMENTS**

Minister's notation:

s 27**Recommendation:****That you:**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.

s 27


8.

9.

s 27

Current Situation:

s 27

s 27

s 27

s 27

s 27

Background:

s 27

s 27



Craig Limkin
Secretary

27 June 2025

Prepared by:	Anna Stevens	Cleared by:	Vanessa Pinto
Position:	Assistant Director	Position:	Action CEO, ReCEIT
Email:	s 36	Email:	s 36
Date:	18/06/2025	Date:	25/06/2025
Phone:	s 36	Phone:	s 36

Attachments:

Attachment 1 – Letter from TasNetworks, 18 June 2025

Attachment 2 – Letter from Marinus Link Pty Ltd, 18 June 2025

Attachment 3 – Letter from the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, 18 June 2025

Attachment 4 – FID Timeline for decision making during the Caretaker Period (as at 18 June 2025)

Attachment 5 - *Guidelines on the Caretaker Conventions and the Operations of Government During Caretaker Period – Tasmanian State Election 2025*

Attachment 6 – Letter to Marinus Link Pty Ltd, 13 June 2025

Attachment 7 – Letter to TasNetworks, 16 June 2025

Attachment 8 – Letter to the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, 13 June 2025

Attachment 9 – Letter to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action, 13 June 2025

Attachment 10 – Letter – Minister Duigan to Minister Bowen – Renegotiation



Department of State Growth

Salamanca Building, Parliament Square
4 Salamanca Place, Hobart TAS 7000
GPO Box 536, Hobart TAS 7001 Australia
Phone 1800 030 688 Fax (03) 6173 0287
Email info@stategrowth.tas.gov.au Web www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au
Our Ref: D25/166312



Simon Duggan
Deputy Secretary
Department of Climate Change, Energy, Environment and Water
Simon.Duggan@dcceew.gov.au

CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Simon

FORTHCOMING TASMANIAN FINANCIAL INVESTMENT DECISION

I refer to MLPL's Financial Investment Decision (FID) recommendation dated 30 May 2025 and the forthcoming FID presently scheduled to be taken by Tasmania ahead of a joint Shareholder FID. As I am sure you will be aware, Tasmania has entered a caretaker period with an election scheduled for 19 July 2025.

The State's present circumstances add significant complexity to its FID process for Project Marinus and I am currently working with my team to investigate and assess the options that may be available to deal with the range of uncertainties presently evident.

As part of this, we have written to MLPL to request further information about the consequences of a delay to the Tasmanian FID. A copy of the letter to MLPL is attached. I am sharing this with the Commonwealth and Victoria for completeness.

In addition to the requests we have made to MLPL, we are seeking information from the Commonwealth to understand the implications of a State election. Can the Commonwealth please outline the consequences of any delay to the Tasmanian FID under the underwriting agreements for MLPL's existing cable contract and converter contract. We are not aware of any specific consequences but would appreciate your confirmation.

Please contact me with any questions.

Yours sincerely

Craig Limkin
Secretary

13 June 2025

Attachment: Letter to MLPL

Smith, Gemma

From: Pinto, Vanessa (StateGrowth)
Sent: Monday, 14 July 2025 3:47 PM
To: Stevens, Anna (StateGrowth)
Subject: FW: s 31

Vanessa Pinto (*she, her, hers*) | Acting CEO Renewables, Climate and Future Industries
 Tasmania & Resources
 Department of State Growth
 10 Murray Street, Hobart TAS 7000 | GPO Box 536, Hobart TAS 7001
 Mobile: s 36
 s 36
www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au

Courage to make a difference through:
TEAMWORK | INTEGRITY | RESPECT | EXCELLENCE

In recognition of the deep history and culture of this island, I acknowledge and pay my respects to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past, and present custodians of the Land.

From: Bendeich, Stephen s 36
Sent: Wednesday, 9 July 2025 10:27 PM
To: Pinto, Vanessa s 36
Cc: Limkin, Craig s 36; Terry, Sean (StateGrowth)
 s 36; Flint, Carolyn (DoJ) s 36
Subject: FW: s 31

Hi Vanessa

FYI – I have fielded a couple of calls from the Deputy Premier over the course of the evening. The discussions are reflected in the note below.

Regards



Stephen Bendeich

Crown Solicitor

Department of Justice

P: (03) s 36

M: s 36

s 36

www.justice.tas.gov.au

GPO Box 825 Hobart TAS 7001 | Level 4, 111 Macquarie Street, Hobart, TAS 7000

We act with Integrity Respect Accountability **Our workplaces are** Inclusive Collaborative

In recognition of the deep history and culture of this Island, I acknowledge and pay my respects to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past and present custodians of the Land.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

This email and any attachments are confidential and may be legally privileged (in which case neither is waived or lost by mistaken delivery). Please notify us if you have received this email in error. Any unauthorised use of this email and the attachments is expressly prohibited. Any liability in connection with any viruses or other defects in this email and any attachments is limited to re-supplying this email and any attachments.

From: Bendeich, Stephen

Sent: Wednesday, 9 July 2025 10:26 PM

To: Barnett, Guy (DPaC) s 36

Cc: Limkin, Craig (StateGrowth) s 36 Gregory, Shane (DPaC)

s 36 Mignot, Amber (DPaC) s 36

Subject: s 31

Dear Deputy Premier

s 31

Regards



Stephen Bendeich

Crown Solicitor

Department of Justice

P: s 36

M: s 36

s 36

www.justice.tas.gov.au

GPO Box 825 Hobart TAS 7001 | Level 4, 111 Macquarie Street, Hobart, TAS 7000

We act with

Integrity

Respect

Accountability

Our workplaces are

Inclusive

Collaborative

In recognition of the deep history and culture of this Island, I acknowledge and pay my respects to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past and present custodians of the Land.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

This email and any attachments are confidential and may be legally privileged (in which case neither is waived or lost by mistaken delivery). Please notify us if you have received this email in error. Any unauthorised use of this email and the attachments is expressly prohibited. Any liability in connection with any viruses or other defects in this email and any attachments is limited to re-supplying this email and any attachments.

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE AND DISCLAIMER

The information in this transmission may be confidential and/or protected by legal professional privilege, and is intended only for the person or persons to whom it is addressed. If you are not such a person, you are warned that any disclosure, copying or dissemination of the information is unauthorised. If you have received the transmission in error, please immediately contact this office by telephone, fax or email, to inform us of the error and to enable arrangements to be made for the destruction of the transmission, or its return at our cost. No liability is accepted for any unauthorised use of the information contained in this transmission.

**Minister for Energy and Renewables
Minister for Sports and Events
Minister for Parks**

Level 10, 15 Murray Street, HOBART TAS 7000 Australia
GPO Box 123 HOBART TAS 7001 Australia
Phone: +61 3 6165 7739
Email: minister.duigan@dpac.tas.gov.au



Hon Chris Bowen MP
Minister for Climate Change and Energy
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister

Thank you for your letter of 1 July 2025 following our recent correspondence and conversations on Project Marinus.

Your support for this nationally-important project to date, including ensuring that Tasmanian customers do not bear an unreasonable cost burden from the project is greatly appreciated. As you know, formal acceptance of your offer is subject to the Tasmanian Government's Cabinet consideration and Tasmania Election 2025 Caretaker Conventions, which require an appropriate level of consultation.

I thank you for your offer of a \$346 million grant by way of a Federation Funding Agreement on the conditions outlined to reduce the cost impact on Tasmanian consumers, subject to the development of the FFA document to give effect to these matters.

I also appreciate your acknowledgement that Tasmania's \$103.5 million equity contribution is to be recognised in the revised Marinus Link Pty Ltd (MLPL) Shareholders' Agreement. This will be the limit of Tasmania's contribution to the Marinus Link and that the cost of future equity contributions will be met by the Commonwealth or its nominee, on the terms and conditions in both my letter of 29 June and your subsequent letter of 1 July 2025.

I accept that your offer requires the Tasmanian Government to take a positive Final Investment Decision on Stage 1 of Marinus Link and the NWTG projects. I will now take your offer, and the terms on which you have provided it, to the Tasmanian Government Cabinet and follow relevant Caretaker Conventions. I commit to providing a formal, endorsed position to the Australian Government in advance of the 15 July 2025 in order for a final shareholder FID on Marinus Link to be achieved by that date.

Thank you again for your response and engagement in this important project for the nation's renewable energy transition.

Hon Nick Duigan MLC
Minister for Energy and Renewables

1 July 2025

OFFICIAL

**Australian Government****Department of Climate Change, Energy,
the Environment and Water**

Craig Limkin
Secretary
Department of State Growth
secretary@stategrowth.tas.gov.au
DSG Ref: D25/166312

Dear Craig

FORTHCOMING TASMANIAN FINANCIAL INVESTMENT DECISION

I refer to your letter of 13 June 2025 regarding the forthcoming Tasmanian Financial Investment Decision on the Marinus Link project (FID).



DCCEEW.gov.au

John Gorton Building - King Edward Terrace, Parkes ACT 2600 Australia
GPO Box 3090 Canberra ACT 2601 ABN: 63 573 932 849

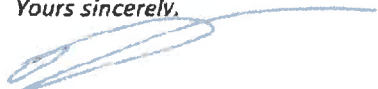
1

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

The delay of a shareholder FID beyond 15 July 2025 therefore is considered unviable by the Commonwealth.

Yours sincerely,



Simon Duggan
Deputy Secretary

Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

[18 June 25]

OFFICIAL

Attachment 3 – Caretaker Considerations¹

Major Policy Decisions

Governments should avoid making and implementing major policy decisions during the caretaker period that are likely to commit an incoming government or limit its freedom to act (Section 2, Major Policy Decisions). Whether a particular policy decision qualifies as 'major' is a matter for judgement. Relevant considerations include:

- the significance of the commitment in terms of policy and resources; and
- whether the decision is a matter of contention between the Government and non-Government parties in the election campaign.

If circumstances require the Government to make a major policy decision during the caretaker period that would bind an incoming government, the relevant Minister, after agreement with the Premier, would usually consult the relevant Opposition spokesperson(s) beforehand. The requirement to consult does not require the Government to obtain the endorsement of non-Government parties.

Governments should avoid entering into major contracts or undertakings, approving major variations to or termination of major contracts, or undertakings during the caretaker period (Section 4, Major Contracts and Agreements). This includes commitments and undertakings that could bind an incoming government.

If it is not possible to defer the commitment until after the caretaker period, for legal, commercial or other reasons:

- the Minister, after agreement with the Premier, should consult the relevant Opposition spokesperson regarding the commitment; and
- agencies should also ensure that new contracts entered into during the caretaker period include clauses providing for termination in the event of an incoming government not wishing to proceed.

s 27

The convention that the Government avoids entering into major commitments during the caretaker period extends to intergovernmental negotiations and agreements. The Government ordinarily seeks to defer such negotiations or adopts observer status until the end of the caretaker period.

If deferring involvement or adopting observer status is not feasible, the Government representatives should, if possible, limit their role to providing information on the Government's past position, without committing the incoming government to that position.

If it is necessary for the Government to participate fully in the negotiations, it should advise

¹ *Guidelines on the Caretaker Conventions and the Operations of Government During Caretaker Period, Tasmanian State Election 2025*

the other parties to the negotiations that any outcomes will need to be authorised by the incoming government, or it could seek the relevant Opposition spokesperson's agreement on negotiating positions.

The Conventions (p. 9) define the "Opposition" as the largest minority Party within the Parliament during the Caretaker period, willing to assume office in the event of a change of government either after an election or as a result of a loss of support for the Government in the House of Assembly.



s 27

Timing of communications, and supporting material to be released, is a decision for Government, and subject to the Caretaker Conventions.

The Conventions (Section 1.11) note the need to:

- protect the apolitical nature of the State Service;
- prevent controversies about the role and work of the State Service during an election

campaign; and

- avoid the use of government resources in a manner to advantage a particular party.

Further, Section 7, Avoiding Involvement of Agencies in Election Activities, notes:

- Media statements issued by agencies during a caretaker period should only relate to the day-to-day business of the agency or legislative requirements and must only contain factual information.

s 27

- are not related to the day-to-day business of an agency.

The Operational Notes to Section 7 add:

Agencies should only add the following material to their platforms during the caretaker period:

- portfolio-related announcements, if that is the usual practice. This will require judgement within each agency, but, as an example, a ministerial press release relating to a public health warning might appropriately be added;
- agency-related announcements of a routine, apolitical nature if that is the usual practice (e.g. bushfire safety message);
- purely factual material; and
- information on existing policies and programs, unless the information includes attacks on non-government parties or members or other political material.

AND

Agencies should not add to the platform any material that contains, or links to, political material, such as:

- ministerial announcements relating to election promises (including media releases);
- any political information, including information that contains attacks on non-government parties or members, or other political material; and
- information that contains links to political material or pages.

Caretaker Recommendation:

s 27

Smith, Gemma

From: Brown, Melanie
Sent: Tuesday, 5 August 2025 3:44 PM
To: Morgan-Wicks, Kathrine; Gregory, Shane; Howes, Lisa
Subject: RE: s 31

Thanks Kath, apologies I didn't confirm at the time; this deliberation has been recorded in the caretaker log.

Cheers
 Mel

From: Morgan-Wicks, Kathrine s 36
Sent: Thursday, 31 July 2025 5:05 PM
To: Gregory, Shane s 36 Brown, Melanie s 36
 Howes, Lisa s 36
Subject: FW: s 31

Hi

FYI

Mel can you pls record in CM Caretaker?

Thank you
 Kath

Kathrine Morgan-Wicks PSM
 Secretary, Department of Premier and Cabinet
 Head of the State Service

Department of Premier and Cabinet
 T: 03 6232 7230 | E: Secretary.Executive@dpac.tas.gov.au | W: www.dpac.tas.gov.au



Respect + Excellence + Professional + Customer focus + Working together

'I acknowledge Aboriginal people as the traditional owners of this Land and respect their culture and identity which has been bound up with the Land, Sea, Waterways and Sky for generations.'

From: Bendeich, Stephen s 36
Sent: Thursday, 31 July 2025 4:53 PM
To: Morgan-Wicks, Kathrine s 36
Subject: RE: s 31

Hi Kath

Thank you for sharing this.



Regards



Stephen Bendeich

Crown Solicitor

Department of Justice

P: s 36 | M: s 36 | s 36

www.justice.tas.gov.au

GPO Box 825 Hobart TAS 7001 | Level 4, 111 Macquarie Street, Hobart, TAS 7000

We act with

Integrity

Respect

Accountability

Our workplaces are

Inclusive

Collaborative

In recognition of the deep history and culture of this Island, I acknowledge and pay my respects to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past and present custodians of the Land.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

This email and any attachments are confidential and may be legally privileged (in which case neither is waived or lost by mistaken delivery). Please notify us if you have received this email in error. Any unauthorised use of this email and the attachments is expressly prohibited. Any liability in connection with any viruses or other defects in this email and any attachments is limited to re-supplying this email and any attachments.

From: Morgan-Wicks, Kathrine s 36

Sent: Thursday, 31 July 2025 4:28 PM

To: Bendeich, Stephen s 36

Subject: FW: s 31

Stephen,



S 31

A large, bold, red 'S 31' is displayed in the top left corner of a black rectangular area that covers the majority of the page. The 'S' is a simple sans-serif font, while the '31' is also in a bold sans-serif font.

Given your role as Crown Solicitor responsible for the transaction documentation, I write to record my view and the information and events that support it.

Kind regards,
Kath Morgan-Wicks

Kathrine Morgan-Wicks PSM
Secretary, Department of Premier and Cabinet
Head of the State Service

Department of Premier and Cabinet

T: 03 6232 7230 | E: Secretary.Executive@dpac.tas.gov.au | W: www.dpac.tas.gov.au



Respect + Excellence + Professional + Customer focus + Working together

'I acknowledge Aboriginal people as the traditional owners of this Land and respect their culture and identity which has been bound up with the Land, Sea, Waterways and Sky for generations.'

From: Kay, Sarah **s 36**

Sent: Thursday, 31 July 2025 12:36 PM

To: Bendeich, Stephen (DoJ) **s 36**

Cc: Morgan-Wicks, Kathrine **s 36**

Subject: RE: **s 31**

Dear Stephen

I refer to your email correspondence below and to our discussions regarding the same.



I trust the foregoing is of assistance for your present purposes.

Kind regards

Sarah Kay SC | Solicitor-General
Office of the Solicitor-General

p s 36 | e solicitor.general@justice.tas.gov.au | w www.justice.tas.gov.au
15 Murray Street, Hobart, TAS 7000 | GPO Box 825 Hobart, TAS 7001

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE AND DISCLAIMER: This email and any attachments are confidential and may be legally privileged (in which case neither is waived or lost by mistaken delivery). The email and any attachments are intended only for the intended addressee(s). Please notify us by return email if you have received this email and any attachments by mistake, and delete them. If this email and any attachments include advice, that advice is based on, and limited to, the instructions received by the sender. Any unauthorised use of this email and any attachments is expressly prohibited. Any liability in connection with any viruses or other defects in this email and any attachments, is limited to re-supplying this email and any attachments.

From: Bendeich, Stephen s 36
Sent: Thursday, 31 July 2025 9:09 AM
To: Kay, Sarah s 36
Cc: Morgan-Wicks, Kathrine (DPaC) s 36
Subject: RE: s 31

Hi Sarah

I've had a further thought overnight, related to my last point.



Regards



Stephen Bendeich

Crown Solicitor

Department of Justice

P: s 36 | M: s 36 s 36

www.justice.tas.gov.au

GPO Box 825 Hobart TAS 7001 | Level 4, 111 Macquarie Street, Hobart, TAS 7000

We act with Integrity Respect Accountability **Our workplaces are** Inclusive Collaborative

In recognition of the deep history and culture of this Island, I acknowledge and pay my respects to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past and present custodians of the Land.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

This email and any attachments are confidential and may be legally privileged (in which case neither is waived or lost by mistaken delivery). Please notify us if you have received this email in error. Any unauthorised use of this email and the attachments is expressly prohibited. Any liability in connection with any viruses or other defects in this email and any attachments is limited to re-supplying this email and any attachments.

From: Bendeich, Stephen
Sent: Wednesday, 30 July 2025 8:19 PM
To: Kay, Sarah s 36
Cc: Morgan-Wicks, Kathrine (DPaCs s 36
Subject: s 31

Dear Sarah

s 31

s 31

Please let me know if you require any further information or would like to discuss further.

Kind regards



Stephen Bendeich

Crown Solicitor

Department of Justice

P: s 36 | M: s 36 | s 36

www.justice.tas.gov.au