



**TransGrid**

# Powering Sydney's Future Stakeholder Monitoring Committee

May 2019

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## 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 second meeting of the PSF SMC was held at the Arena Sports Club, next to TransGrid's Rookwood Rd Substation and the beginning of the cable route for PSF. Members of the PSF SMC discussed the new route alignment for the project and TransGrid's procurement process. Following the meeting, members went on a foot tour of the Rookwood Road Substation to observe the 330kV cable that comes into the substation, and undertook a bus tour of the proposed PSF route.

## 2. Members

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

1. **Energy Consumers Australia**, Rosemary Sinclair, 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>        | 30 May, 2019   |
| <b>Venue</b>       | Arena Sports Club / Rookwood Road Substation and PSF Route tour          |
| <b>Time</b>        | 11.00am – 4.00pm   |
| <b>Chairperson</b> | Rosemary Sinclair, CEO – Energy Consumers Australia                      |
| <b>Secretariat</b> | Robert Ephraums, Industry and Stakeholder Engagement Advisor – TransGrid |

PSF SMC attendees: **Rosemary Sinclair**, Chief Executive Officer - Energy Consumers Australia  
**Tennant Reed**, Principal Public Policy Advisor - Australian Industry Group  
**Andrew Richards**, Chief Executive Officer - Energy Users Association of Australia  
**Craig Memery**, Energy and Water Team Leader - Public Interest Advocacy Centre  
**Anna Livsey**, Policy and Communications Officer - Public Interest Advocacy Centre (observer)

TransGrid attendees: **Tony Meehan**, Executive Manager Policy and Corporate Affairs  
**Gerard Reiter**, Executive Manager Network Planning and Operation  
**Evonne Bennett**, Project Director  
**Colin Mayer**, Powering Sydney's Future Program Manager  
**Robert Ephraums**, Stakeholder Engagement Specialist (Secretariat)

## Report distribution

**Distribution date:**

**Distribution list:** All of the above.

## 4. Meeting notes

| Summary  | Actions and questions   |
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| <b>4.1 Welcome and Introduction</b><br><br>The Chair welcomed all members to the second meeting of the PSF SMC. The Chair extended thanks to Tony Meehan and the staff at TransGrid for facilitating the meeting of the PSF SMC and for the arrangements to tour the adjacent substation and the proposed PSF cable route.   | <b>Actions</b><br>> Nil   |
| <b>4.2 PSF Overview</b><br><br>TransGrid provided an update to the PSF SMC of the current project drivers, highlighting the continued need for the project to be implemented by the summer of 2022/23.<br><br>> TransGrid detailed the response received from the request for tender (RFT) for non-network solutions in Inner Sydney that was issued in May 2018 and closed in September 2018, with the capacity offered to the RFT being approximately one third of the capacity offered to the EOI in 2017.<br><br>> Members of the PSF discussed the response with TransGrid and highlighted the value of this 'market evidence' for future efforts to promote a demand management market.  | <b>Actions</b><br>> TransGrid to facilitate further discussion on demand management with interested members of the PSF SMC.<br>> Inclusion of demand management experience to be included in reflection on impact of PSF SMC process. |
| <b>4.3 Project Update</b><br><br>TransGrid updated the PSF SMC on the developments since the last meeting. Key updates provided to the PSF SMC were:<br><br>> Original PSF cable route has been modified to ensure cost efficiency in response to updated cost estimates and changing project constraints associated with a proposed cable route in main arterial roads (requiring work to be done during limited hours at night) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– New route to include more suburban streets in an effort to reduce reliance on main road corridors</li></ul> > TransGrid has undertaken an assessment to reevaluate the project benefits to ensure project still delivers value for consumers. The project has been found to still deliver benefit.<br>> TransGrid has engaged an independent advisor to provide an assessment of the cost estimate approach and risk assurance review to ensure their robustness.<br>> An update on progression of Environment Impact Statement was provided to the SMC. | <b>Actions</b><br>> Nil   |
| <b>4.4 PSF Procurement Strategy</b>  |   |

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| <p>TransGrid presented to the PSF SMC on the procurement strategy in place for the delivery of the PSF project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; TransGrid has involved delivery contractors early in the planning process as a strategy to reduce future price risk for the project</li> <li>&gt; Impact on the community (such as noise, traffic disruption) through the implementation of the project is a key consideration</li> <li>&gt; PSF SMC discussed assessment of local benefits through project delivery as consideration for procurement model. TransGrid agreed that this was something that could be explored if consumers were happy to pay higher prices for increased local benefits through procurement processes.</li> </ul> | <p><b>Actions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; TransGrid to explore role for locally based procurement options</li> </ul> |
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#### 4.5 Project delivery

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| <p>TransGrid presented on the plan to deliver the project, highlighting particular areas of difficulty.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; PSF SMC members were interested in the level of engagement between TransGrid and other services providers (e.g. Sydney Rail). TransGrid discussed current plans with service providers and authorities to minimise impacts to residents, including aligning works to cross the rail corridor with planned outages on the train line. Examples provided to the PSF SMC and what plans were in place to minimise disruption for commuters.</li> </ul> | <p><b>Actions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Nil</li> </ul> |
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#### 4.6 Substation and cable route tour

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| <p>Meeting of the PSF SMC adjourned. Following the adjournment, members were taken on a tour of TransGrid's Rookwood Rd substation and a tour of parts of the proposed cable route to gain a better understanding of the construction challenges.</p> | <p><b>Actions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Nil</li> </ul> |
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*PSdes*

8 January 2020