

ENERGYCONNECT

Frequently Asked Questions

What is EnergyConnect?

EnergyConnect is a high voltage infrastructure project that will lower power bills for homes and businesses across regional NSW. It will save NSW customers \$180 million per year.

EnergyConnect involves the construction of 900km of new transmission lines between the electrical grids of NSW, SA and VIC. Transmission lines connecting state grids are commonly referred to as interconnectors. Connecting the power grids of three Australian states increases system redundancy, and provides access to renewable generators, driving competition in the wholesale electricity market.

The interconnector is being built between Robertstown, SA, and Wagga Wagga, NSW, via Buronga, with an additional line between Buronga and Red Cliffs, VIC.

Who will build it?

SecureEnergy Joint Venture (SEJV) on behalf of Transgrid will build the NSW part of EnergyConnect. SEJV is a joint venture between Elecnor (a Spanish based company) and Clough (an Australian based company) who combined, provide the skills, knowledge and experience to deliver world class projects in high voltage power transmission, substations and infrastructure.

What does the project involve?

The NSW component of the project includes the construction of 700km of new power lines from the SA border to the regional hub of Wagga Wagga. The project involves the construction of two new 330kV transmission lines and one new 500kV transmission line, and the replacement of an existing 220kV transmission line.

The project also includes the design and construction of two (2) new substations and the upgrade of one existing substation at Wagga Wagga to effectively operate the transmission network. There will be six accommodation camps, seven laydown and staging areas, and several site offices.

The key components of the work sites from the NSW/SA border through to Buronga and onto Monak are:

- One new transmission line
- A rebuild of the existing transmission line between the existing Buronga substation and the NSW/Victoria border at Monak, near Red Cliffs
- An expansion and upgrade of the existing Buronga substation.

The key components of the work sites from Buronga through to Wagga Wagga are:

- A new substation known as Dinawan, located between Jerilderie and Coleambally
- New transmission lines from Buronga to Wagga Wagga
- An expansion of the existing Wagga Wagga substation.

EnergyConnect will take 2.5 years to plan and build, and it will cost \$1.5 billion. It is expected to be operational from 2024.

When will construction start?

We have commenced early works on the Western section to gain a greater understanding of the site conditions along the power line easement. These works include dilapidation and survey works, environmental monitoring and assessment, and geo-technical investigations. Community consultation is occurring along the route, as are ongoing discussions with landowners.

Main construction will commence mid-2022.

Is there an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)?

Yes, the EIS for the NSW-Western Section is complete and available on the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment Major Projects Planning Portal:

<https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/project/25821>

Transgrid is preparing a separate EIS for works between Buronga and Wagga Wagga.

What community consultation has already occurred?

Community engagement activities on the project began in November 2018. These range from community drop-in sessions and council briefings to face-to-face meetings with directly affected landowners, to phone calls, and direct correspondence via email.

How can I get involved?

We are committed to working with landowners and communities through the construction of EnergyConnect. Please connect with us if you need any information.

Toll-free Ph: 1800 49 06 66

Email: pec@transgrid.com.au

transgrid.com.au/energyconnect

Project Construction Facts



A workforce of approximately 1,000 employees at peak construction



Energy to supply 240,000 extra households



The creation of up to 1,500 jobs



Drones will be used for stringing conductors in sensitive locations



1,449 towers and 62 poles along 700km



490,000 nights' total accommodation planned across six camps



460 meters on average between adjacent structures



The project passes about 3km north of Lake Victoria



Connect with us

Contact the project team:

Phone: 1800 49 06 66 (free call)

Email: pec@transgrid.com.au

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