



# Media statement

25 September 2019

## Basslink interconnector to return ahead of schedule

Further to its previous media statement (26 August 2019), Basslink Pty Ltd (Basslink) is pleased to announce that the Basslink Interconnector is expected to return to service on 30 September 2019, based on current information. Previously, the return to service date was mid-October.

Chief Executive of Basslink Malcolm Eccles, said, “We are pleased that the Basslink Interconnector, with the help from our stakeholders, including Hydro Tasmania, will resume normal operations two weeks earlier than expected. This is a credit to our repair team, who continues to work around the clock and has demonstrated their unwavering commitment to get the electricity interconnector back online as soon as possible.”

Basslink experienced a failure in the low voltage cable (metallic return) which caused the system to trip on 24 August 2019. The identified failure was located in an above ground section of the low voltage cable in the transition station in Gifford, Victoria.

Basslink's telecoms cable (providing broadband services to internet service providers) has continued to operate.

**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 metallic return.*

**-Ends-**

**For further media enquiries on Basslink, please contact:**

Matthew Mahon, Royce, 03 8628 9300 or 0413 101 860 [matthew@royce.com.au](mailto:matthew@royce.com.au)

**About Basslink** [www.basslink.com.au](http://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.