

## FAQs

Coppabella Wind Farm – Rebuild of Transmission Line 99M & Yass substation works



Question	Answer
<p>What is the Coppabella Wind Farm (CWF)</p>	<p>The CWF is in the Southern Tablelands of New South Wales approximately 30km west of Yass.</p> <p>The NSW Government has approved construction and operation of up to 75 wind turbines and related civil and electrical infrastructure as part of the CWF.</p> <p>Once operational, the wind farm production will power up to 170,000 homes each year.</p> <p>See <a href="#">here</a> for the indicative project layout.</p>
<p>Who is responsible for building and operating CWF?</p>	<p>CWF is owned by Goldwind Australia, who will be responsible for its construction and operation.</p> <p>For more information or to contact the CWF please:</p> <p>Phone: 1800 884 689</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:info@coppabellawindfarm.com">info@coppabellawindfarm.com</a></p> <p>Write: Level 25, Tower 1, 100 Barangaroo Avenue Barangaroo Sydney 2000.</p>
<p>Why does TL99M have to be rebuilt between CWF and Yass substation?</p>	<p>Transgrid's Transmission Line 99M (TL99M) will help carry the energy from the CWF to the transmission network so it can be used by homes and businesses.</p> <p>The current capacity of Transmission Line 99M (single circuit 132kV) does not meet the required rating to transmit the electricity generated by the CWF to the electricity network.</p> <p>To allow the transmission line to carry the increased load requirements from CWF, Transgrid has approved plans to rebuild 39km (approx.) section of Line 99M from the CWF site to Yass substation as a double circuit 132kV line.</p> <p>The rebuild will ensure the clean energy generated by the wind farm would be safely and reliably connected to the grid.</p> <p>The rebuild of Line 99M is being carried out by Transgrid.</p>
<p>What is Transgrid? What is their role?</p>	<p>Transgrid owns and operates the high voltage transmission network in NSW and the ACT, with connections to Victoria and Queensland. Our network currently consists of over 13,000 km of high voltage transmission wires and 121 substations.</p> <p>We are leading the transition to Australia's clean energy future. The traditional coal system that served our country for decades is nearing the end of its life, to be replaced by wind and solar generation.</p> <p>Further information is available on our website <a href="https://www.transgrid.com.au/about-us">https://www.transgrid.com.au/about-us</a></p>
<p>What does the planned rebuild of TL99M involve?</p>	<p>Rebuild transmission line 99M involves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replacing all existing wooden pole transmission structures between Yass 330 kV substation and the CWF 'tie in' point (Structure 143) near the wind farm with new steel or concrete pole transmission structures up to 40m in height. The new poles would be up to 20m higher than the existing wooden pole structures.</li> <li>• Upgrading existing access tracks and installing new access tracks where required.</li> <li>• Constructing a new transformer bay switch bay and STATCOM at Yass substation.</li> </ul>

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<p>What will the new transmission structures look like?</p>	<p>The new structures will be either steel or concrete pole structures up to 40m high, like those shown below.</p> <p>For more images of the likely new structures please visit see REF Appendix F <a href="#">here</a></p> <p>Below: current view looking north-west from Black Range Rd</p>  <p>Below: future view looking north-west from Black Range Rd</p> 
<p>Where will the new structures go?</p>	<p>The new structures will generally be placed in the same position as the existing poles.</p>
<p>When is construction due to start? How long will construction take?</p>	<p>Construction is expected to start in November 2024 and would take approximately 20 months to complete. The start date is subject to several variables including funding from the operator of the CWF, who is funding the upgrade and substation works.</p>

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Is this project related to Humelink?	The TL99M rebuild is not part of the Humelink Project. For more information on Humelink please visit the Transgrid website <a href="#">here</a> .
Would a new easement be needed for the Project?	The new towers and lines will be installed within the existing 45m wide transmission line easement. To enable the transition of the rebuilt line into the connection point at Yass 330kV substation, Transgrid may require an additional easement (approximately 0.5 ha) external to Yass 330kV substation. This will be confirmed during detailed design.
What is an easement?	To protect your safety and provide a safe, reliable network, we have easements over transmission lines and underground cables. Easements are essentially 'rights of way', giving our people and contractors access to our assets to build, operate and maintain infrastructure. We restrict certain activities on easements to protect the public and the assets themselves. Easements vary in width depending on the voltage and design of the infrastructure.
Will livestock still be able to graze under the new line?	Yes, livestock will still be able to graze on the easement. The width of the easement will be the same as before the line upgrade.
What about operating machinery in the easement? Where can I find out more about the activities which can be undertaken on or near easements?	To protect your safety and the network we have 'easement guidelines' which detail what activities you can, and cannot, undertake on an easement. These activities include like the height of a harvester you can use, the height of trees, types of fences you can build, and what items can be stored within the easement and in the vicinity of transmission lines. For more information, please access our <a href="#">Easement Guidelines</a>
Who is the determining authority for the project?	Transgrid is the proponent and determining authority for the rebuild of TL99M and associated works at Yass substation.
What are the project benefits?	The project would result in the positive impact by facilitating the connection 290 MW of renewable energy into the National Electricity Market (NEM), which would further help to secure the long-term supply of electricity throughout the NEM. Furthermore, positive economic benefits would be derived from the workforce sourcing daily needs and accommodation from the local area.
I am worried about environmental damage. How will the environment be considered and protected during the process?	On each transmission project, we ensure our activities and services minimise environmental impacts or reduce them as much as possible. We do this to protect communities, to achieve sustainable growth and to comply with legislation. Protecting the habitats of native species is a key priority. Transgrid's controlled environmental measures include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• avoiding clearing vegetation and mature trees</li> <li>• retaining vegetation while keeping foliage clear of powerlines</li> </ul>

Question	Answer
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• avoiding habitat disturbance</li> <li>• revegetation with local plants</li> <li>• providing escape routes for fauna.</li> </ul>
<p>As a landowner, will I be compensated for financial loss from disturbances to agricultural land from the project and if it impacts my farm operations.</p>	<p>To access the transmission line easement, construction vehicles would use the existing access roads and access routes. Additionally, some new tracks would need to be constructed.</p> <p>Disturbances to farm operations including stock movements would aim to be minimised through consultation with landholders on an individual basis.</p> <p>Transgrid is committed to undertaking any repair works of any tracks and watercourses which has been damaged during construction in consultation with the landholder.</p> <p>Additionally, remediation of disturbed areas at the transmission tower and brake and winch sites would be carried out in consultation with the landholder.</p> <p>Where direct disturbance and/or crop damage has occurred as part of the construction works (e.g., crop damage/ temporary loss of agricultural land from a construction bench), Transgrid would offer compensation to the landholder for that loss.</p> <p>Compensation payment would be determined on a case-by-case basis in consultation with the landholder.</p> <p>Once construction has started, please contact the site manager or contact us on 1800 222 537 or email <a href="mailto:community@transgrid.com.au">community@transgrid.com.au</a> if you think there have been damage to your property which need to be rectified.</p>
<p>I am concerned about bio-security risks and pests and diseases with plant, equipment and people coming onto my land during the project. How is this managed?</p>	<p>Accessing property has the potential to spread pests, diseases, weeds and contaminants.</p> <p>Transgrid is committed to ensuring the risk of weed and pathogen infestation into agricultural areas is minimised as far as practicable. Transgrid will consult directly with landholders prior to the commencement of construction to understand any specific biosecurity risks/issues and incorporate any specific mitigation measures into the Construction Environmental Management Plan.</p> <p>Minimising biosecurity risks is a shared responsibility between Transgrid, our delivery partners, local and state government bodies, industries, landholders and the community.</p> <p>We work closely with all these parties to identify the best ways to reduce these risks, like using wash down bays to reduce the chance of our vehicles taking biosecurity risk from one property to another.</p> <p>Please contact us on 1800 222 537 or email <a href="mailto:community@transgrid.com.au">community@transgrid.com.au</a> and we will confirm/ record your bio-security requirements in our access database.</p>
<p>I am worried about damage to indigenous cultural heritage. How will indigenous heritage be protected?</p>	<p>An Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment was carried as part of the environmental impact assessment of the project.</p> <p>The assessment identified three Aboriginal heritage sites (stone artefact sites) within the project area that require management.</p> <p>Of the three sites, impacts to two of the sites can be avoided through the implementation of appropriate mitigation during construction. Impacts to one site (Yass River Open Site 1) consisting of a stone artefact scatter and subsurface deposit could not be avoided.</p>

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	<p>As such, an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) was sought. Prior to carrying out works in the area subject to the AHIP, a salvage program would be implemented in accordance with the AHIP conditions.</p> <p>Salvaged artefacts would be reburied on country under consultation with the Registered Aboriginal parties.</p>
<p>Is there any risk of power outages, as part of the project works</p>	<p>Power outages are <u>unlikely</u> to occur during construction of the project. The network will be reconfigured to allow works to proceed and power to be maintained.</p>
<p>I am worried about a potential increase in Electric and Magnetic Fields as a result of a change in the transmission line.</p>	<p>Our <a href="#">EMF fact sheet</a> provides general information on electric and magnetic fields in relation to our network as well as resources for further information. The Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA) has advised: “The scientific evidence does not establish that exposure to the electric and magnetic fields found around the home, the office or near powerlines causes health effects.”</p>
<p>Who can I contact to attain further information?</p>	<p>Please contact us on 1800 222 537 or email <a href="mailto:community@transgrid.com.au">community@transgrid.com.au</a> if you have any further questions or concerns about the rebuild of Transmission Line 99M or works at Yass Substation as part of the project.</p> <p>You can also visit the Project webpage at:  <a href="https://www.transgrid.com.au/projects-innovation/coppabella-wind-farm">https://www.transgrid.com.au/projects-innovation/coppabella-wind-farm</a></p>