

TransGrid's Orange North Redevelopment Project

For Your Information

This project fact sheet provides the community with information on the current stage of TransGrid's Orange North Redevelopment project.

TransGrid's Orange North Redevelopment Project is a \$57 million investment to increase the security of power supply in the Central West region and Orange City. It is an important investment for the future of the region's electricity supply.

Should you require any information in addition to this fact sheet, we encourage members of the community to contact TransGrid's Project Enquiry Officer using the details provided.

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.

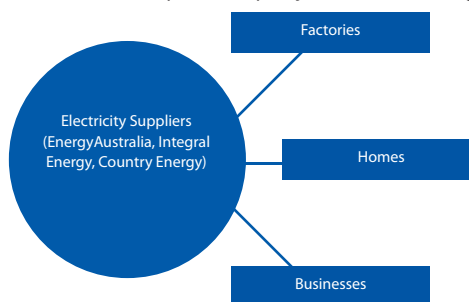
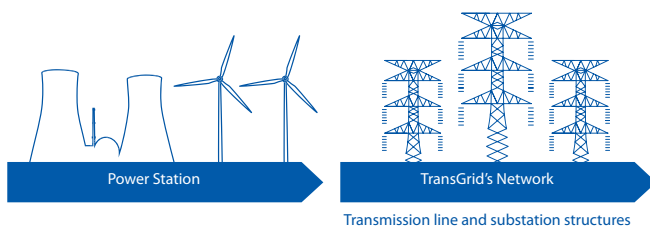


Diagram: Where TransGrid fits in the electricity delivery process

Background to the Project

Orange and its surrounding areas are currently supplied with power through Country Energy's network which originates from TransGrid's existing Orange Substation in William Street.

This substation is vital in the Central West's electricity network, supplying power to the Orange township and parts of the Cabonne and Blayney local government areas. These areas have a population of around 40,000.

The power distributed from the substation feeds the region's substational electricity demand, which consists of a major mine, urban residential loads and commercial/light industrial loads in Orange and rural loads in surrounding areas.

While TransGrid is currently able to maintain the level of electricity reliability enjoyed by Orange and surrounding areas, the substation is now over 50 years of age. Consequently, many parts of substation are now approaching the end of their serviceable lives.

Since its establishment in the 1950s, the Orange Substation site has been constrained by both residential and industrial developments as the Orange regional centre expanded.

TransGrid is unable to complete the necessary upgrades to maintain the reliability of power to Orange on the existing substation site, given these development constraints.

As such, TransGrid is proposing the construction of a new Orange North Switching Station, as part of a larger redevelopment project for the region's power supply.

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The Orange North Redevelopment Project

TransGrid is proposing the installation of a new Orange Switching Station, along with replacement of aging assets at the existing Orange Substation.

The project includes:

- establishing a new 132,000 volt switching station 800m north of the existing Orange Substation (adjacent to Mitre 10)
- conducting transmission line rearrangements to connect the planned switching station with the existing Orange Substation and surrounding transmission lines
- undertaking refurbishment works at Orange Substation

What's the Current Status of the Project?

TransGrid has commenced design work for the new Orange North Switching Station, as well as preliminary environmental studies in the existing substation, easements and planned switching station site as part of the formal Review of Environmental Factors necessary for the project.

- The concept design of the switching station and associated works is expected to be completed in August 2009.
- Environmental studies are expected to be completed in August 2009.

At the conclusion of both the environmental and concept design work, TransGrid will be in a better position to provide more detailed information about the proposed project.

Project Timing

TransGrid expects construction on the redevelopment project to commence in mid 2010, with works on the switching station complete in March 2011.

Transmission line rearrangements are expected to be completed between April and October 2011, with refurbishment of the existing substation to take place after October 2011. The redevelopment project is scheduled for completion in April 2013.

For Further Information

To obtain further information on the project TransGrid encourages you to visit the recently updated Orange North Redevelopment Project page at:

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

Alternatively, you can visit TransGrid's Regional Office at 64-84 William St, Orange, where information and feedback forms are currently provided.

Contact Us

For specific project questions, or to request a meeting with a member of the Project Team, please contact the Project Enquiry Officer, Michelle Ford via our Project Hotline:

1800 222 537

Or send written enquiries or feedback to:

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