

Work notification | January 2024 Upcoming site investigations and associated activities

To progress detailed design for the HumeLink project, site investigations and associated activities will occur from the beginning of 2024 (until approx. mid-2024) in anticipation of the planning approval and construction works starting towards the end of the year. These works are undertaken by Transgrid's delivery partners and are assessed and approved via Transgrid's Environmental Assessment Framework.

Transgrid will deliver and operate the HumeLink project in line with all relevant guidelines and the project's planning approvals. As is standard for a major project, reporting and auditing mechanisms are in place within Transgrid and externally with the Department of Planning and Environment and other overseeing authorities.

Site investigations and associated activities

Environmental surveys (Biodiversity, Heritage, Contamination)

Environmental surveys are required to inform the detailed design so that impacts to areas of sensitive ecology, heritage or contamination can be minimised. To assist with the final design, additional surveying will involve measurement and mapping of the land. This information will be used to help inform the ongoing planning for the HumeLink project.

1. Heritage specialists will carry out heritage survey investigation work to identify and assess any items of potential heritage significance. This includes documenting any Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage items and sites.
2. Ecologists will perform biodiversity assessments to identify, evaluate and quantify the potential impacts of development on the environment, including habitats, protected species and ecosystems.
3. Contamination specialists will conduct investigations, including drilling, sampling and testing of boreholes, cone penetration testing, and geophysical surveys.

Utility investigations

Transgrid representatives and its delivery partners will carry out utility investigations to confirm the location of existing underground services including power, gas, water and telecommunications. This work involves:

- non-destructive digging which uses high-pressure water to break up soil
- a vacuum to safely remove the soil from around an underground utility.

Non-destructive digging uses small trucks mounted with specialised water and vacuum equipment. Once the location of the utility has been verified, the disturbed surface will be restored to its original condition. Ground-penetrating radar may also be used as an unobtrusive method of locating underground utilities, however non-destructive digging is the preferred method since it is more accurate. Utility investigations are generally carried out in one day by a small crew of about one or two workers. There may be some temporary localised noise impacts while this work is carried out.

Geotechnical investigations

Geotechnical investigations help to determine the ground conditions. Investigation work will primarily involve the collection of soil and rock samples using low impact methods such as borehole drilling. Borehole drilling typically uses a trailer mounted drill rig, which are generally no bigger than a single car trailer and involves drilling a single, narrow hole into the ground to extract samples.

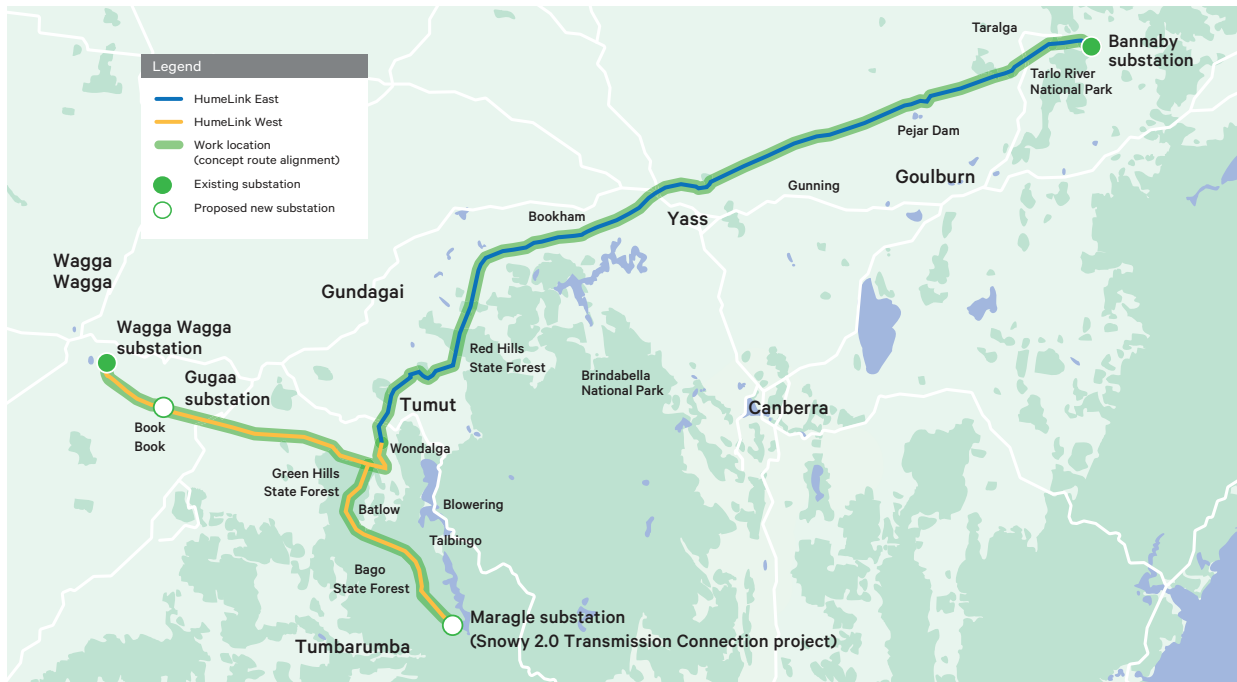
Precondition surveys

A precondition report documents the state of a property that may be affected by future works. Precondition site visits are carried out to capture the condition of the property using photographic records and to document findings on the state of the property. Precondition reports capture any existing damage and the condition of any particular aspects of the property that are likely to be affected by construction work.

Installation of instrumentation and monitoring equipment

An important part of construction involves regularly monitoring several factors, including background noise and dust levels, before, during and after construction. We do this by installing monitoring instruments such as noise loggers and dust gauges/monitors at various locations at and near the project footprint.

Where we will be working



When we will be working

From the beginning of 2024 until mid-2024.

The work will take place during daylight hours - 7am to 6pm Monday to Friday and 8am to 1pm on Saturdays. However, nightwork may be required. If nightwork is required, we will contact all impacted landowners beforehand and the broader community will be given a notice period of seven days.

Consulting with landowners

The consent of the landholder must be obtained in advance of any proposed entry for site investigations and associated activities, and any conditions of entry documented and communicated to all personnel. At a minimum, the landholder must be notified (by telephone) in advance of the proposed property entry date.

What you can expect

Some of these activities may be noisy at times, and we will do everything we can to minimise the impact such as turning off equipment and vehicles when they are not being used. It is expected this impact will be short term.

Working in your community

We are committed to ensuring the safety of the community and our workers. We will continue to keep the community updated throughout all phases of the project. We are here to help and encourage you to contact us to raise concerns or make enquiries at any time.

Our commitment to you

We know building a project of this scale and significance is not without impact. Managing risks and reducing the impacts to the community is important to us. We will continue to work with you and our key stakeholders to identify and implement measures to reduce these impacts.

Keeping up to date with our work

Please head to <https://www.transgrid.com.au/projects-innovation/humelink> and subscribe to our email newsletters.

As the project progresses it is important we keep our landowner and community member's contact details up to date. To update your details, reach out to the project team via the contact details below.



Connect with us

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



1800 317 367 (free call)
humelink@transgrid.com.au
www.transgrid.com.au/humelink

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