

Media Release

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EnergyConnect investing millions in regional NSW communities

Australia's largest electricity grid project, EnergyConnect will invest millions of dollars with local suppliers and is currently awarding local procurement packages along its alignment in NSW from Wentworth to Wagga Wagga following the start of construction on the \$1.8 billion interconnector.

CEO Brett Redman says more investment is planned as the 700km NSW section of the interconnector, from the South Australian border to Wagga Wagga, is built by Transgrid's construction partner SecureEnergy JV.

"Spending in local communities, awarding local procurement packages and buying locally is a key priority. This reflects the project's commitment to supporting and developing regional business - now and in the future.

"Through SecureEnergy, we will help local suppliers improve their capabilities for future endeavours right across the alignment."

Approximately \$8 million has been committed to businesses in the local communities so far. This includes accommodation, car hire, plant and equipment hire, personal protective equipment (PPE) and new vehicles equipped with an in-vehicle monitoring system and global positioning system tracking.

Local business owner, Brad Wielstra of Hillis Motor Group in Wagga Wagga is excited to be working with Transgrid's construction partner.

"We look forward to the flow on effects that this project will bring to our company - indeed, the entire region. It will really boost jobs and skills in the Riverina," said Mr Wielstra.

It is a sentiment shared by Southland Supply Group who have been awarded the PPE tender for the Project.

"It is such an important infrastructure development, as well as being a welcome boost for local businesses in regional NSW. This kind of investment in rural areas is what allows businesses like us to keep employing local people. It ultimately keeps our region strong," said Doug Lindqvist, National Sales & Marketing Manager, Southland Supply Group.

EnergyConnect is being supported by the NSW Government's Business Connect and Industry Capability Network (ICN). For more information on the work packages that are currently available go to: [EnergyConnect - SecureEnergy JV \(icn.org.au\)](https://www.energyconnect.com.au/secureenergy-jv)

For more information about EnergyConnect: www.transgrid.com.au/energyconnect

[Video available here: \(youtube links x 3\)](#)

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