



About one third of the required transmission towers on HumeLink West have now been assembled and erected in readiness for conductor stringing.

Over 100 transmission towers erected on HumeLink West

Construction of HumeLink West recently achieved a significant milestone at Wondalga with the erection of the one hundredth transmission tower on the project.

Covering a total distance of over 140 kilometres between Wagga Wagga, Maragle in the Snowy Valleys and a connection point with HumeLink East at Wondalga, the project requires more than 360 towers in total.

With 18 assembly and erection crews working at multiple locations along the alignment, Transgrid's HumeLink West delivery partners – UGL and CPB Contractors are currently at peak construction activity.

Over 60 percent of the towers between Gugaa Substation at Gregadoo and Wondalga near Adelong – a distance of about 67 kilometres – have now been erected.

Before a transmission tower can be assembled and erected, civil works are required to establish an approved access point, access tracks, a stabilised pad at the tower site and the construction of location-specific tower foundations.

There are 9 different tower designs on the project, including towers designed specifically for alpine conditions in the Snowy Valleys area.

Workers ground-assemble the steel into segments and then lift each to the height needed by crane. They begin with the tower legs which are bolted to steel stubs set into concrete and reinforced steel foundations.

The certified workers who climb the towers to bolt each steel segment into place wear special equipment including a sturdy two-point harness to ensure they remain safely connected to the structure at all times.



Workers at Ellerslie prepare to secure another tower segment into place.

Maragle substation powering ahead

Transgrid has completed delivery of all nine transformer units and both reactors to the site of the new 500kV substation under construction at Maragle.

Installation of the vital equipment, which was delivered to Port Kembla from South Korea by ship and then transported as 11 individual oversized loads along the Hume Highway and through Tumbarumba, marks a significant progress milestone.

Located high in the Snowy Valleys, the substation is where the HumeLink transmission line network will connect with the Snowy 2.0 hydropower project.

Workers are currently installing cooling equipment on the transformers, which are responsible for raising or lowering the voltage of the current passing through the substation, according to operational needs.

Meanwhile concrete pours to complete hundreds of foundation piles are ongoing and cable troughs are being installed.

Overhead, workers in elevated work platforms are erecting ground assembled steel gantries while others begin installing insulators and stringing the electricity conductor cables that will be used to power substation equipment during the testing and commissioning phase in 2027.



The nine recently installed power transformers at Maragle Substation.



Renee Brown-Hincksman showed the women how to use the device.

A heart-felt gift for the Batlow CWA

HumeLink West has gifted a potentially life-saving heart defibrillator to the Country Womens Association in Batlow.

The group is highly active in the community, caring for women, families, cooking, catering for events, advocating for better lifestyles and fairness in all walks of life.

Pictured second from left, Branch President Annie Kiefer AM said the Batlow CWA was established almost 100 years ago and that members range in age from 13 to women in their 90s. They meet on the third Thursday of each month and newcomers are always welcome.

Workers raise funds for school

HumeLink West workers have raised over \$5,000 for Tarcutta Primary School through sales of project branded hoodies and container recycling.

The school community is currently deciding how to use the funds, with pupils' support for the purchase of ping-pong tables an early favourite.

Meanwhile pupils at St. Mary's Catholic Primary School were delighted to meet a baby joey receiving local foster care following a recent roadside wildlife rescue by passing members of the HumeLink West team.



Pupils at St. Mary's Primary School Batlow with the rescued joey.



Workers installing conductor cables near Wagga Wagga.

Helicopter stringing will start soon

Helicopters will be used to string conductor cable between transmission towers from October. Aerial stringing will continue to be used as it reduces overall ground disturbance and access requirements.

Helicopter stringing has multiple advantages over traditional ground-based stringing, including being safer and faster to complete, causing less disruption by not requiring construction vehicles to pull cable overground, limiting access track use and reducing traffic on local roads.

Gugaa Substation gantries installed

Workers constructing Gugaa Substation at Gregadoo near Wagga Wagga have completed installation of all the overhead gantry steel needed to suspend conductors and associated hardware and equipment.

Comprising over 600 tonnes of steel in total, the assembly and erection of all the gantries marks a significant milestone towards substation completion and clears the way for conductor stringing and ongoing equipment installations.

Meanwhile, the upgrade of Wagga Wagga Substation is also progressing well, with about 80 per cent of works, including successful energisation of new circuits, now completed.



All of the overhead gantries have been installed at Gugaa Substation.

Conductor stringing continuing

The installation of conductor cables on transmission towers is in full swing between Wagga Wagga and the crossing point of the Hume Highway at Keajura.

To string cables (conductor) between towers insulators, pulley blocks are put in place to enable the conductors to be installed. During the stringing process, a specialised drone or a helicopter installs the pilot cable (draw wire) through the pulley blocks from the winch site to the brake site. The draw wire is then used to pull the permanent conductor through the pulley blocks.

So far, only drones have been used on HumeLink West. For more information on stringing, view the [stringing fact sheet](#).



Helicopter stringing on HumeLink West is set to begin in October.

Worker accommodation expands

Self-sufficient worker accommodation facilities at Tarcutta and Kunama have recently been expanded by 96 beds and 72 beds respectively, with Kunama set to briefly grow further.

The increased capacity of the facilities reflects peak employment on the project and will help meet project delivery timelines and management of local traffic impacts on the community.

The workers are needed to build transmission towers and to construct Maragle and Gugaa Substations.



The worker accommodation facility, offices and carparking at Kunama.

Snowy Valleys Resilience Hub shines

Since opening in August 2025, the HumeLink West Community Information Centre at the Snowy Valleys Resilience Hub has welcomed more than 1,200 visitors.

From inspiring young minds through school holiday activities to supporting local groups, authors and community initiatives, it has become a valued place for locals to connect, share information and stay informed on HumeLink progress.

The centre will continue to operate throughout HumeLink’s construction. Learn more → [CLICK HERE](#).



Over 1,200 visitors have used the community facility since it opened last year.

Come meet our community team

You’re always welcome to visit us at the Community Information Centre, 37 Pioneer Street Batlow. We’ll also be at the following community events, so come and say hello.

- Wagga Wagga Show, 11 – 12 September
- Henty Field Days, 22 – 24 September
- Tumbarumba Flower Festival, 24 – 25 October
- Snowy Valleys Emergency Services and Community Resilience Expo, Batlow Show Ground – 8 November.

Keep fit at our gymnasiums

HumeLink would like to invite local residents to use our gym facilities at the worker accommodation facilities at Green Hills Access Road, Kunama and Mates Gully Road, Tarcutta.

The gym will be open to local residents on selected days from 10am to 3pm, giving you the chance to try out new equipment and enjoy functional training spaces designed to suit a range of lifestyles.

To register for your gym induction, please contact us at: community@humelinkwest.com.au or call 0402 250 131.



Our gyms have an extensive range of equipment available for use.

HumeLink West 3-month lookahead

Activity (subject to change)	September	October	November
Construction works at Maragle, Gugaa and Wagga Wagga substations	●	●	●
Civil works at transmission tower sites and other locations	●	●	●
Erection of transmission towers along the HumeLink West alignment	●	●	●
Conductor stringing of transmission towers southeast of Wagga Wagga	●	●	●
Steel and concrete deliveries to transmission tower sites and substations	●	●	●
Vegetation clearing in select areas along the alignment	●	●	●
Operation of concrete batch plants at Green Hills	●	●	●
Establishment of access points and access tracks along the project alignment	●	●	●

Connect with us

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



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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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