



Media statement

26 August 2019

Basslink Interconnector update

Basslink Pty Ltd (Basslink) has today identified a failure in the low voltage cable (metallic return) which is believed to have caused Basslink Interconnector's Direct Current Protection system to trip on Saturday morning (24th August). The identified failure is located in an above ground section of the low voltage cable in the transition station in Gifford, Victoria.

Basslink is currently preparing a plan for the repair. Based on current information, Basslink has notified the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) that the interconnector will be offline until mid-October. Basslink proposes further testing, which will better inform the return to service date. Basslink will update the market with any changes to the proposed return to service date.

At this point in time, the outage only affects the electricity interconnector. Basslink's telecoms cable (providing broadband services to internet service providers) continues to operate.

Basslink will continue to update and advise its key stakeholders on any developments.

Editors' note: *the Basslink cable bundle which is responsible for energy transmission comprises a high voltage direct current (HVDC) cable, a low voltage metallic return, and a fibre optic cable. In this occasion the failure has been identified with the low voltage return.*

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For further media enquiries on Basslink, please contact:

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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.