

Upgrade Civil Works

Date: Jul 2019

Principal: TasNetworks

Project Value: \$930k



TASK

Within a live TasNetworks Switchyard, Shaw was engaged to complete essential upgrade and expansion works. Civil features like transmission pole and light tower foundations and relocation services were integral to the scope of works. Tasnetworks further recognised the skill of Shaw and included further civil works scope including retaining walls, additional service conduits and pits along with structures to facilitate an earthing grid.

CHALLENGES

Working within a live switchyard presents significant risk relating to the safety of workers. This is overlain by the fact that disruption to the switchyard and the continued provision of power would have profound impacts to the community. Accordingly, TasNetworks required certain levels of training to work within these switchyards. Shaw utilised its specialist resources for this project having Power System Safety Rules (PSSR) and Person in Charge (PIC) training and competency. Due to the volume of works, Shaw was able to produce additional capacity by training up others within its labour force for this and other TasNetworks projects.

These works were part of a larger scope of upgrade for the switchyard. This meant that Shaw needed to interface with other contractors not only in the form of coordination of works, but also managing the interface of design. The limited size and constricted nature of the works meant that works needed to be programmed tightly and cooperatively with TasNetworks and other contractors to meet the overall programme requirements.

During the course of the works, significant quantities of rock were encountered. These quantities of rock were not countenanced in the original design. Shaw worked with TasNetworks and the designers to determine the location of rock along with amendments to the design to optimise the works accordingly. Part of this optimisation was determining the sequencing of works to minimise standdowns and other delays whilst solutions were being resolved.

OUTCOMES

Shaw completed the project to the exacting standards required of TasNetworks in a safe and effective manner befitting the difficult site conditions that an active switchyard presents.