



Media statement

31 May 2016

Basslink interconnector update

Chief Executive Malcolm Eccles today confirmed that the Basslink team has completed the second joint and has now commenced work on the third and final joint that would be required as part of the cable repair project. Mr Eccles said that if the favourable conditions continue as forecast, the joint would be completed by early next week.

“Our team has worked tirelessly in difficult conditions over the past few months, and on Monday (30th May) completed the second of three joints in the cable, which was then laid on the seabed,” he said.

“Given the positive weather outlook, we have today commenced what will be the final joint in the cable, which will give us a single, continuous cable spanning Bass Strait.

“Barring poor weather or unforeseen issues, we hope to complete the joint itself by early next week and lay the cable bight in the few days that follow. Once this has been done, the next step is to re-bury the cable and conduct a range of tests ahead of its return to service,” said Eccles.

While Basslink advises that the return to service remains scheduled for the end of June, there is a possibility of an earlier return to service if weather conditions remain favourable.

Basslink continues to update its key stakeholders, Hydro Tasmania and the Tasmanian Government, of the repair activities on a regular basis.

- Ends -

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About Basslink www.basslink.com.au

The Basslink Interconnector enhances security of supply on both sides of Bass Strait; protecting Tasmania against the risk of drought-constrained energy shortages while providing Victoria and southern states with secure renewable energy during times of peak demand. The Basslink Interconnector is the world’s second longest undersea electricity cable. Owned by Keppel Infrastructure Trust, Basslink delivers excellence in the areas of safety, reliability and performance.



Basslink has a number of fibre optic assets which carry high speed telecommunication traffic. Basslink Telecoms offers a range of wholesale transmission services between Tasmania and Victoria.