



**TransGrid**

# Powering Sydney's Future Stakeholder Monitoring Committee

June 2020

## Contents

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<b>1. Overview.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2. Members.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>3. Meeting summary and outline.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4. Meeting notes.....</b>	<b>4</b>
4.1 Welcome and Introduction.....	4
4.2 Project Update .....	4
4.3 Impact of COVID-19.....	4
4.4 EIS Approval.....	4
4.5 Construction planning.....	4
4.6 Community Engagement.....	5
4.7 Meeting closed.....	5

## 1. Overview

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Energy Consumers Australia and TransGrid have agreed to create the Stakeholder Monitoring Committee (PSF SMC) to provide consumer oversight of the costs and timelines for the implementation of the Powering Sydney's Future project. The PSF SMC is an innovative and pro-active approach putting the interests of consumers at the forefront of important decisions.

The PSF SMC is a transparent consumer consultation committee. In its capacity as an advisory group, the Committee is provided in-depth review of matters relating to the implementation of the PSF project and the opportunity to make recommendations to TransGrid based on this review. The Committee is not a decision making forum/body.

The fourth meeting of the PSF SMC was held virtually over WebEx due to COVID-19. Members of the PSF SMC received an update on the progress of the project and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, updates on projects costs and construction plans.

## 2. Members

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The PSF SMC is chaired by Energy Consumers Australia Chief Executive Officer, Lynne Gallagher, and is made up of three other members who represent energy consumers.

1. **Energy Consumers Australia**, Lynne Gallagher, Chief Executive Officer (Chair)
2. **Australian Industry Group**, Tennant Reed, Principal National Advisor - Public Policy
3. **Energy Users Association of Australia**, Andrew Richards, Chief Executive Officer
4. **Public Interest Advocacy Centre**, Craig Memery, Energy and Water Team Leader

TransGrid provide the secretariat function to the PSF SMC, and attend meetings to provide information and presentations to the PSF SMC.

## 3. Meeting summary and outline

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<b>Date</b>	11 June , 2020
<b>Venue</b>	TransGrid, 180 Thomas St Ultimo
<b>Time</b>	9am – 11am
<b>Chairperson</b>	Lynne Gallagher, CEO – Energy Consumers Australia
<b>Secretariat</b>	Robert Ephraums, Industry and Stakeholder Engagement Advisor – TransGrid

PSF SMC attendees: **Lynne Gallagher**, Chief Executive Officer - Energy Consumers Australia  
**Andrew Richards**, Chief Executive Officer - Energy Users Association of Australia  
**Miyuru Ediriweera**, Policy Officer - Public Interest Advocacy Centre  
**Tennant Reed**, Principal Public Policy Advisor - Australian Industry Group

TransGrid attendees: **Michael Gatt**, Executive Manager Works Delivery  
**Evonne Bennett**, Project Director  
**Michael Lloyd**, Community Engagement Manager  
**Colin Mayer**, PSF Program Manager  
**Robert Ephraums**, Industry & Stakeholder Engagement Advisor (Secretariat)

Apologies: **Craig Memery**, Energy and Water Team Leader - Public Interest Advocacy Centre

## Report distribution

Distribution date: 1/12/2020

Distribution list: PSF SMC members

## 4. Meeting notes

Summary	Actions and questions
<b>4.1 Welcome and Introduction</b>	
<p>The Chair welcomed all members to the fourth meeting of the PSF SMC, expressing interest in discussing the updates on project cost and understanding the current timing for the project and associated benefits.</p> <p>Michael Gatt, TransGrid Executive Manager Works Delivery welcomed attendees and emphasised TransGrid's intention to ensure that all projects follow a similar level of transparency and engagement as PSF, reiterating the need for projects to demonstrate value to consumers.</p>	<b>Actions</b> > Nil
<b>4.2 Project Update</b>	
<p>Evonne Bennett, Project Director provided an update to the SMC on the project since the last meeting in December 2020. Project update included NSW Government planning approval received May 2020, status of cable system design, planned construction start date and timelines, procurement process status and project costs.</p> <p>Members and TransGrid discussed the process by which cost and risk is allocated within a project such as PSF, and how these are refined through the finalisation of contracts.</p>	<b>Actions</b> > Circulation of cost-waterfall (presented in December) and overview of cost estimation and risk allocation processes. >
<b>4.3 Impact of COVID-19</b>	
<p>TransGrid updated members of the impact of COVID-19 on the project progression. Early procurement processes have meant that TransGrid had many costs locked in prior to COVID, shielding the project from much of the impact that has been seen in other sectors and resulting in no cost impact to date. TransGrid updated members on the processes being adopted to ensure safe work practices for the beginning of construction.</p> <p>Members were interested in the likely community impact of the project due to more people working from home due to COVID-19 restrictions.</p>	<b>Actions</b> > Nil
<b>4.4 EIS Approval</b>	
<p>TransGrid delivered update to members on securing EIS approval for PSF and the process undertaken to receive approval.</p>	<b>Actions</b> > Nil
<b>4.5 Construction planning</b>	
<p>Construction of project currently scheduled to begin in August 2020, with another round of community notification to occur prior to construction,</p>	<b>Actions</b>

building on previous consultations and notifications. Members noted the likely sensitivity that residents may have to the project given COVID-19 and the impact of the WestConnex project, occurring in a similar corridor.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; TransGrid to organise a site visit for the December meeting (assuming COVID-19 restrictions allow)</li> </ul>
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#### 4.6 Community Engagement

<p>TransGrid discussed current and planned community engagement around the route ahead of construction, including difficulties posed by COVID-19. Of note was the need to consult on provision of respite, engagement with CALD communities and the management of key issues such as noise, traffic, and EMF.</p>	<p><b>Actions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Nil</li> </ul>
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#### 4.7 Meeting closed

Chair thanked TransGrid and members for their time.	
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