



Basslink

HVDC project

Customer

Basslink Pty Ltd (BPL) (owned by National Grid Group)
Siemens AG
NSR Environmental Consultants Pty Ltd

Project Location

Bass Strait, between Tasmania and Victoria, Australia

Services provided

Statnett Engineering Division assisted both the environmental consultant (NSR), the project organisation (BPL) and the contractor (Siemens AG) in the following fields:

- Location and design of sea electrodes
- Evaluation of environmental effects from electrodes
- Preparation of licensing documents
- Experience from planning and operation of HVDC links in Scandinavia
- Expert Witness in the 2001 panel hearings
- Calculation of electrical fields and possible stray current corrosion
- Corrosion Mitigation Plan
- Negotiations with the pipeline owners for agreements
- Calculation of heat dissipation from cables

Background

The HVDC link between Tasmania and Victoria will diversify and strengthen Australia's National Electricity Market (NEM). The link makes it possible to combine hydro-electricity in Tasmania and the thermally based generation system in Victoria. The strategic goals of Basslink are:

- To enable Tasmania to become a full participant of the NEM.
- To meet reserve requirements and to better manage peak demand in Victoria.
- To improve the potential for economic growth in Tasmania by providing additional energy.
- To introduce competition into the electricity supply industry in Tasmania.

Commercial operation

The link is planned to be in operation 2005.

Engineering Division

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Main data

Capacity	up to 600 MW
Monopole with metallic return cable (originally with sea electrodes – up to April 2002)	
DC voltage	400 kV
Length of the total route/sea cable	360 km / 280 km
Landfall Victoria	Ninety Mile Beach
Landfall Tasmania	Four Mile Bluff



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