

Media Release

Subject: Construction camp at Tumby Bay will deliver multiple benefits to community
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The District Council of Tumby Bay is pleased to confirm it has finalised agreements with ElectraNet and its head contractor, Downer to see a construction camp created on the northern fringe of Tumby Bay township to support the EP Link High Voltage Transmission Line Upgrade project.

The construction camp can house up to 150 workers in temporary accommodation on a portion of Council-owned land adjacent the Tumby Bay Aerodrome. The agreements made to locate the camp near the township provide great opportunities for local businesses and the broader community to benefit directly from the significant investment the EP Link project is bringing to the region. In particular, the siting of the camp has created opportunities for investment in infrastructure with long term value including road improvements and wastewater management upgrades.

District Council of Tumby Bay Mayor Sam Telfer congratulated ElectraNet and Downer on their positive engagement with the Council and their willingness to embrace solutions that maximised the value of this project to the community.

“It is exciting that ElectraNet and its contractors are working on this upgrade project, which in itself presents many benefits for the region,” Mayor Telfer said.

“The EP Link upgrade will not only provide Eyre Peninsula businesses and homes with a secure and reliable power supply, but increase the capacity for more users to connect to the network, enable new renewable energy projects to connect in future, and allow for future expansion of the network.

“But importantly also for the region, our communities will benefit during the camp construction, from welcoming the many workers involved in the project, who will spend money with our businesses and experience our beautiful area.”

Council CEO Rebecca Hayes said benefits also included enhancements to council-owned infrastructure, with investment into the camp providing assets that would remain long after the camp was vacated by workers.

“Traditional construction camp models invest significantly in infrastructure which has value only for the duration of the project, after which it is normally dismantled and removed,” Ms Hayes said.

“By accepting Council’s recommendation to locate their camp close to Tumby Bay and utilise existing township services where possible, the investment made into camp infrastructure can continue to benefit the community into the future.

“A contribution made by the EP Link project to the upgrade and operational costs of the Council wastewater treatment plant in exchange for access to this system provides a true win-win for the project and the community.”

The investment by the project into the wastewater treatment plant will allow planned capacity increases to be brought forward and will reduce the capital cost to the community by approximately 25 per cent.

The construction of the camp will also see improvement to drainage and surfacing of Airport Road and construction of a significant area of hardstand, of which Council has the option of retaining a portion for future aerodrome operations.

ElectraNet's Eyre Peninsula Link Project Director, David Tansell, said it has appreciated the District Council of Tumby Bay's support for the project.

"We have had a great working relationship with council and are looking forward to supporting their work to deliver upgrades to important local infrastructure," Mr Tansell said.

"These upgrades are a great example of how the Eyre Peninsula Link project is supporting the local communities in which ElectraNet operates in."

Development of the camp is anticipated to start in May 2021, with occupation from late August and a planned period of occupation of approximately 12 months.

**For more information on the ElectraNet EP Link upgrade project visit:
electranet.com.au/projects/eyre-peninsula-link/**