

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

Industry Sector Representatives and Associations

and

Local Government

and

Tasmanian State Government



Cleaner
Smarter
Diverse



Background

- A. The parties wish to work together to develop a Strategic Regional Partnership Agreement (SRPA) for the Western Region of Tasmania which will focus on practical solutions to address regional needs and growth for the region and to bring together key decision makers from all levels of government, business, community and industry.
- B. The parties wish to record non-legally binding commitments relevant to the achievement of this stated goal.

1. Parties

Current Parties

The current parties to this document include the following key stakeholders:

Industry

1. Mining industry represented by – Tasmanian Minerals, Manufacturing and Energy Council (TMEC)
2. Hydro Tasmania
3. Salmon Industry – Represented by Salmon Tasmania
4. Renewable Energy – represented by Westcoast Renewable Energy (WRE)

Government

1. Local Government – with West Coast Council as Lead Council
2. State Government – with the Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPAC) as Lead Agency.

Associations

1. Regional Development Australia – Tasmania (RDA)

Future Parties

The parties acknowledge that the purpose and objectives stated in this document may, from time to time, include other parties or stakeholders to be involved including representative agencies of the Commonwealth Government.

2. Status of this document

The parties acknowledge and agree that nothing contained in this document is to give rise to:

- (a) legally enforceable rights and obligations as between the parties; and
- (b) any legal liability of any kind as between the parties,

and that to the extent that legally enforceable rights or obligations are to arise in relation to the subject matter of this document, that those rights and obligations will not arise until the parties, or any relevant parties (as the case may be), enter (if at all) into a formal written agreement concerning the subject matter of that agreement.

3. Geographic boundaries for the subject matter of this document

- (a) The geographic boundary for the subject matter of this document is anticipated to be predominantly within the Local Government Area of West Coast Council (the Western Region) but may also extend to neighbouring Councils based on projects and/or where there are regional planning benefits as and when required.
- (b) The West Coast Council has been selected to act as the Lead Council with neighbouring Councils.

4. Review of the subject matter of this document

The parties anticipate reviewing this document in or around June 2025.

5. Purpose of this document

This document was developed based on the outcomes of an initial workshop between the Parties on 1st March 2023 and subsequent feedback. Its purpose is to document, for the next three years, each party's expected roles and to promote collaboration between the parties with a view to developing an agreed SRPA (and other required documents) to achieve optimum long-term benefits for:

- **Local Government** – by providing a voice for local community to contribute resources and ideas to improve the amenity and long-term sustainability of the towns where sector investments can be applied to achieve both the industry and community objectives.
- **State Government** – being the development of a strategic regional plan that identifies local challenges (including the potential for government services to be streamlined) to the Western Region with a view to establishing a long-term strategy for planning, investment and land use within the Western Region.
- **Industry** – by leveraging individual private industry investment as a part of a broader program, where permissible to enable the optimum long-term benefits for the community by including considerations to how project expenditure requirements are implemented and taking into consideration the suite of multi-sector projects.

In addition, by fostering the development of agreed plans which capitalise on opportunities for long term planning, investment and land use in the Western Region the parties hope to:

- Improve accommodation, infrastructure, and amenity of towns to attract and retain workers and families.
- Provide better liveability, including through sustainability, wellbeing and connection for local people and local industries.
- Provide a diversified economy.
- Demonstrate social benefits for residents.

6. Objectives of this document

In addition, this document aims to achieve the following objectives:

- To ensure there is a clear understanding of and support for the purpose and desired outcomes including the role and responsibilities of the parties.
- To provide mechanisms to facilitate collaboration between the parties, including effective and timely options for progressing the action plans, investment, communication and sharing of information.
- To state general principles that will apply (including day to day work and decision making) and potential funding arrangements related to delivering the outcomes for Western Tasmania.
- To provide principles for the management of disagreements between the parties.

7. High level principles underlying each party's relationship with each other

The parties acknowledge the following high level principles:

- Each party recognises and supports the independent autonomy of each other party and that each party may have responsibilities to their members and/or the discharge of certain statutory roles, functions or obligations.
- All parties are committed to achieving the best possible outcomes for Western Tasmania.
- The Parties will work collaboratively to identify any required personnel and funding requirements to implement the SRPA and that there is a desire to work in goodwill and collaboratively toward an industry led, shared funding model.
- The parties should review this document if a new organisation or stakeholder is able to assist with the achievement of the purpose and objectives stated in this document or if an existing party wishes to withdraw.
- The funding of initiatives will be dealt with separately to the funding of a Project Leader.

8. Roles of the Parties

The parties acknowledge a shared desire to develop and facilitate plans and associated activities, through a regional SRPA, to progress the desired outcomes for Western Tasmania as they relate to:

- Infrastructure;
- Services;
- Community and industry goodwill; and
- Diversified economy including regional land use planning, sustainability and wellbeing.

9. Specific Roles

- **Project Sponsor:** The Department of Premier and Cabinet commit to identifying and nominating a senior Government Executive to act as Project Sponsor - under the Strategic Regional Partnerships announcement (made on 28th February 2023). If required, the Project Sponsor should be the first point of contact in relation to any issues with any Tasmanian government agency or department.
- **Steering Committee (SC):** The parties acknowledge:
 - o an industry led steering committee should be established which is made up of representatives of each Party and that a Chair will be elected from amongst the members of the SC.
 - o the SC which will be the forum for project decision making and the discussion of any relevant issues affecting any of the parties or any project.
 - o that despite any thing in this document to the contrary the SC:
 - has no legal responsibility or legal status; and
 - does not have any power to:
 - enter into any obligation or accept any liability;
 - make any commitment on behalf of a party;
 - require any party to act, or refrain from acting, in any way;
 - to give any instructions or directions to any person.
 - o that the SC should be consulted and be provided with reasonable opportunity to provide input into the recruitment, ongoing employment, the provision of guidance or advice and the monitoring the performance of the Project Leader but noting that the Project Leader will be employed by a separate entity and subject to that entity's control and direction.
- **Project Leader:** A person will be appointed to act as Project Leader. This role will likely be employed through a separate entity and it is expected that this role will be required to complete all administration requirements to do with their employment to a satisfactory standard.

It is expected that the Project Leader will have carriage of the day-to-day tasks and actions as required to progress this work and that subject matter experts may be co-opted into a Project Team on a case-by-case basis.

In case additional resources are engaged the Project Leader will be expected to lead a team that:

- o Works with the Project Sponsor on the SRPA.
 - o Develops and propose recommendations for consideration by the SC.
 - o Progresses any advice or guidance provided by the SC.
 - o Monitors the status of other actions being progressed by others where there is alignment with the purposes and objectives stated in this document.
 - o Provides documented and verbal status updates to the SC and other funding entities.
 - o Establishes an effective two-way communication channel between the SC – Project Leader and the Community Groups.
- **Public comments and announcements:** The parties acknowledge that public comments regarding this work should be restricted to DPAC, Chair of the Steering Committee and the Project Leader (with the approval of the Steering Committee Chair). It is expected that the Steering Committee will consider any requirements for public comment within 24 hours.

10. Implementation

The parties should:

- Ensure attendance at Steering Committee meetings, initially monthly and but with such meetings expected to move to no less than quarterly once the establishment phase is finalised.
- Create an overarching and specific action plans (through the Steering Committee)
- Use their best reasonable endeavours to meet any agreed timelines for actions and authorisations.
- Establish and maintain agreed policies for ongoing information exchange between the parties.
- Provide equal opportunity for representation across the various industries, government agencies, local government, and designated community groups.
- Establish an equitable approach to funding
- Raise any concerns, issues, or disputes at Steering Committee meetings initially and if appropriate escalate to the Project Sponsor for resolution.
- Resolve any outstanding issues, or establish a pathway for resolution, within 2 weeks of the issue being raised.

11. Governing Law

This document is intended to be governed by the law of Tasmania if, and to the extent that, it becomes necessary to determine its legal effect.

Signing Page

Signed by the parties as a non-legally binding memorandum of understanding.

Mining industry represented
by – Tasmanian Minerals,
Manufacturing and Energy
Council (TMEC)

25 August 2023

Ray Mostogl
Chief Executive Officer



Organisation

Date

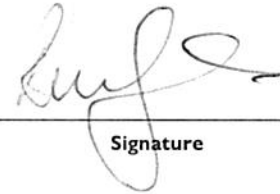
Name of Signatory

Signature

Hydro Tasmania

25 August 2023

Ruth Groom
Executive General Manager People,
Culture and Engagement



Organisation

Date

Name of Signatory

Signature

Salmon Industry –
Represented by Salmon
Tasmania

25 August 2023

Luke Martin
Chief Executive Officer



Organisation

Date

Name of Signatory

Signature

Renewable Energy –
represented by Westcoast
Renewable Energy (WRE)

25 August 2023

Alan Bradford
Company Secretary



Organisation

Date

Name of Signatory

Signature

Local Government –
with West Coast Council
as Lead Council

25 August 2023

Shane Pitt
Mayor



Organisation

Date

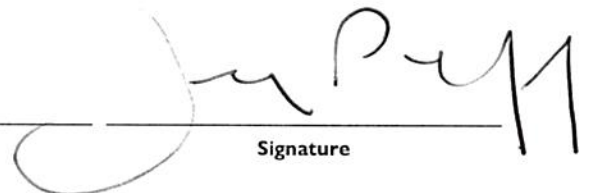
Name of Signatory

Signature

State Government – with
the Department of Premier
and Cabinet (DPAC) as Lead
Agency

25 August 2023

Jeremy Rockliff
Premier



Organisation

Date

Name of Signatory

Signature

Regional Development
Australia – Tasmania (RDA)

25 August 2023

Doug Chipman
Deputy Chair



Organisation

Date

Name of Signatory

Signature