



The power of connection

Acknowledging the people and partnerships
behind EnergyConnect



Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the long-standing connection to Country shared by the Traditional Custodians of the lands, skies, and waterways we live and work on. This connection inspires and informs the care we take when working across the land as well.

We recognise that Country in every corner of every state we operate in, is rich in tens of thousands of years of history and culture. And that every community we work in has their own connection with the land. We honour this in the actions we take – and honour the Elders past, present and emerging.



Scan the QR code for more information about Transgrid's cultural heritage and reconciliation



A message of thanks

Thousands of people delivered EnergyConnect, working across communities, regions and disciplines over many years.

We thank the communities of the Riverina-Murray region for their collaboration and support throughout the development and delivery of the project.

EnergyConnect was delivered alongside landholders, community members, local businesses, workers and Traditional Custodians, working with our delivery partner Elecnor Australia and project contractors across the Riverina–Murray.

Through this shared effort, your region has contributed to Australia's transition to a cleaner, more reliable energy system.

We acknowledge the disruption experienced during construction and sincerely appreciate the patience, cooperation and country hospitality extended to the project and our workforce over the years of delivery.

Thank you to everyone who shared their time, expertise and local knowledge. Your involvement shaped how EnergyConnect was delivered and will continue to influence how we work in regional communities.

While major construction activities within the local government area are now substantially complete, rehabilitation and reinstatement works are being finalised as part of project close-out activities. Our connection with the region continues through the operational life of the assets. We remain committed to caring for this infrastructure, respecting the land it sits on, and maintaining strong relationships with the communities it connects.



A connected energy future, built to strengthen the nation

Regional Australia operates under some of the most challenging natural and energy conditions in the country. Extreme weather, long distances and highly volatile energy markets, particularly in New South Wales, have long pushed communities and industry to the edge of system constraints. EnergyConnect changes that.

By linking consumers with lower cost renewable energy from New South Wales, South Australia and Victoria, we are strengthening the reliability, stability and security of supply across Eastern Australia.

This creates a more resilient system, with fewer single points of failure and stronger performance during outages and peak demand. Achieving this level of system strength called on some of the most advanced engineering in our history, laying the groundwork for the connections and partnerships that shaped every stage of delivery.

Shaped with people. Delivered through partnership.

Delivering infrastructure of this scale required listening, alignment and a commitment to work as one team. Working alongside landholders, communities and First Nations leaders helped to shape solutions that reflected local realities rather than one-size-fits-all approaches. Ongoing conversations helped the project to evolve in meaningful ways, supporting better outcomes on the ground.

EnergyConnect - Australia's largest electricity transmission project

Construction phase
2022-2026



**700km from
Wagga Wagga to SA**
Border with connection
to Victoria



**New world-class
substations**

at Buronga and Dinawan
(Bundure) and a major
expansion of the existing
Wagga Wagga substation



10 million+
workforce hours

Local workforce 5-10%
(Within NSW 25-30%, Other states
40-45%, Overseas specialists 30-35%)



1,740 beds

Six workforce accommodation
camps provided **1,740 beds**
during construction



At a glance

1,508 towers
comprising 220kV, 330kV and 500kV structures

46,068 tonnes
of steel used in tower construction

10,385km
of high-voltage conductor cabling, enough to
span from Sydney to Perth three times

4 synchronous condensers
to maintain grid stability



Showing up for the region, where it counts



Delivering EnergyConnect at scale meant showing up for the communities hosting the project and working in ways that respected local knowledge, capability and pace.

Our approach to procurement prioritised local businesses that understood the local landscape and the realities of regional delivery – strengthening outcomes during construction and building capability that lasts well beyond completion

Keeping value circulating locally was a deliberate delivery principle. For many businesses, including First Nations enterprises, involvement created opportunities to grow workforces, invest in equipment and take on more complex scopes of work, helping establish stronger, more resilient regional economies for the future.

Investing in business and industry

 Local spend (Riverina-Murray-Sunraysia)
\$300.6 million
351 businesses engaged

 NSW
\$566m
Statewide spend (NSW)
\$566 million
297 businesses engaged

 **\$1.15b**
National spend
\$1.15 billion
376 businesses engaged

 **1,024** Australian businesses engaged on project
Cumulative Australian spend **\$2 billion+**

*Project spend as at April 2026



Strengthening communities beyond construction

Community grants and sponsorships were focused on everyday organisations and programs that sit at the heart of regional life, from education and training to sport, wellbeing and community connection.

These investments were designed to strengthen social resilience by backing the people and places communities rely on most.

Through Transgrid's Community Partnerships Program, grants were delivered to not for profit organisations across the project's local government areas, with funding directed to practical, community identified needs rather than one off events.

Strengthening local community anchors

Upgrades to facilities and equipment in local sporting clubs, emergency services, and early learning centres help to keep regional communities connected, supported and resilient.



Community investment

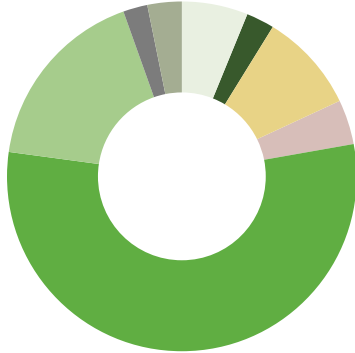


\$506,908
spent on Community Partnerships
Program grants

107 community organisations
assisted

127 projects or initiatives supported

Funding Purpose	Number
Community Programs	8
Community Projects	3
Education & Training	12
Environment	5
Equipment / Facilities	70
Events	22
Indigenous Culture	3
Welfare Support	4



*Project spend as at March 2026

Major infrastructure brings the opportunity to leave people and places stronger than before. Alongside delivery, investment in community-led initiatives that support connection and opportunity long after construction ends.

Skills, capability and pathways that last

The Legacy 100 program was a targeted training initiative that built skills and pathways in the power transmission sector across regional NSW. Delivered as part of EnergyConnect, the program provided opportunities for up to 100 candidates from diverse backgrounds to complete qualifications in transmission line construction during the project.



Training the next generation of engineers.

Through EnergyConnect, students in regional NSW gain access to engineering education and career pathways close to home. The \$2 million Transgrid Engineering Scholarship Fund, a legacy program delivered with Charles Sturt University, supports civil and electrical engineering skills critical to Australia's infrastructure future.

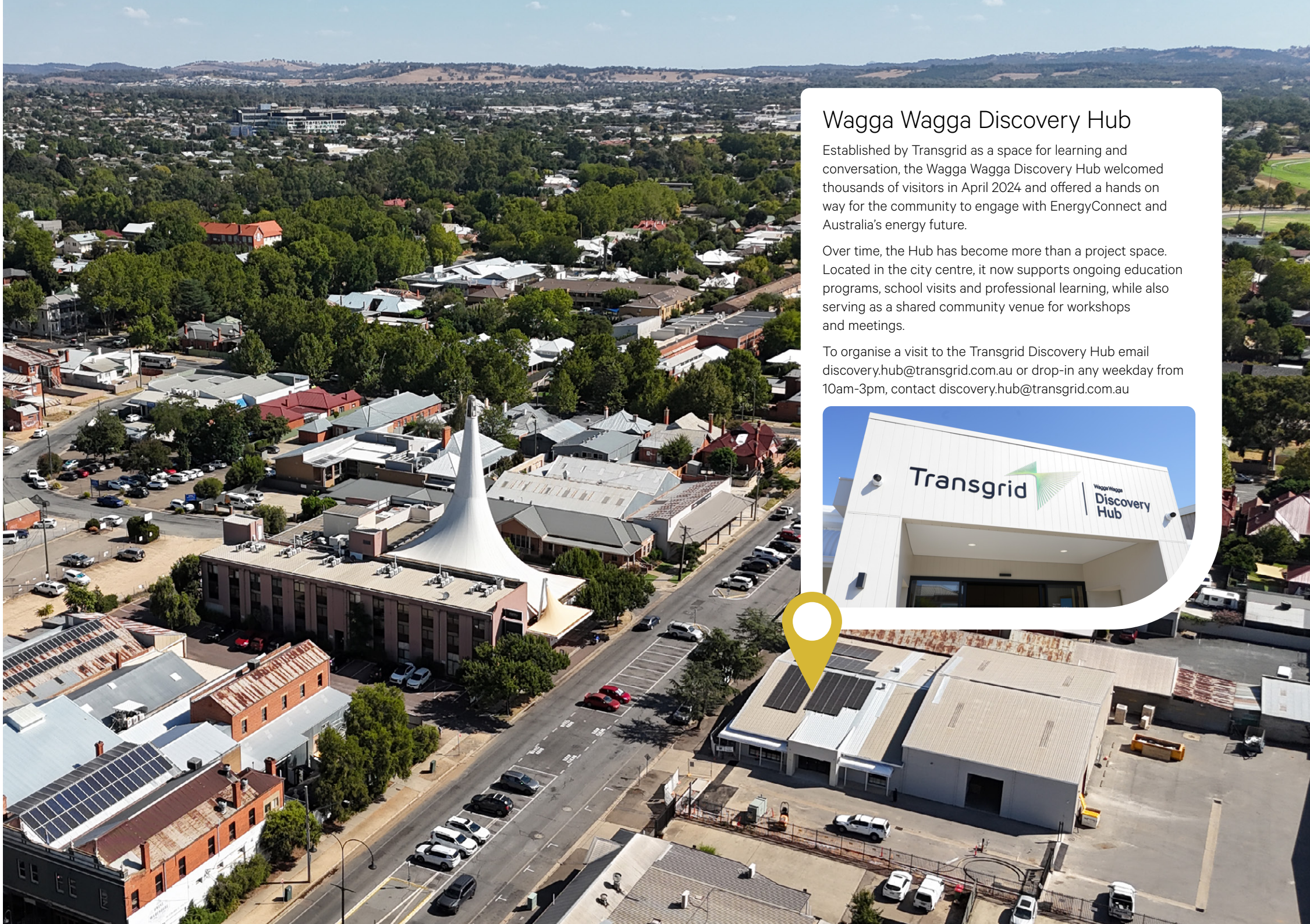


“The scholarships will help us meet future demand for engineers across regional Australia.”

— CSU University Trust CEO Sarah Ansell

Capacity building partnership

A collaborative partnership between Transgrid and Regional Development Australia to develop projects offering potential employment, attraction and skills development within the Riverina and Murray regions, which form the footprint of EnergyConnect. This capacity-building partnership focused on four pillars: Riverina Knowledge Hub, Country Change, Jobs Riverina Murray and Grow our Own.



Wagga Wagga Discovery Hub

Established by Transgrid as a space for learning and conversation, the Wagga Wagga Discovery Hub welcomed thousands of visitors in April 2024 and offered a hands on way for the community to engage with EnergyConnect and Australia's energy future.

Over time, the Hub has become more than a project space. Located in the city centre, it now supports ongoing education programs, school visits and professional learning, while also serving as a shared community venue for workshops and meetings.

To organise a visit to the Transgrid Discovery Hub email discovery.hub@transgrid.com.au or drop-in any weekday from 10am-3pm, contact discovery.hub@transgrid.com.au



Caring for Country at every stage of delivery

Landholder relationships built on respect and trust

Landholders were central to how EnergyConnect was delivered. From the outset, we worked directly with landholders to understand their land, livelihoods and local conditions, shaping delivery approaches around those realities.

Clear communication and consistency built trust over time. Land was respected, protected and rehabilitated, with decisions guided by long-term outcomes and real conditions while supporting system needs across the region.

First Nations leadership

Traditional Owners provided critical leadership by guiding culturally informed decision-making and on-Country practices. Their knowledge helped identify sites of cultural significance, inform working methods and ensure cultural knowledge informed environmental management and heritage protection in visible and practical ways.

Environmental stewardship as a lasting legacy

From the earliest planning stages, design choices reduced the project’s footprint and protected the environments it crossed. During construction, impacts on vegetation and wildlife were minimised, while long-term conservation areas now protect tens of thousands of hectares of land. These protected areas support threatened species and help ensure the landscapes connected by EnergyConnect continue to thrive well beyond the life of the project.

The land carries meaning, history and livelihood. Caring for Country meant listening first, adapting how we worked and taking responsibility for impacts that extend well beyond construction.



23,500ha
of land protected in perpetuity through biodiversity
stewardship agreements to offset impacts
6500 nest boxes installed for fauna



47% reduction
in alignment land clearing against
environmental approvals



21% less steel and 15% less concrete
used to construct innovative guyed towers



78% replacement
of potable water with non-potable sources



EnergyConnect has achieved a number of significant accolades during the project’s development and delivery. In 2025, it was recognised as a finalist in the NSW Sustainability Awards in the biodiversity category.

The project has also achieved the highest Leading rating from the Infrastructure Sustainability Council, the first electricity transmission project to do so.

Commitment beyond construction

As EnergyConnect moves from construction into operation as an integral part of the National Electricity Market, our responsibility continues. Ongoing relationships with landholders, regional communities and First Nations remain central to how care is carried forward by Transgrid.

Country endures well beyond any project lifecycle. Our intent is that EnergyConnect leaves a positive and lasting legacy for the people and places connected to it, as responsibility is passed from construction into operation and maintenance.

Ongoing management of the EnergyConnect infrastructure will be undertaken by Transgrid as operator of the high-voltage electricity transmission network in NSW and the ACT.

Strategic Benefits Payments

Eligible private landholders who host new high-voltage transmission infrastructure for EnergyConnect may receive the NSW Government's Strategic Benefit Payments under the Strategic Benefit Payment Guidelines. Payments are the equivalent of \$200,000 (in 2022 dollars) per kilometre, paid in annual instalments over 20 years and indexed to CPI, with payments commencing after energisation. These payments are separate to, and do not reduce, compensation payable for easements.

Working together for Australia's energy future.

Thousands of people helped shape and build EnergyConnect, including engineers, construction crews, landholders, Traditional Custodians, local businesses and community partners, working together across regions, borders and disciplines.

What began as an ambitious infrastructure project became a shared national effort, grounded in collaboration, care for Country and pride in delivering something that will serve Australia for generations.

More than a transmission line, EnergyConnect is infrastructure designed to support Australia's energy future. It connects states, strengthens the grid and helps enable the transition to cleaner, more reliable energy.

Thank you again to all who contributed to the delivery of EnergyConnect from our project workforce, to our valued landholders, alignment communities, local business and stakeholders.



Get in touch with Transgrid

1800 222 537
community@transgrid.com.au
or visit transgrid.com.au

For Strategic Benefits Payments enquiries email
SBPayments@transgrid.com.au

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