

The Hon Eric Abetz MP
Minister for Business, Industry and Resources
Minister for Transport
Leader of the House

Level 10, Executive Building, 15 Murray Street, Hobart TAS 7000
GPO Box 123, Hobart TAS 7001
Phone: 03 6165 9405 | Email: Minister.Abetz@dpac.tas.gov.au



Hon Ruth Forrest MLC
Chair
Public Accounts Committee
Email: pac@parliament.tas.gov.au

05 DEC 2024

Dear Chair

Thank you for your letter of 23 November 2024 regarding Questions on Notice: Inquiry into the TT-Line Spirits Projects, during the hearing held on 18 November 2024 with the Hon Kerry Vincent MLC, Minister for Infrastructure.

Following is the requested information:

1. When did the former Minister for Transport receive a copy of the Gemmell Report

The TT-Line Subcommittee of Cabinet – consisting then of the Premier, Treasurer and Minister for Infrastructure, and myself – was provided with a copy of the Gemell report by the Secretary of the Department of State Growth 22 April 2024.

2. What is the estimated total cost of the Berth 3 project in Devonport port?

TT-Line is undertaking a cost and program review following the finalisation of updated designs for the marine, gantry works and other civil works.

This review is ongoing and will include commercial negotiations with BMD Constructions as part of Spirit Partners updating their works, costs, program, and methodology.

This is a standard process as part of any complex major project, and was forecast in the Gemell/Moloney report publicly released in October 2024 that identified the need for redesign based on geotechnical investigations undertaken by TT-Line in May 2024.

Program and methodology will be a key consideration as opportunities to expedite works and reduce delay risks are explored to complete the project no later than October 2026 to meet the peak summer demand period for that year.

3. A copy of the organisational structure and information on Project North and BMD (the Committee understands that this consultancy may have been engaged by TT-Line to assist with the Berth 3 project)

Project North is an Australian project and construction advisory firm appointed by TT-Line to support the project team in the development of Terminal 3.

Project North's engagement has varied over the life of the project to meet the specific needs of the project at any given time. Its key functions were design management, cost management, schedule management in addition to ad-hoc project support resources.

The Project North's team were embedded within the project team as indicated on the attached organisation chart for the project.

Following the appointment of the project director, Mr Paul Kirkwood, and project recovery exercise started at the end of October 2024, the project team has been restructured and Project North is no longer providing design management or cost management services, but has been retained in several roles including scheduling, site management and contract administration as part of the restructured team.

BMD was appointed on the 1 July 2024 as the main contractor for the landside and marine construction works.

BMD and Project North projects are not related and are individual entities under separate contracts.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Eric Abetz', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Eric Abetz MP
Minister for Transport

Encl: Organisational structure - Project North and BMD

