



### For your information

*This information package aims to provide useful information to interested landowners and community members about TransGrid's proposed communications project in Merriwa.*

### 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.

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

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

### Background

TransGrid's substations and transmission lines are operated remotely through a telecommunications network, which transfers system data to network controllers. It is this communications network which manages the protection systems, control mechanisms and network data transfer necessary for the safe and reliable operation of the electricity network.

The proposed communications pole at Merriwa is being built to comply with TransGrid's obligations under the National Electricity Rules and National Electricity Market Management Company's Power System Data Communication Standard.

### Proposed Works

An upgrade to TransGrid's communications network is planned for North West Merriwa. The proposed works will include the installation of a concrete pole (30 metre), new access tracks, security fencing and minor earthworks.

### Community & Environmental Investigation

TransGrid has engaged the environmental consultants Snowy Mountains Engineering Corporation (SMEC) to undertake a Review of Environmental Factors (REF), as well as consultation with local stakeholders about the project.

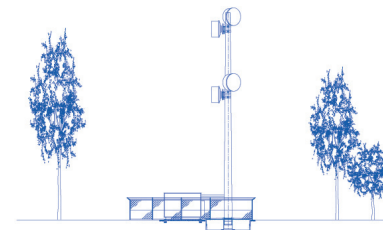
The Environmental Assessment will be prepared in accordance with *Part 5 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* and the *State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007*.

### Construction and Installation

For the delivery of the project, TransGrid has engaged specialist construction contractors to undertake the proposed building works at Merriwa.

Works will commence in May and is expected to be completed in 14 weeks.

It is anticipated that only the owners of the property where the pole is to be located will be directly impacted by the construction works.



*Design concept of communications site*

### Building Program

The site works will include:

1. Temporary fencing and signage
2. Access track and earthworks
3. Foundations and services trenches
4. Install pole, shelter and communications equipment
5. Fencing and landscaping.

*Please find enclosed a CD with a visual presentation of the proposed communications pole at Merriwa.*

### Further Information:

*For further information on the Merriwa communications upgrade, please contact SMEC, TransGrid's community consultants for this project (see over page).*