

EnergyConnect Community Newsletter



February 2024

EnergyConnect is Australia's largest energy transmission project. It involves building a new 900km transmission line to connect the energy grids in New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia to help improve reliability and security of electricity supply and allow for future connections from renewable energy sources. Transgrid and our delivery partner, Elecnor Australia, are building EnergyConnect in NSW.

In this issue:

[Progress update](#)

[Main types of transmission towers](#)

[Legacy 100 training program](#)

Progress update

EnergyConnect West - South Australian and Victorian borders to Buronga

- The majority of transmission towers between the South Australian border and Buronga have been erected and stringing of the transmission lines (cables and wires) is well underway.
- The Buronga substation expansion and upgrade is progressing well. Key components, phase shifting transformers and synchronous condensers, have started arriving on site. These will play a crucial role in maintaining the reliability of the power system and keeping the grid stable.

EnergyConnect East - Buronga to Wagga Wagga

- Workers moved in to the 240-bed accommodation camp at Lockhart. Started site preparation activities including removal of any vegetation necessary along the construction corridor, minor road works, creating vehicle entry and exit points for safe vehicle movements between roads and the construction corridor and worker camps.
- Started preparing the reinforced concrete foundations for the transmission towers.

Upcoming work

Over the coming months, construction of EnergyConnect East (Buronga to Wagga Wagga) will be ramping up.

Key activities include:

- Establishing a new worker camp at Dinawan (near Bundure).
- Continuing work on the new Dinawan substation.
- Continuing site preparation activities including vegetation removal along the construction corridor, minor road works and construction of access points to the construction corridor.
- Continuing to prepare the reinforced concrete foundations for the transmission towers.
- Delivery of steel to various locations along the construction corridor.
- Tower assembly will begin, with the first towers expected to start going up in the coming weeks near Balranald.

How this will affect you

These works maybe dusty and you may notice an increase in construction vehicles in this area.

Please be mindful of any traffic management in place in this area.

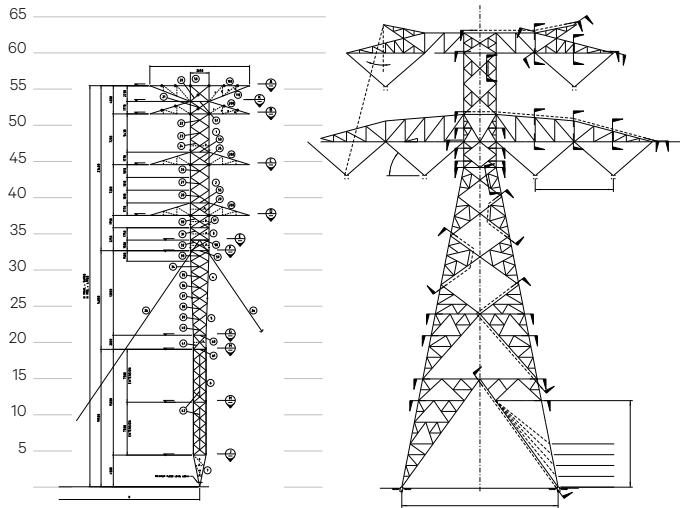
For any enquiries about construction activities or for more information about the project, please call 1800 49 06 66 or email pec@transgrid.com.au.

We apologise for any inconvenience and thank you for your cooperation during these essential works.



Types of transmission towers

Main types of transmission towers between Buronga and Dinawan



Buronga to Dinawan substation at Bundure 330 kV

Dinawan substation at Bundure to Wagga Wagga 500 kV

Fast Facts

- Around 1,100 towers will be erected between Buronga and Wagga Wagga
- The towers will be spaced about 460 m apart, on average
- About two thirds of the towers between Buronga and the new Dinawan substation will be guyed towers (pictured), which are about 56 m tall. Where a guyed tower is not suitable, similar self-supporting suspension towers will be used.
- About 80% of the towers between the new Dinawan substation and Wagga Wagga will be self supporting suspension towers (pictured), coming to about 64 m tall.
- For comparison, the Mantra Pavilion Hotel in Wagga Wagga Base hospital is 37m tall and the lights at Robertson Oval in Wagga Wagga are 57 m tall.



Image: Dinawan Substation Site



Leaving a legacy by boosting skills

Legacy 100 is the nation's first multi-million-dollar training initiative to boost skills in the power transmission sector that will result in up to 100 candidates completing qualifications in Transmission Line Construction as part of the EnergyConnect project. Transgrid and our construction partner, Elecnor Australia, have launched this training initiative to boost skills in the power transmission sector across regional NSW.

The first 16 participants in the program have completed the classroom training component, consisting of 50 days learning about Dogging, Rigging, and Elevated Work Platforms. They've now moved on to Buronga where they will gain

valuable on-the-job experience through work placements including tower assembly and stringing activities.

Legacy 100 will form the backbone of the future workforce in the transmission tower construction industry, with workers to use the skills gained on EnergyConnect to build other future transmission line projects.

Applications are now open.
For more information, visit
secureenergyjv.com.au/legacy-100



Image: The first Legacy 100 group with Elecnor Australia Legacy 100 Program Manager, Lauren Macrae.



Worker camps

As part of EnergyConnect, we're establishing six worker camps for the circa 1,300 workers needed to build the project at any one time. The camps are managed by our construction partner, Elecnor Australia.

Worker camps ease pressure on local rental markets and accommodation providers, reduce travel to and from construction sites, and ensure staff are safe and comfortable while away from home. Much like little villages, the camps feature a fully functional kitchen and dining hall, a gym, medical rooms, Wi-Fi, offices and areas for heavy vehicles and equipment. Shuttle bus services to nearby towns are also

included, so that workers can experience and enjoy the local area during their time on the project.

We had the pleasure of showing State Member for Wagga Wagga, Dr Joe McGirr MP, around the recently opened Lockhart camp late last year, which will house up to about 240 workers. As part of the tour, Dr McGirr had the opportunity to meet several participants gaining qualifications in transmission line construction as part of the Legacy 100 program.

Work is now underway on the Dinawan worker camp, near Bundure.



Image: Lockhart workers camp site.

Connect with us

Transgrid is committed to working with landowners and communities through EnergyConnect project.

Please connect with us for more information.



1800 49 06 66 (free call)
pec@transgrid.com.au
transgrid.com.au/energyconnect

EnergyConnect Project Team,
PO BOX A1000, Sydney South, NSW 1235

Privacy statement: Transgrid recognises the importance of privacy and protecting the personal information it holds, uses and discloses in line with the Privacy Act. It is committed to protecting personal information and handling personal information responsibly and in accordance with its obligations