

TASMANIAN PLANNING COMMISSION



Our ref: DOC/25/140442
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16 December 2025

Dr Sean Mc Goldrick
Chief Executive Officer
TasNetworks Pty Ltd
PO Box 606
Moonah TAS 7009

By email: david.palmer@tasnetworks.com.au

Dear Dr Mc Goldrick

North West Transmission Upgrades Project (Palmerston to Hampshire)

- **Relocation of 110kV Overhead Transmission Line**
- **Conditions relating to post-construction operation**

I refer to your letter of 9 December 2025. Having considered your letter, the Panel's position regarding the relocation of the 110kV transmission line remains unchanged. Specifically:

- s 57 of the *Electricity Supply Industry Act 1995* (the ESI Act) provides that relevant work is not to be regarded as 'development' for the purposes of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*, it does not create an exemption for any requirement for a use permit
- the extent of the 110kV transmission line being relocated relative to the total length of the transmission line is not considered a determinative factor
- the use of the word 'replacement' in s 57 of the ESI Act does not justify extending the ordinary meaning of 'modification' in reg 8 of the *Electricity Supply Industry Regulations 2018*, and
- a change in poles alone may well be a modification in some cases, however the proposed relocation is not a modification for the purposes of the ESI Regulations.

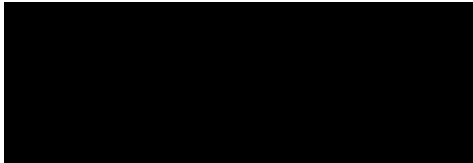
The Panel maintains that the proposed work to relocate the 110kV transmission line does not constitute a modification and is therefore not covered by the exemption in s 57 of the ESI Act.

The Panel considers that the categorisation of the relocation of the 110kV transmission line as exempt from the requirements for a planning permit or otherwise had no bearing on the validity of the application, and at that time the Panel was not required to form a view on the matter. However, representations received from people directly affected by the 110kV relocation meant it was an issue the Panel had to address to ensure the integrity of the process.

The Panel notes that TasNetworks intends to write to the Minister for Planning and Housing to seek an amendment to the Order and requests that the Commission be kept informed of progress.

The Panel also acknowledges TasNetworks' agreement with the Panel's authority to impose conditions on the operational stage of the project, regardless of any comments to the contrary in the reports provided as part of the application.

Yours sincerely



Roger Howlett

**Chairperson
Delegated Assessment Panel**