

ENERGYCONNECT

Newsletter

October 2022

Welcome to the October EnergyConnect newsletter. In this edition:

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Strategic Benefits Payments for landowners

We have been working closely with the NSW Government on a Strategic Benefits Payments (SBP) scheme for landowners. Under the SBP scheme, private landowners hosting new high voltage transmission projects critical to energy transformation and the future of the grid, including EnergyConnect, will be paid a set rate of \$200,000 per kilometre of transmission hosted, paid out in annual instalments over 20 years, linked to the CPI.

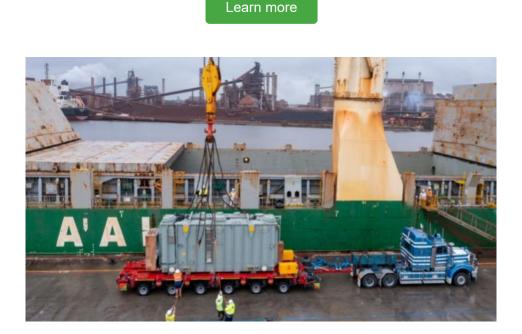
In other words, the SBP is a payment of \$10,000 per kilometre of transmission line across privately-owned land, paid annually over a period of 20 years and adjusted for inflation. The SBP are in addition to any compensation paid under the *Just Terms Compensation Act (1991)* and come into effect once infrastructure is constructed and is operational.

Learn more



First foundations complete for transmission line

The first foundations for EnergyConnect's transmission towers are in the ground after some great work by our project construction partner SecureEnergy Joint Venture and their subcontractors at Civil Group. Despite heavy rain in western NSW, work is powering ahead with than more than 6000 footings needing to be drilled and poured for the project.



Big kit shipped in to transform grid

The first big electrical kit for the nation's largest transmission project has arrived in Australia. Two large transformers arrived at Port Kembla earlier this month as the first major electrical equipment for construction of the expanded Buronga substation as part of EnergyConnect.





\$1.5 million partnership to deliver regional boost

Transgrid and Regional Development Australia - Riverina have formed a \$1.5 million partnership to deliver a major jobs and skills boost as the region becomes a hub for the country's renewable energy transformation. This partnership will drive workforce development and economic growth initiatives as part of our EnergyConnect, HumeLink and VNI West projects.





Connecting with Indigenous communities

We're committed to respecting the traditions of our First Nations Peoples. As part of our local engagement, we recently invited Indigenous students from Clontarf Foundation school academies in Wagga Wagga to help hand paint a set of display stands with traditional art. The stands were crafted to hold digging sticks used for the EnergyConnect ground-breaking ceremony.





Project's focus on sustainability

EnergyConnect is the first project of its kind in Australia to reach agreement with the Infrastructure Sustainability Council (ISC) to receive a rating using the organisation's sustainability rating tool. Our project director Stephen Troughton was a speaker at the recent ISC Connect Hybrid Conference and spoke about our commitment to managing the environmental, social and economic impacts from the \$1.8 billion project.

Learn more



Local suppliers help to drive project

EnergyConnect is investing millions of dollars with local suppliers to support the delivery of Australia's largest electricity transmission project. More than \$8 million has been committed to businesses along the alignment to date. Hillis Motor Group in Wagga Wagga has been awarded a contract to provide vehicles to transport the workforce of project construction partner SecureEnergy Joint Venture.





Helping local sporting clubs kick goals

The last round of Transgrid's Community Partnerships program delivered support to 44 not-for-profit groups in NSW. The Coleambally Darlington Point Roosters Junior Rugby League team used a grant to purchase muchneeded equipment including a gazebo to use on game days.

Learn more



Preserving environment as project progresses

Steve Greig has worked in many Australian landscapes that most people may drive through but never really experience. In his current role as a fauna spotter for environmental, social and planning consultants, NGH, Steve has started working at Buronga supporting EnergyConnect construction partner SecureEnergy Joint Venture in building Australia's largest transmission line.

Learn more



Keep up to date on construction

Stay up to date with EnergyConnect construction notifications for your area by visiting the EnergyConnect project portal of our principal construction partner SecureEnergy Joint Venture.

