



A specialised aerial stringing drone lifts a draw wire into place in preparation for conductor pulling on HumeLink West near Wagga Wagga.

## Transmission towers taking shape in the Snowy Valleys

With most transmission towers between Wagga Wagga and the Hume Highway at Keajura completed, the HumeLink West project delivery team has begun constructing towers along some of the more remote alpine areas of the alignment.

Spanning 140 km from Wagga Wagga to Maragle, HumeLink West requires over 360 new transmission towers, two new substations (Maragle and Gugaa) and the upgrade of Wagga Wagga Substation.

Gaining access to remote tower locations has required the construction and maintenance of 272 kms of access tracks so far, with about 63 kms of the required total distance now remaining.

Each tower is constructed on a prepared site, with ground conditions having already been assessed using core drilling to determine foundation design.



Pilot Phillip Phoebe prepares his drone for another stringing flight.

Piling rigs bore deep footings that are fitted with steel reinforcement and strong foundation stubs which the tower legs are bolted to during assembly and erection phases.

It is essential that the concrete and steel foundations of each tower are sufficiently strong to withstand high winds and heavy loads the structure will be subjected to over many years.

In total, 94 towers have been constructed on HumeLink West so far.

### Drones making quick work of stringing

The construction team has begun using innovative drone technology for conductor stringing of HumeLink West transmission towers.

Under the watchful eye of a skilled pilot, a specially equipped drone lifts a nylon pilot cable onto temporary pulley blocks fitted to the arms of each tower, improving safety and saving time.

This narrow line is used to pull through a heavier rope which is strong enough to winch the conductor cable from tower to tower.

Conductor cable stringing will continue between Gregadoo and Keajura to the south of Tarcutta on the Hume Highway over coming months.

For more detailed information about tower stringing, please view the HumeLink **Aerial Stringing Fact Sheet**.





Tower steel and materials at Gregadoo ready for delivery to construction sites.

## Tower steel and materials deliveries

Strategically located construction materials and equipment yards along the HumeLink West alignment are being used to take delivery of tower steel and associated hardware.

Workers at these logistics hubs then allocate required materials for deliver to individual tower construction sites in time for pouring foundations, ground assembly of tower segments and finally, erection.

The facilities, located at Gregadoo, Tarcutta, Ellerslie, Green Hills and a site near Batlow also distribute materials and equipment for stringing conductor cables along the towers.

The yards are optimally situated to minimise local traffic impacts while maximising construction efficiency.

## Controlled rock blasting

At some tower sites, controlled blasting will be used in areas where the ground is too hard to excavate with a piling rig alone.

Controlled blasting is designed and supervised by qualified personnel. Strict limits on noise and vibration are in place.

Ecological surveys are completed in each case to ensure there are no impacts on native animals. Before each controlled blast:

- nearby residents will be notified
- warning signs/barricades will be installed
- blast guards will control site access
- blast areas will be cleared of personnel
- workers will be moved to designated safe area
- a warning siren will sound.

Find more information in the [Controlled Blasting Fact Sheet](#).

## Speak with our community team

Our community team will be at the following event in August if you have anything to discuss or wish to say hello.

- Transgrid Discovery Hub Wiradjuri Program, Wagga Wagga, 11-13 & 18-20 August
- Mental First Aid Training, Grand Pacific Tumut 20th-21st August.
- Ladies Long Lunch Memorial Hall Fundraiser, Ladysmith, 22 August
- Try a Trade Day, The Range Function Centre, Wagga Wagga, 27 August

Members of the community are welcome to visit the HumeLink West Information Centre at the Snowy Valleys Resilience Hub. The facility is located at 37 Pioneer St. Batlow and is open each week from Monday to Friday, between 9am and 5pm.

## Connect with us

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



1800 317 367  
(free call)

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For an interpreter, call **131 450** and ask the service to call Transgrid on **1800 317 367**.

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## Temporary closure of Ellerslie Road

A section of Ellerslie Road, Ellerslie will close for four days from Monday 17 August 2026, or on the next available date in the event of weather delays.

During this work, the section of road between Yaven Creek Road and Ellerslie Woolshed Road (marked in red below) will be closed. Scheduled bus services and emergency services vehicles will be given access during the closure.

Local access to residences and properties will remain available and will be managed by traffic controllers. Electronic message signs will be in place to provide advance notice of the road closure.

