

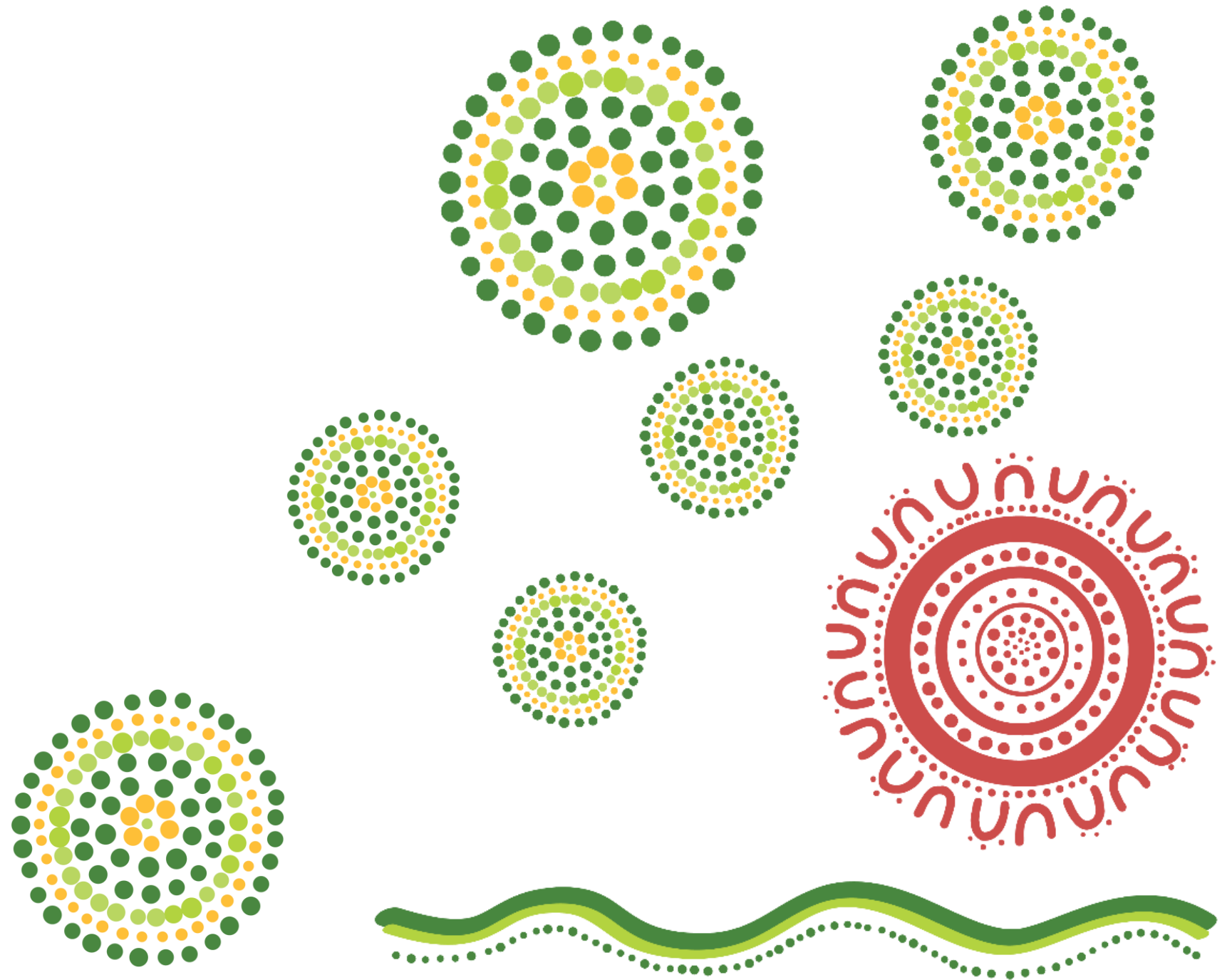
# Transgrid Advisory Council Meeting Quarterly Meeting #1

18 February 2026


## Acknowledgement of Country

As we gather today, I would like to begin by honouring the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation, the Traditional Custodians of this land where we meet.

We acknowledge the continuing connection to Country First Nations people have with the land, skies and waterways where we serve. We honour Elders who came before us, those with us today, and those who will lead in the future.



# Agenda

 **Please note:** today's meeting will be recorded for note taking purposes

No.	Time	Topic	Lead
1	10.30am - 10.40am	Welcome and Acknowledgment of Country Agenda and Actions from last meeting	Acting Chair - <b>Nadine Lennie</b> Chief Financial Officer
2	10.40am - 11.00am	Review of Stakeholder Forums	<b>Nicole Ryan</b> General Manager Strategic Advocacy, Government & Legacy <b>Alex McPherson</b> General Manager of Regulation and Policy
3	11.00am - 11.30am	CEO update and Q&A	<b>Brett Redman</b> CEO
4	11.30am - 11.45am	Major projects update	<b>John Burke</b> Program Director, Major Projects
5	11.45am - 12.25pm	Hunter Transmission Project overview	<b>Struan Wilson</b> Program Director <b>Kathryn Woolcott</b> Commercial Director <b>Alex McPherson</b> General Manager of Regulation and Policy
6	12.25pm - 12.30pm	Summary, reflections and next steps	<b>Nadine Lennie</b> Chief Financial Officer
<b>12.30pm meeting close and lunch</b>			

# Action items from previous Quarterly TAC meeting (2 Sept 2025)

Action	Response
<p>Consider engaging with the TAC on neighbour payment frameworks, with a future discussion on acquisition and compensation mechanisms.</p>	<p><i>Transgrid advocated in support of the Strategic Benefit Payments (SBP) Scheme and continues to support the call for a consistent, fair, NSW Government policy offering the option of payments to neighbouring properties for impacts from transmission projects, that cannot otherwise be mitigated, particularly visual impacts.</i></p> <p><i>We will continue to monitor regulatory and legislative developments related to the SBP Scheme and we would welcome the opportunity to provide feedback to the NSW Government to any potential changes to the Scheme, in consultation with the TAC.</i></p>

## #2. Review of Stakeholder Forums

### **Nicole Ryan**

General Manager Strategic Advocacy, Government & Legacy

### **Alex McPherson**

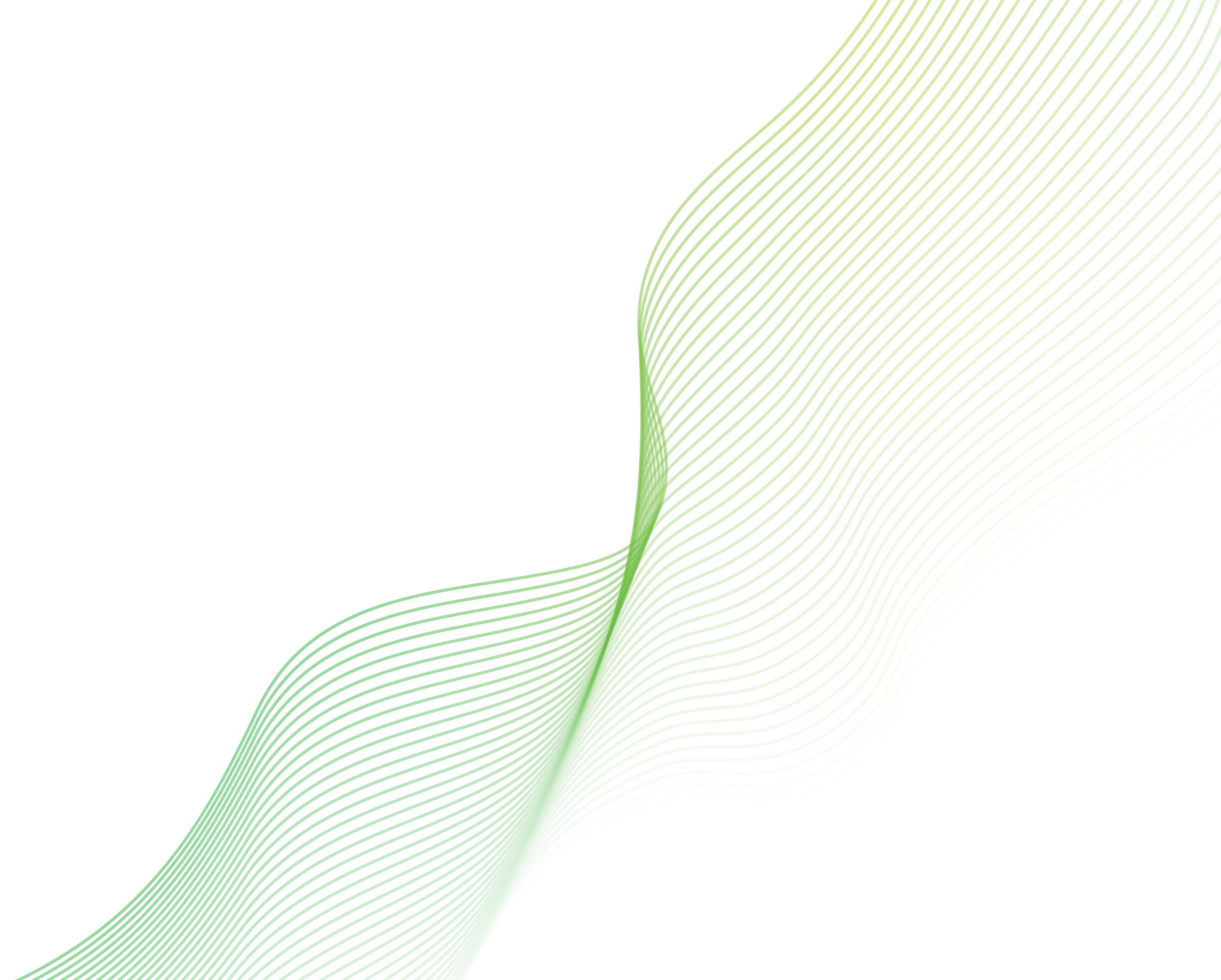
General Manager of Regulation and Policy

**Objective:** To inform TAC members of the outcomes of Transgrid's review of existing stakeholder forums and to discuss proposed changes moving forward

**Level of engagement:** Inform and Consult

## #3.CEO update and Q&A

**Brett Redman**  
CEO



## #4. Major projects update

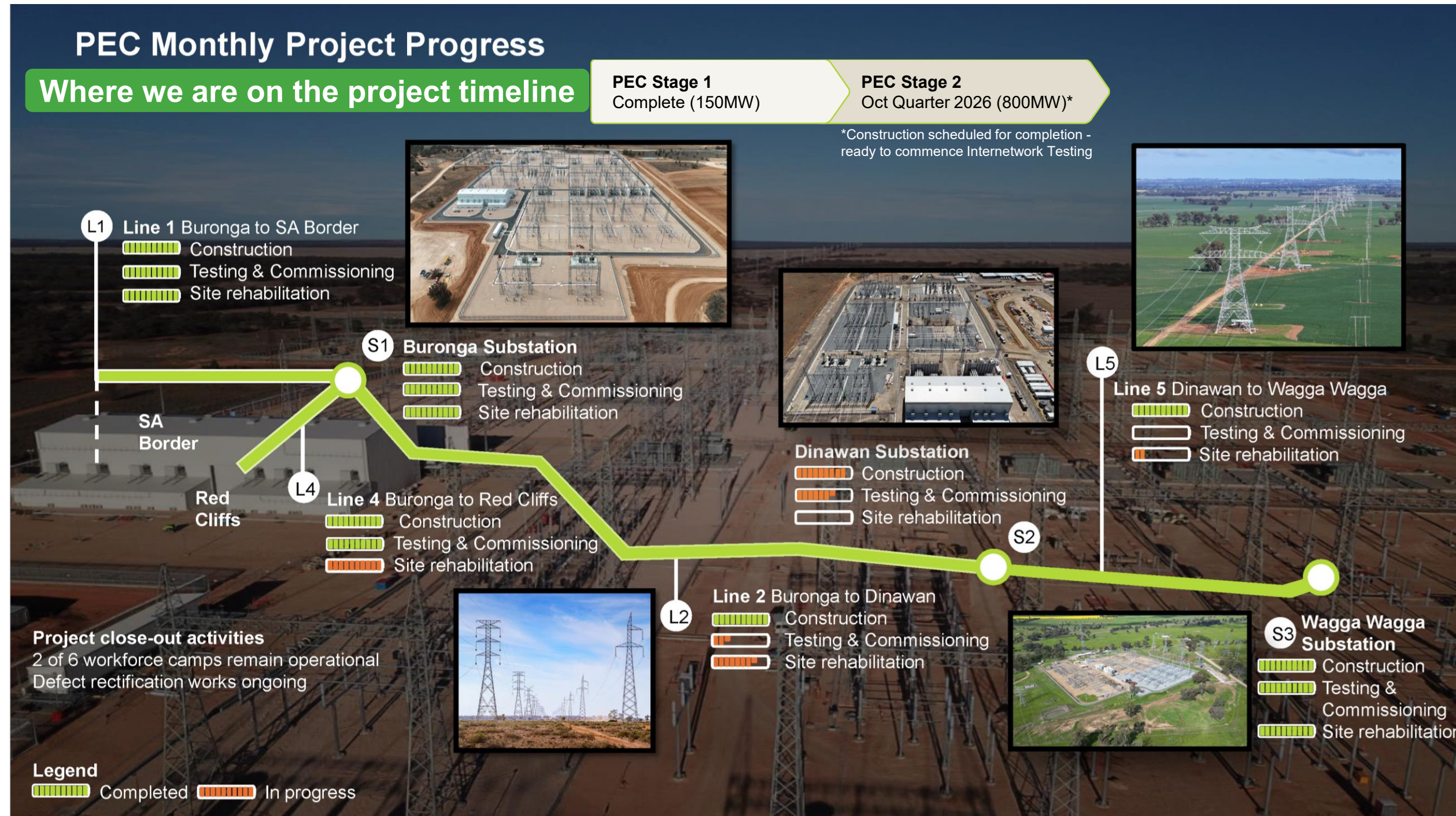
**John Burke**

Program Director, Major Projects

**Objective:** to update TAC members on the progress of Transgrid's major projects, discuss key issues and achievements, and respond to any related questions or feedback

**Level of engagement:** Inform

# Energy Connect update



# Energy Connect update

## Stakeholder Engagement

### Key engagement activities in last month

- ✓ Project January eNews update distributed to 500+ subscribers
- ✓ Hard copies of Q4 newsletter printed for distribution
- ✓ L5 vegetation management notification issued
- ✓ L2 & L5 treat lines as live notification issued
- ✓ Cobb Hwy camp closure comms to local councils

### Upcoming engagement activities

- ✓ Planning for construction completion event at Dinawan 31 March
- ✓ Videography of L2 & L5 cultural repatriation and preservation activities on project
- ✓ Riverina Murray Major Infrastructure Projects Roundtable

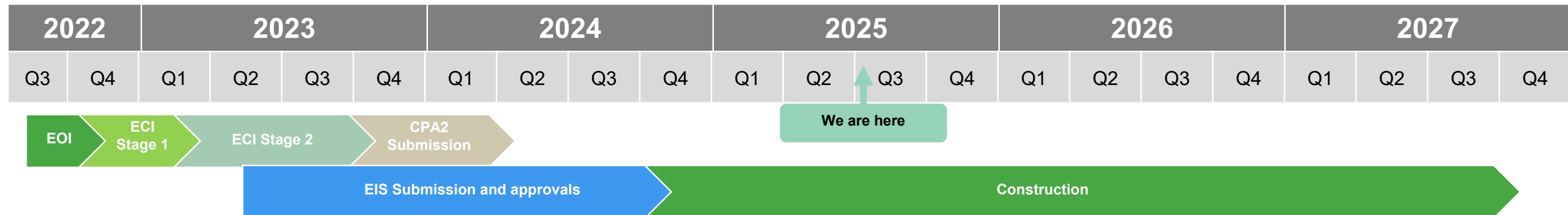
## Social Licence

- ✓ Provided assistance in response to X3 outage following severe weather event at Balranald
- ✓ EnergyConnect Community partnership program grants awarded



# HumeLink update

## Where we are on the project timeline



## Stakeholder Engagement

- ✓ Responded to a Ministerial Enquiry from Joe McGirr on bushfire preparedness, water availability and consultation with RFS particularly Gregadoo area and Gugaa compound (HumeLink West).
- ✓ Briefed the Mayor and General Manager of Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council on road safety in Adjunbilly area.

### In the community:

- ✓ Bushfire risk: messaging in monthly updates and social media, spoke with landowners. Working with local RFS brigade to familiarise them with HLW ancillary facilities.
- ✓ Driver behaviour awareness discussed with subcontractors; social media campaign to promote HumeLink East traffic info QR code
- ✓ Project community space in Batlow (Snowy Valleys Resilience Hub) to increase opening 2-5 days a week.

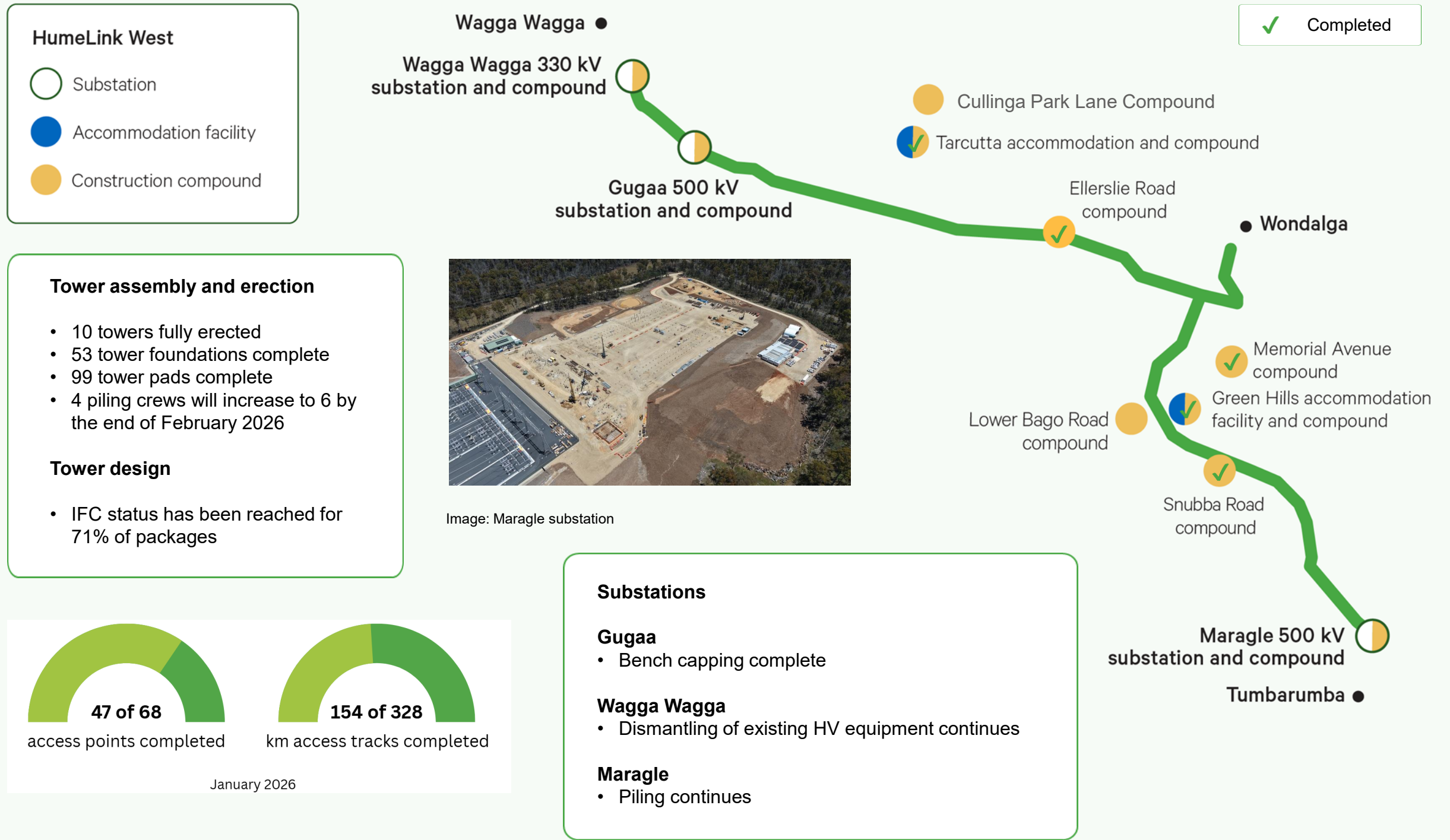
## Social Licence and Community Investment

- ✓ Community investment and benefits – finalising second stage of recipients, focusing on HumeLink West alignment
- ✓ Community Participation Program (CPP) grants - successful projects informed.

## Upcoming



- ✓ Site visit for EWON Officers on 6 Feb at Bannaby.
- ✓ Participation in Tumbatrek 6 Feb, Tumbafest (21 & 22 Feb), Tumut Show (7 March), Taralga Show (14 & 15 March), Adelong Show (14 March), Yass Show (21 March), Tumbarumba Show (21 & 22 March) & Batlow Show (28 March)
- ✓ Accommodation camp tours for Councilors: Wagga Council at Tarcutta - 2 Feb; Snowy Valleys Council tour of Adjunbilly - 26 Feb

# HumeLink West update



# HumeLink East update

**HumeLink East**

-  Substation
-  Accommodation facility
-  Construction compound
-  Completed facilities




 Completed



Image: First tower on HLE

**Tower assembly and erection**

- 9 towers erected
- 44 tower foundations complete
- 121 pads now complete

**Tower design**

- The tower design and testing for the final tower type (VTF) has progressed with the final design reviewed and prototype complete.

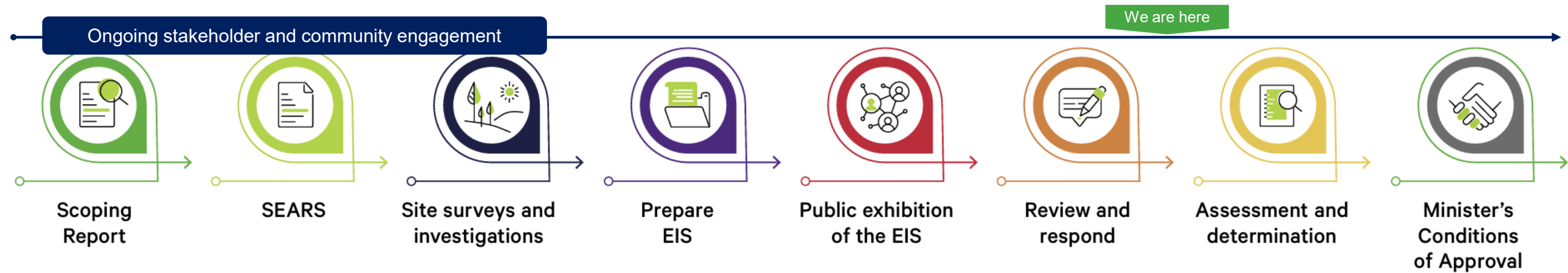
**Bannaby substation**

Piling continues in the substation, and foundation works for the reactor bays and oil spill tank are underway. Preparations are also underway for reactor delivery and installation.



Images: Bannaby substation

# VNI West Project update



## Where we are on the project timeline

- ✓ Work on the Amendment Report for the Environmental Impact Statement continues and submission remains on-track for May 2026.
- ✓ Engagement with EnergyCo continues for the development of the SW REZ works
- ✓ EnergyCo has started preparation of the Infrastructure Planner's Recommendation Report, which would enable EnergyCo to progress the SW REZ works and VNI west Stage 1 under the EII Act.
- ✓ A Procurement Strategy has been provided to EnergyCo for its consideration and to enable it to consult with its Board and the AER on their requirements for the Stage 1 procurement process.
- ✓ For Stage 2 works (under the NER), the RIT-T reapplication process continues, with PADR market modelling underway reflecting the draft 2026 ISP.
- ✓ The first joint VicGrid and Transgrid SteerCo was held with discussions involving interface points, planning matters and the respective delivery models. VicGrid will introduce Iberdrola (as VicGrid's VNIW Development Partner) to the appropriate discussions.

## Stakeholder Engagement

- ✓ The Project team and Transgrid executive are engaged with state and federal DCCEEW, EnergyCo and CEFC to discuss regulatory pathway. DCCEEWs are actively engaged with Transgrid in Q&As and this is assisting to provide comfort on the proposed transfer.
- ✓ Landowner engagements continue regarding property valuations.
- ✓ An in-principle agreement has been reached that would allow Transgrid an opportunity – with conditions – to undertake environmental surveys on the one outstanding property, where access has not previously been granted.
- ✓ Regular meetings with Govt Agencies (DPHI, CPHR, DCCEEW) to progress preparation of updated environmental assessment.

## Social Licence

- ✓ Successful recipients of Community Partnerships Program grants notified mid-January. Nine local organisations will be awarded \$38K in funding to support local projects and initiatives.

# Hunter Transmission Project update



## Where we are on Project Timeline

- ✓ Four D&C tenderers have returned submissions with departures and positions noted. Transgrid is working to reconcile these with EnergyCo. A revised post-tender pack is scheduled for release to the market on 16 February to provide further details around TPA's and some minor updates to Employers Requirements.
- ✓ EnergyCo has been working with tenderers on staging of secondary approvals and pre-construction works. The timeframe to achieve the November 2028 Project Completion date remains under extreme pressure and will be subject to clarity on opportunities that have been identified by tenderers and how this is addressed in the contract.
- ✓ Pre-delivery phase. EnergyCo's program continues to evolve, particularly around the work scheduled for March and April 2026. The confidence in the pre-delivery program is subject to successful management of key drivers.
- ✓ Delivery phase. Following a review of the PTP1 submissions, Transgrid has developed a market-informed revision of the Delivery Program to serve as an interim baseline. This interim baseline will remain in use until the tender outcome is finalised and the program is revised based on the programs from the selected Delivery Partners.

## Stakeholder Engagement

- ✓ Supported EnergyCo with meetings to support the Amendment Report engagement.
- ✓ Attended inception meeting with EnergyCo for the Social Impact Management Plan.
- ✓ Assisted EnergyCo in drafting noise sensitive receiver engagement plan and communications materials.
- ✓ Continued to support EnergyCo in reviewing Addendum Social Impact Assessment, Amendment Report and Submissions Report.
- ✓ Media coverage continues regarding biodiversity impacts in the region. EnergyCo managing this.

## Social Licence

- ✓ Transgrid continues to work with EnergyCo to understand community benefit strategies to be implemented for delivery.

# Wagga Wagga Discovery Hub

## January Engagement



### Events

- Civil Construction Trainee Program for job readiness
- Aboriginal Legal Services Meeting
- HumeLink training session

### Progress

- First Nations program planning
- IWD with Dept of Education Planning
- Wiradjuri Program Planning

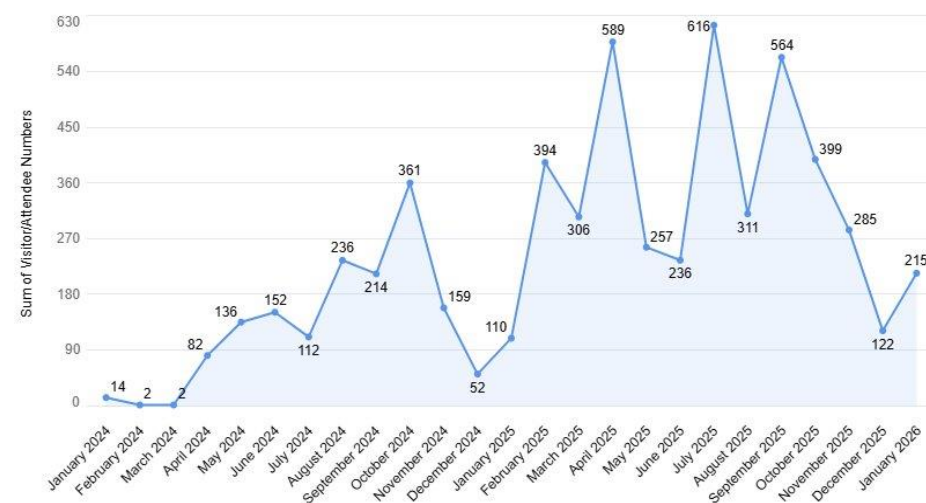
### Promotion

- School Excursion Packs being sent out with emails and socials set up. School Excursion EOI form: [Transgrid Discovery Hub](#)

## Visitor Information

January was a 95% increase in visitors to the Hub compared to the same period in 2025.

Total # of Visitors (grouped by month)



### Upcoming Activations

#### February

- ✓ 2026 education, community and industry initiatives

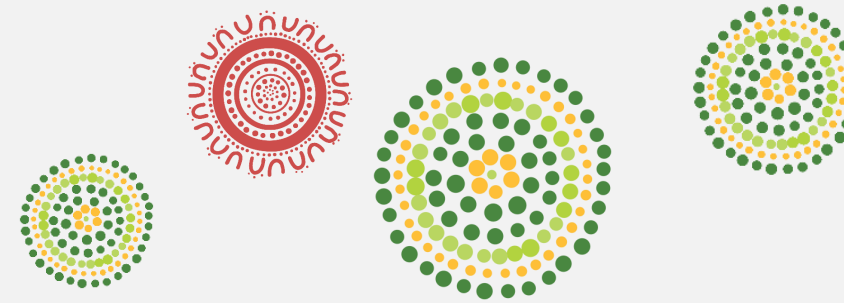


Civil Construction Program



Our new school excursion brochure

# First Nations



## Engagement & Cultural Heritage

- ✓ First Nations Engagement activities – 89 in total
- ✓ HumeLink Executive team attended a Cultural Immersion Event in Wagga Wagga



## Biodiversity Stewardship Agreement (BSA)

- ✓ Reviewing Big Bend EOI potential proponents
- ✓ Engagement with local community on Singorimbah EOI
- ✓ VNI West Heritage Test Pit Excavation activity continuing, including liaison with Indigenous RAPs



## Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) update

- ✓ Completed Stretch RAP deliverables
- ✓ First Nations refreshed visual identity program in consultation with Community. Artist selected
- ✓ Embedding First Nations procurement targets into BAU and Lumea contracts
- ✓ HTP Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Addendum briefings with RAPs and LALCs



## What's coming up next month

- ✓ Development of draft 2026-2029 Stretch RAP
- ✓ Internal consultation of 2026-2029 Stretch RAP



## #5. Hunter Transmission Project (HTP) overview

**Struan Wilson**  
Project Director

**Objective:** To provide TAC members with an overview of HTP and the associated regulatory process, and to consult TAC members on the draft engagement scope and approach

**Level of engagement:** Inform and Consult

# HTP Key Details

Important for energy security and provides the backbone of NSW's new electricity grid

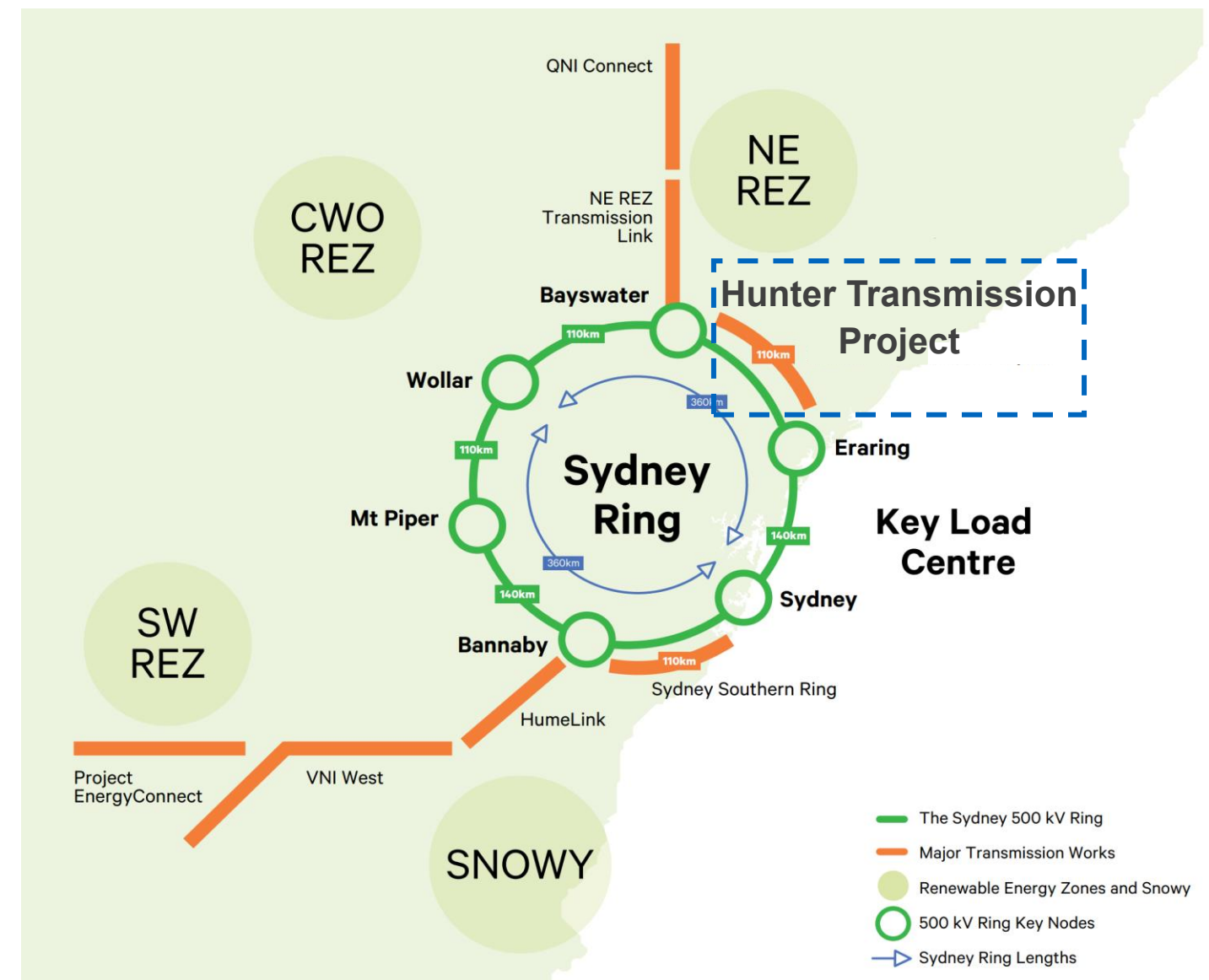
## HTP will unlock the electricity supply from CWO and NE REZs

- Eraring Power Station (2.9GW) accounts for ~25% of NSW's power requirements and its retirement will have major ramifications for power supply to Sydney, Newcastle and Wollongong, where 80% of NSW's electricity is consumed.
- Renewable energy from Central-West Orana REZ (CWO) (6GW) and New England REZ (NE REZ) is needed to replace the generation capacity shortfall. HTP will provide 5GW of transfer capacity from REZs into load centres.
- Without HTP, Transgrid's transmission infrastructure has insufficient transfer capacity to fully utilise the renewable generation and storage expected to come online.
- The 2022 ISP, 2024 ISP and draft 2026 ISP includes the HTP as an actionable project requiring urgent progression. To expedite delivery, EnergyCo advanced HTP under the EII Act as a Priority Infrastructure Project (PTIP)

## Acceleration of the current HTP project is required

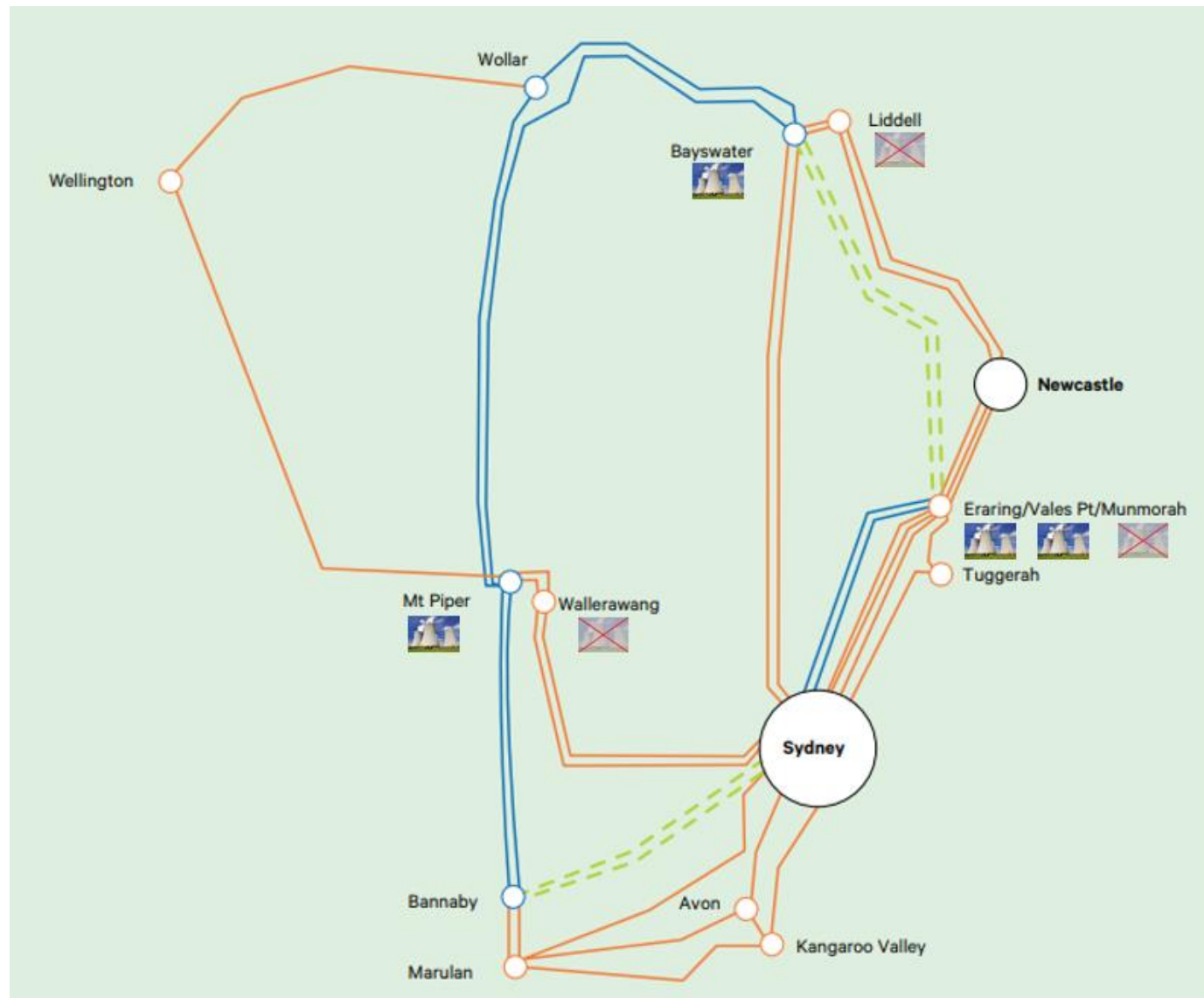
- A Commitment Deed was executed between EnergyCo and Transgrid in late 2024, with an energisation target of December 2029.
- EnergyCo is now pursuing acceleration of the project to achieve energisation as early as possible in 2029 to align with the permanent closure of Eraring and the completion of CWO REZ.

## HTP within the broader Transgrid network

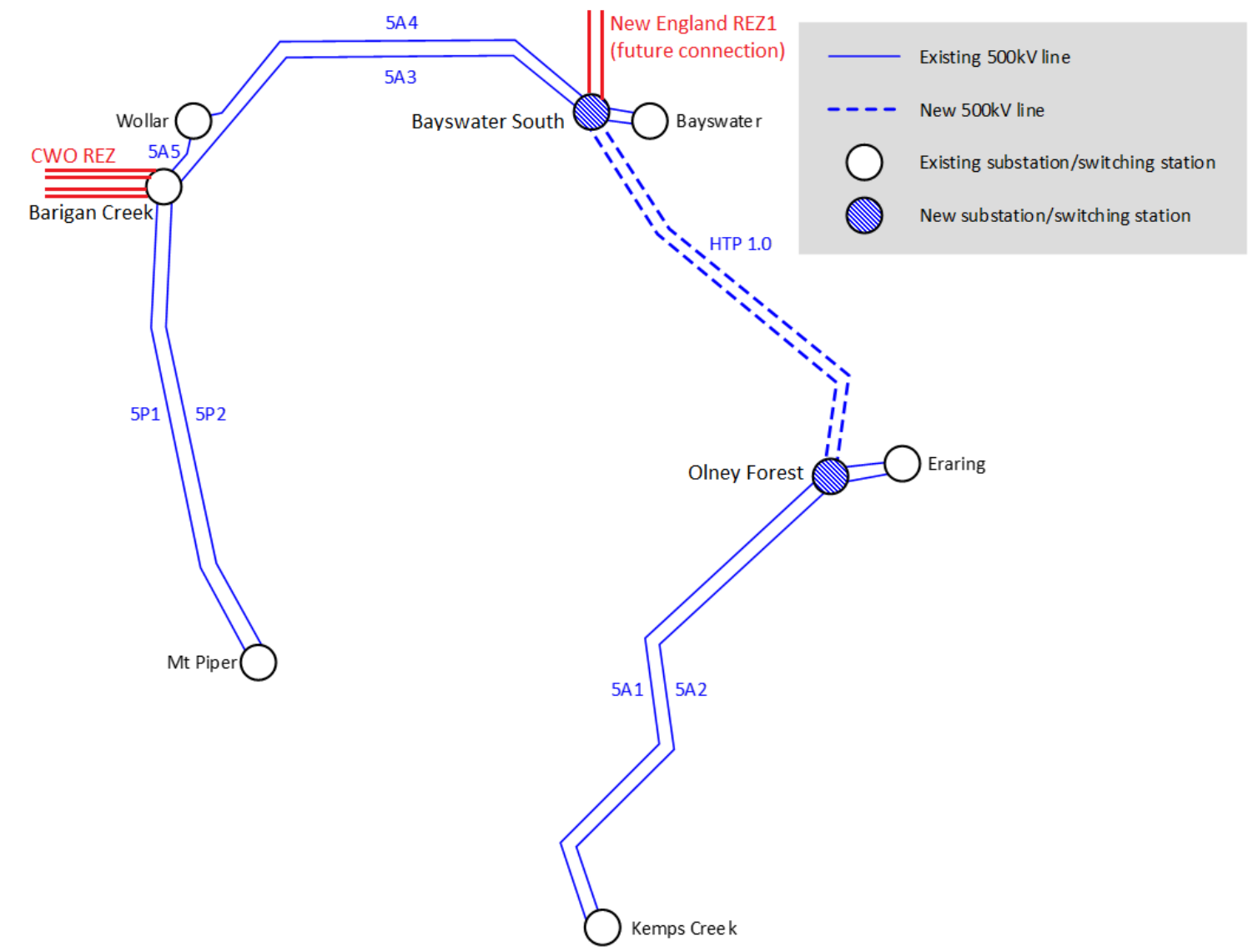


# Current and Future Network

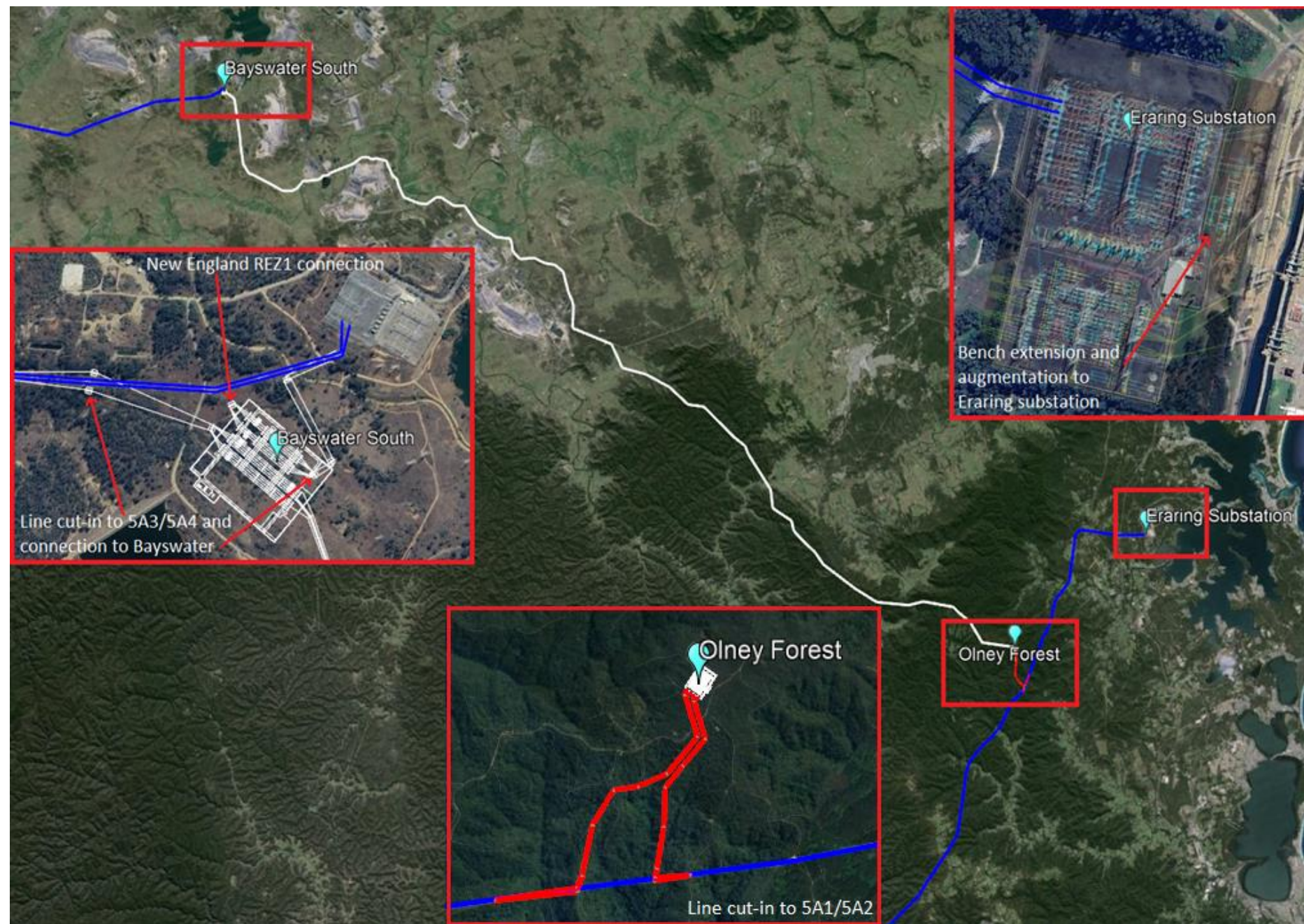
## Existing Network



## Future Network



# Project Scope - Overview



- New HTP line from Bayswater South to Olney Forest totalling 101km with 204 structures.
- Establish new Bayswater South switching station and associated line cut-ins (2.5km with 7 structures).
- Establish new Olney Forest switching station and associated line cut-ins (5km with 17 structures).
- Installation of two new transformers at Eraring substation and associated augmentation work
- Secondary system changes at Bayswater, Wollar, Barigan Creek, Kemps Creek and Eraring

# Project Scope - Substations

## Olney switching station

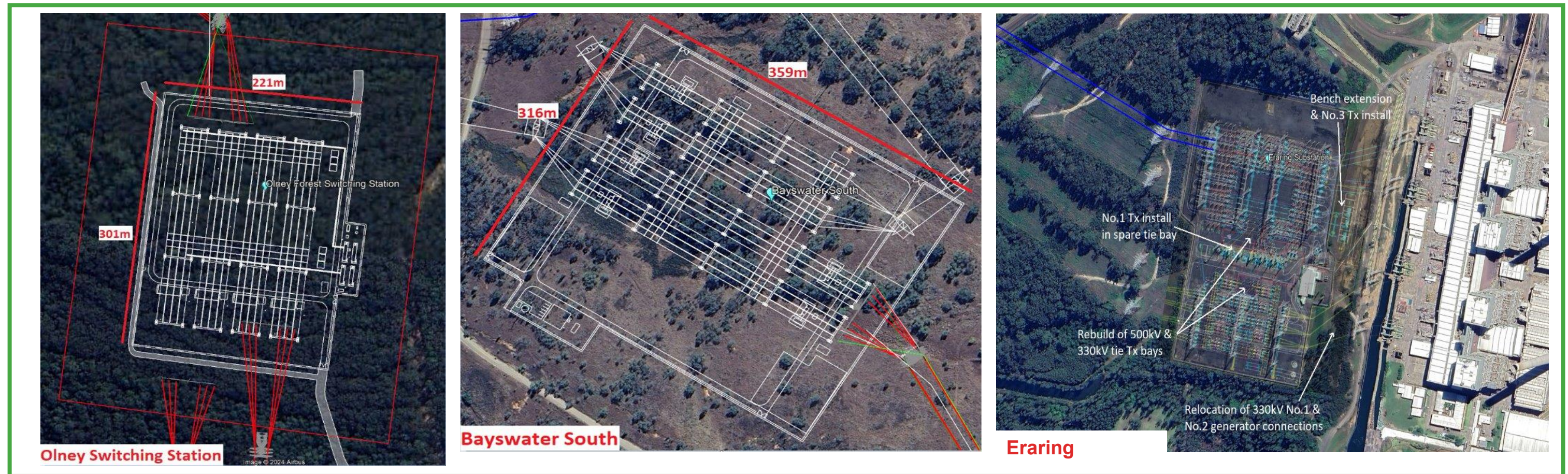
- Four diameter bench (300m x 220m)
- Four diameter breaker and a half yard

## Bayswater South switching station

- Six diameter bench allowing for future connections (360m x 320m), Four diameter breaker and a half yard
- 2x 90 MVAR line reactors on the HTP lines

## Eraring substation

- Installation of 2 x additional 500/330/33kV 1,500MVA transformers
- Associated switchyard modifications to allow the installation of the new transformers



# Responsibilities of Transgrid and EnergyCo

While Transgrid will own the project, both EnergyCo and Transgrid have roles in its development and delivery

## What is EnergyCo's role in HTP

### *Infrastructure Planner*

- Procurement of the D&C contractors
- Obtaining Primary Planning Approvals
- Initial Community and stakeholder engagement activities
- Development of the reference design
- Obtaining third-party agreements
- Input into revenue proposal (e.g. Infrastructure Planner Fee inputs)

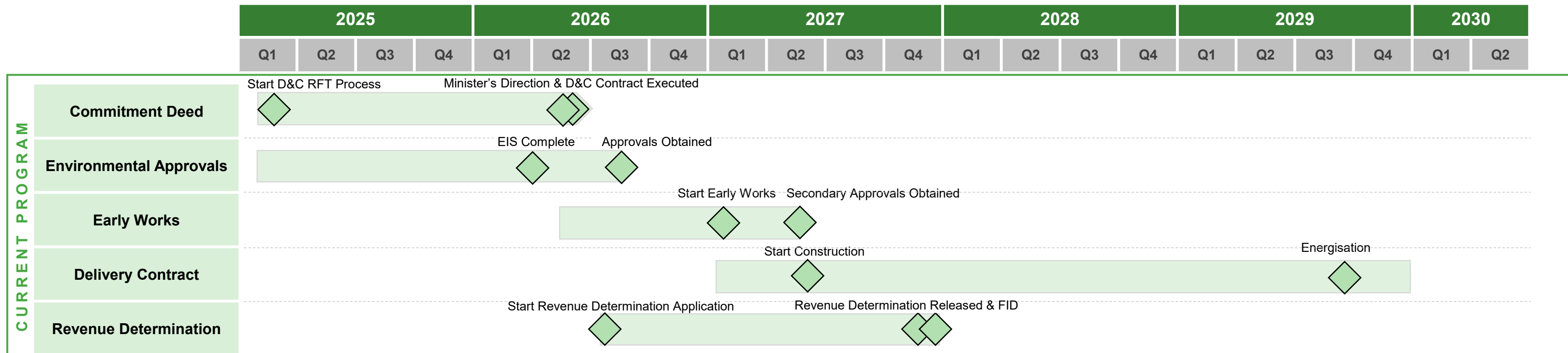
## What is Transgrid's role in HTP?

### *Preferred Network Operator*

- Support the D&C procurement
- Procurement of long lead equipment
- SME input into EIS packages
- Procurement of Independent Certifier
- Development of Transgrid's brownfield design
- Preparation of a revenue proposal
- Delivery and operation of the project
- Community and stakeholder engagement (delivery phase)

# HTP Programme

Schedule to achieve 2029 delivery



The program is indicative and subject to change, reflecting current assumptions informed by outcomes from selected tenderers. Options for acceleration are under consideration where this would provide benefits to consumers.

# Project stakeholders

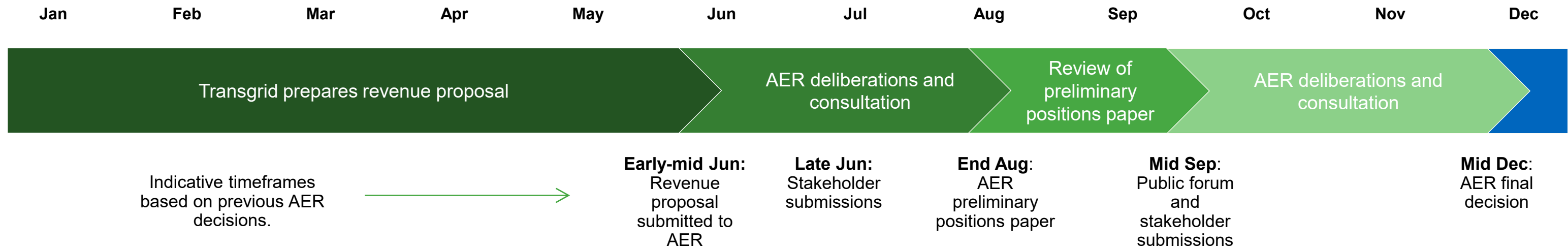
Over 4,000 interactions with community and stakeholders from 2022 to 2025

As Infrastructure Planner, EnergyCo is leading stakeholder engagement through planning and development. Transgrid will lead stakeholder engagement through delivery.

EnergyCo's reach so far	Stakeholders at a glance	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4000+ conversations and interactions with community, landowners, councils and local groups</li> </ul>	<b>Directly Affected Landowners</b>	Private individuals, major generators, mining operators, Defence, Forestry
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1,100+ people and organisations engaged</li> </ul>	<b>Aboriginal Stakeholders</b>	48 RAPs and 5 Local Aboriginal Land Councils
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>310 community pop ups and local event conversations</li> </ul>	<b>Community</b>	Community members, local groups, and recreational users of Forestry land
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>416 meetings and briefings with councils, MPs, landholders and stakeholder groups</li> </ul>	<b>Education</b>	Schools, training providers, unions and jobs advocates
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>14 public information sessions (in person and online)</li> </ul>	<b>Energy and resources</b>	Glencore, Yancoal, Centennial Coal, AGL, Origin
	<b>Environmental groups</b>	Local conservation organisations, state-wide advocacy bodies
	<b>Government agencies</b>	Commonwealth and NSW, including Defence and Forestry
	<b>Local government</b>	Central Coast, Cessnock, Singleton, Lake Macquarie and Muswellbrook
	<b>Network and utilities</b>	Providers coordinating HTP integration with existing infrastructure

# 2026 revenue determination timeline

Transgrid proposes to undertake monthly engagement with the TAC from February and through the Preliminary Positions stage.



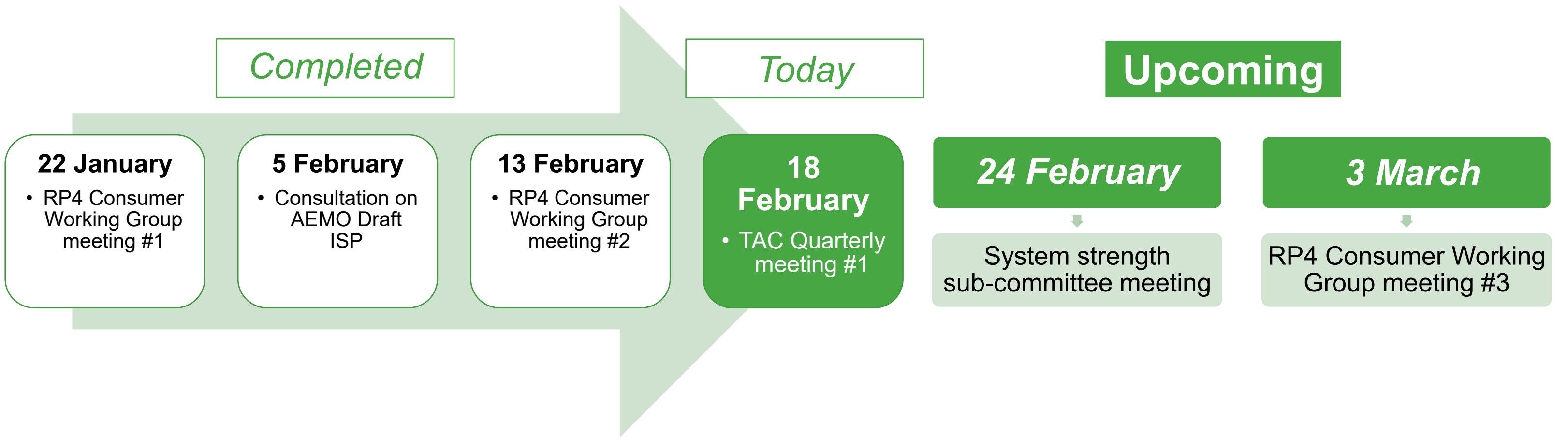
## #6. Summary, reflections, and next steps

**Nadine Lennie**  
Chief Financial Officer

**Objective:** to reflect on the key points raised and feedback provided throughout the meeting and confirm next steps in the engagement program.

**Level of engagement:** Consult

# Completed and upcoming engagement



## Meeting poll

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To what extent do you feel you had an opportunity to effectively engage today?



not effective



very effective



**We appreciate your feedback**

***Objective: To seek TAC member views on our engagement performance today***

# Thank you

## Contact details

For further information please email [stakeholderengagement@transgrid.com.au](mailto:stakeholderengagement@transgrid.com.au)  
or contact **Jane Deane**, Senior Manager Stakeholder and Corporate Engagement,  
0437 546 540 // [jane.deane@transgrid.com.au](mailto:jane.deane@transgrid.com.au)