

Work Notification | April 2026

Stringing works to begin for HumeLink East

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The next phase of construction on HumeLink East is set to start, with the project using helicopters to string conductor cable between transmission towers. There is a safety benefit in using helicopters instead of ground-based stringing methods, as well as reducing construction and environmental impacts. Transmission tower stringing will begin in Adjungbilly in **mid to late May 2026 and continue into 2027 along the project alignment.**

What stringing involves

To string conductor cables between towers insulators, pulley blocks are put in place to enable the conductors to be installed. During the stringing process, the helicopter installs the pilot cable (draw wire) through the pulley blocks from the winch site to the brake site. The draw wire is then used to pull the permanent conductor through the pulley blocks. During this work, helicopters will be flying close to the top of new transmission towers.

Helicopters will typically operate by hovering near the transmission lines, while trained linesmen and ground crews assist with guiding and securing the cables to the towers.



An example of a similar helicopter stringing set up, as will be used on HumeLink East

What to expect

During stringing, there will be increased noise and dust while the helicopters are in operation. We understand that noise and vibration from helicopters could temporarily disturb residents and livestock, so take management of noise and vibration very seriously.

To help reduce any impact on residents, livestock and animals, HumeLink East will:

- limit helicopter operations to daylight hours where possible
- plan flights to minimise flight noise near communities and helicopters will take the most direct path available from the aerodrome to the construction easement then follow the construction alignment to the work zone.
- coordinate activities so that multiple noisy tasks don't occur at once.
- wet down the landing area within the construction easement to minimise dust.

Work hours

Stringing between towers typically takes less than one week in one location. Adverse weather may mean this takes longer, and all efforts will be made to advise impacted landowners and the community of any changes to the stringing program due to adverse weather.

- **Work hours:** helicopter flying will take place between:
 - 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday
 - 9am to 1pm on Saturdays.

Benefits of using helicopters

HumeLink East has chosen to use helicopter stringing as they provide safer, faster, and lower-impact installation in difficult terrain compared to ground-based methods. Traditionally, on-ground stringing methods would involve using a bulldozer and multiple other machines on the ground to pull cables between towers.

Using helicopters for stringing provides significant benefits to landholders, the community and the environment, including:

- shorter time spent on each property
- less ground disturbance to properties and state forests
- fewer project staff and less access required on properties
- less impact to ground cover and reduced need for paddock clearing
- significantly less vehicle traffic, meaning less deterioration to local roads.

All work will be carried out in line with the project [Conditions of Approval](#) available on the NSW Government [Major Projects website](#) planning portal, and Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) approvals.

Keeping you informed

All impacted landowners will be notified of upcoming helicopter stringing works, and the Community and Stakeholder team will work with each landowner to undertake any necessary planning for their property.

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

HumeLink is one of NSW largest energy infrastructure projects, with about 365 kilometres of new 500kV transmission line which will connect Wagga Wagga, Bannaby and Maragle. The eastern portion between the existing Bannaby substation and Wondalga is being delivered by Acciona Construction Australia Pty Ltd and Genus Infrastructure (NSW) Pty Ltd in a joint venture as AG JV HumeLink East.

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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