

TransGrid's Tomago to Tarro Project Fact Sheet

For your information

The purpose of this fact sheet is to provide the community with the background and general details of TransGrid's project to build two electricity transmission lines between Tomago and Tarro.

Who is TransGrid?

TransGrid is the owner, operator and manager of the largest high voltage transmission network in Australia, connecting generators, distributors and major end users in New South Wales.

The transmission network is connected to Queensland and Victoria providing a robust electricity system that enables interstate energy trading.

Electricity is transported by TransGrid across the state via 12,500 kilometres of high voltage transmission lines. These power lines are supported by around 36,000 structures.

TransGrid is committed to providing a safe, reliable, efficient and environmentally responsible high voltage electricity service to our customers and the community.

Background to the project

Electricity load growth in the Lower Mid-North Coast is increasing steadily. The summer demand is expected to increase by 3.3% per annum and the winter demand is expected to increase by 2.3% per annum.

An upgrade of the network is needed to ensure the levels of power reliability currently enjoyed by the communities in these areas is maintained into the future.

What does the project involve?

TransGrid is planning to construct 6km of 132,000 and 330,000 volt transmission lines between TransGrid's new Tomago Substation and Tarro.

This project is part of a larger reinforcement plan for the Lower Mid-North Coast and Newcastle which also includes the upgrade of 65km of transmission line between Tarro and Country Energy's Stroud Road Substation.

What are the benefits?

The line will provide a more secure and efficient power supply to customers supplied from EnergyAustralia's new substation at Brandy Hill and Country Energy's Stroud Road Substation.

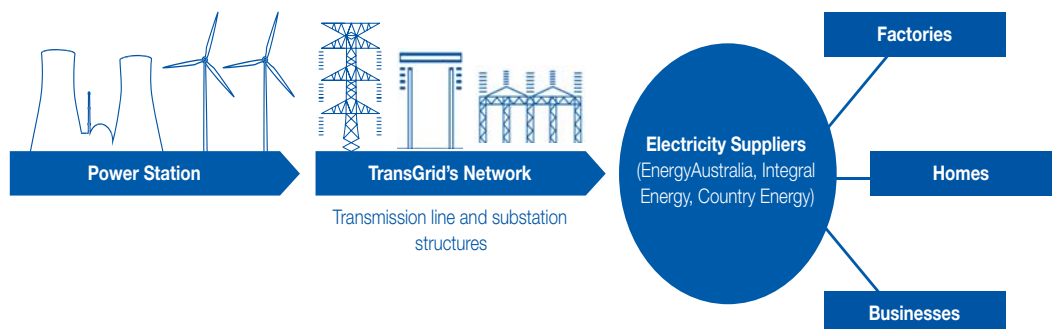
TransGrid's network is designed to move electricity at high voltages. Generally, the higher the voltage, the less energy is lost while it is being transported. The proposed upgrade will save up to four Mega Watts of power per year.

What types of structures will be used?

TransGrid is planning to use a combination of concrete pole structures and steel structures between Tomago and Tarro.

Steel structures will only be used next to the existing structures at Tomago. Steel structures are required to maintain adequate clearances over the Hunter River and flood prone areas.

Where does TransGrid fit in the electricity delivery process?



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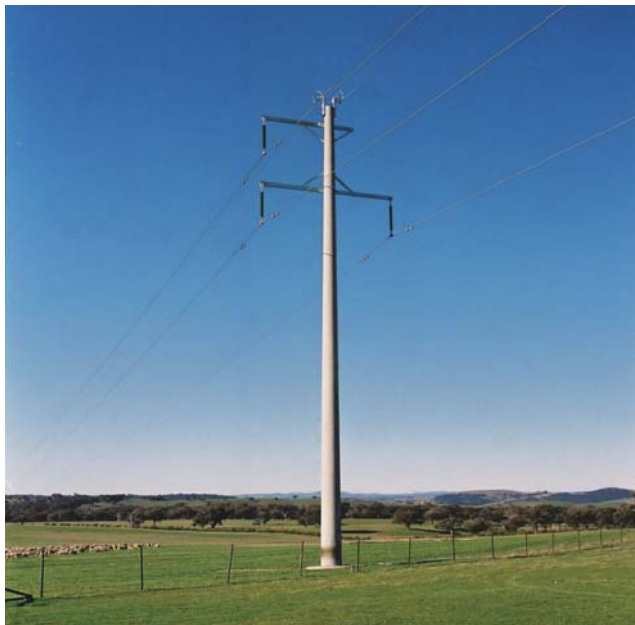


Image: A typical 132,000 volt transmission line



Image: A typical 330,000 volt transmission line

What are the next steps?

TransGrid is seeking feedback from landowners and the community on the proposed upgrade. Community information sessions to discuss the project will be held at the following locations:

Dungog

Date: Tuesday 1st December

Time: 3:00pm to 7:00pm

Place: Doug Walters Pavilion, Bennett Park, Dungog

Address: Mackay Street, Dungog (next to tennis courts)

Raymond Terrace

Date: Wednesday 2nd December

Time: 3:00pm to 7:00pm

Place: King Park Function Room, Raymond Terrace

Address: Newline Road, Raymond Terrace

Clarence Town

Date: Thursday 3rd December

Time: 3:00pm to 7:00pm

Place: Clarence Town School of Arts

Address: Grey Street, Clarence Town (cnr Prince St)

Environmental assessment

Consultants will be engaged to undertake an environmental assessment, called a 'Review of Environmental Factors', in accordance with the requirements of Section 111 of the NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment Act. This environmental assessment will be undertaken prior to project approval and commencement. Public consultation regarding the Review of Environmental Factors is expected to begin in August 2010.

Project schedule

Construction is expected to commence in September 2011 with project completion due in mid 2012.

For further information

To obtain further information on the project TransGrid encourages you to visit the recently updated Tomago to Stroud Project page at:

<http://www.transgrid.com.au/projects>

or e-mail the project team at: tomago.stroud@transgrid.com.au

You can also visit TransGrid's Regional Office at Newcastle: Wirra Crescent, off University Drive, Waratah NSW, where information and feedback forms are currently available.

Contact us

For specific project questions, or to request a meeting with a member of the project team, please contact the Project Enquiry Officer, Ms Michelle Ford through our project hotline:

1800 222 537

Or send written enquiries or feedback to:

Ms Michelle Ford
Project Enquiry Officer
Tomago to Stroud Project
PO BOX 93, Waratah
NSW 2298

