

Fact sheet

HumeLink East Worker Accommodation Update

June 2025

What is HumeLink?

HumeLink is a new 500kV transmission line which will connect Wagga Wagga, Bannaby and Maragle. It is one of the state's largest energy infrastructure projects, with about 365 km of proposed new transmission lines, and new or upgraded infrastructure at four locations. To meet our future energy demands, Australia needs to transition to a greater mix of low-emission renewable energy sources, such as wind and solar. HumeLink will help to increase the amount of renewable energy that can be delivered across the national electricity grid to support this transition.

HumeLink East

Construction of the project will occur in two sections known as HumeLink East and HumeLink West. ACCIONA and Genus Infrastructure (NSW) Pty Ltd are delivering HumeLink East which includes expanding Transgrid's existing Bannaby 500 kV substation and the design and construction of 237 kilometres of 500 kV double circuit transmission lines from Bannaby to Wondalga.

Woodhouselee Worker Accommodation Update

In the Planning Approval Amendment Report for HumeLink East, a 300-bed workforce accommodation camp was proposed at Graywood Siding Road, Woodhouselee, near Crookwell.

This site, originally identified in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), was intended to support up to 300 workers for 27 months and facilitate activities such as concrete batching and helicopter access.

HumeLink East has revised its construction delivery strategy and re-assessed accommodation needs and the previously planned accommodation facility is no longer proposed.

Why is the Woodhouselee site no longer proposed?

As part of refinements to the project, HumeLink East is shifting towards engaging local subcontractors to perform much of the civil construction work in this section of the project.

As a result, the need for a dedicated camp at Woodhouselee has significantly reduced:

- Capacity reduced by 47% (from 300 beds to 168 beds)
- Usage duration reduced by 78% (from 27 months to 6–9 months)

In summary, the accommodation facility is no longer proposed because of changes to the construction strategy which will see local subcontractors used where possible, which means fewer outside workers are required, and for a shorter period.

What is proposed instead?

With the accommodation needs for the project now reduced significantly in the area, instead of establishing the Woodhouselee worker accommodation facility, the project is proposing to:

- Use dedicated worker accommodation at Adjungbilly and Yass, and
- house workers in existing motels, hotels, apartments, and short-stay rentals across Goulburn and Upper Lachlan.

HumeLink East has worked closely with local businesses to secure workforce accommodation across the Goulburn and Upper Lachlan Shire areas, ensuring a low-impact model that supports the local economy.

To date, the project has secured:

- 220 rooms in Goulburn
- 59 rooms in Crookwell and surrounding towns.

Each business has confirmed availability of rooms without disrupting regular operations, tourism, or special events.

How will Social Impacts be managed?

As part of the HumeLink EIS, a Social Impact Assessment (SIA) was undertaken to assess how the project may affect way of life, access, community cohesion, housing, culture and wellbeing.

A Social Impact Management Plan (SIMP) is being updated to reflect the revised approach to accommodation. The table below sets out how we plan to manage potential social impacts.

Impact Area	Potential Social Impact	Proposed Management Strategies
Tourism	Reduced availability of accommodation for visitors during peak events.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Secure agreements with providers in advance.• Regular interface meetings with councils to identify and mitigate adverse community impacts including coordination to minimise vacancy shortfalls during special events.• Encourage workforce integration by promoting temporary workforce spending in the community to boost local economy.• Provide a feedback mechanism for tourism operators and accommodation providers to report issues.
Impacts on Housing Availability and Affordability	Housing shortages and increased rental costs due to workforce demand.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prioritise use of commercial accommodation (motels/hotels) over residential rentals.• Maintain a workforce accommodation register to track demand and avoid overlap with long-term rental market.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage early with councils and housing providers to monitor any emerging pressures. • Maximising local employment opportunities to reduce demand for temporary accommodation. • Collaboration with Workforce Australia and TAFE NSW for pre-employment training. • Coordinate with local councils and tourist operators to manage potential housing pressures from multiple projects, including early bookings or formal agreements with accommodation providers if required.
Impacts on Community Cohesion, Safety, Health, and Well-being	Changes to cohesion or amenity due to temporary workforce presence.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spread workforce across multiple locations to avoid clustering. • Regular community engagement, project updates and attendance at community events. • Cultural awareness training for workers. • Dedicated community liaison officer. • Enforced code of conduct for worker behaviour. • Implementation of a Community Investment and Benefits Plan, informed by engagement with LGAs and stakeholder groups.
Access to Social Infrastructure and Services	Strain on health, emergency and infrastructure services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spread workforce accommodation geographically to avoid pressure in any single locality. • Coordination with emergency services to ensure timely access during construction. • Wellness programs for workers promoting preventative care and mental health support. • Engagement with local suppliers and prioritisation of contracts with local businesses. • Encouragement of workforce integration to boost the local economy. • Implementation of a Community Investment and Benefits Plan, informed by engagement with LGAs and stakeholder groups.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnerships with local mental health services to benefit both the construction workforce and landowners.
Cumulative impacts	Overlapping projects increasing demand on accommodation and services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinate with other proponents and councils to share workforce projections. Participate in regional planning forums to identify peak overlap periods. Use a dynamic accommodation register to manage workforce distribution across LGAs Prioritise use of non-residential accommodation and reserve capacity during peak periods.

Community feedback

The HumeLink East project team is inviting your feedback on the HumeLink East Social Impact Management Plan – Stage 2. The survey should take no more than 10 minutes to complete. Responses will remain anonymous and are collected to help our delivery partners prepare an effective Social Impact Management Plan. To provide feedback you can [access the survey here](#) or by scanning this QR code.



Keeping you informed

We'll continue to keep you updated about the project and let you know of any work we're planning which might impact you.

If you have questions or concerns about any of the above, please contact our Community and Stakeholder Engagement team on **1800 317 367** or by emailing humelink@transgrid.com.au

Connect with us

Transgrid is committed to working with landowners and communities through the development of HumeLink. Please connect with us for more information.



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