

Construction Update

April 2025

Enabling works

Enabling works have begun on HumeLink West which will comprise 140kms of 500kV transmission lines from the Snowy 2.0 connection at Maragle to Wagga Wagga and a connection with HumeLink East, at Wondalga.

Being delivered for Transgrid by UGL and CPB Contractors, HumeLink West also includes upgrade of the 330kV substation at Wagga Wagga and the construction of new 500kV substations at Gugaa and at Maragle.

Civil works began in January with establishment of access points at Gregadoo on the outskirts of Wagga Wagga and have since progressed as far east as Batlow.

These works have mainly involved the establishment of project access points off public roads, installation of site access tracks and the preparation of material, equipment and machinery storage compounds.

Establishment of access points along the alignment

Work to ultimately establish around 65 access points off public roads along the 140km alignment of HumeLink West got underway early this year at Wagga Wagga and has so far progressed east to Tarcutta, with localised works also underway near Batlow. Much of this work has been undertaken by an Indigenous local civil contracting team, Wamarra.

Key activities over the coming month will include continued establishment of site access points to the east of Tarcutta including the associated installation of drainage, road surfaces, gates and fencing.



The Gugaa site will also become the permanent location of a new 500kV substation to be constructed from mid-2025.

Investigation drilling

Geotechnical investigations have commenced along the HumeLink West alignment and will continue throughout May.

These investigations, being undertaken by local drilling contractors, will establish the precise ground conditions to inform the detailed design of the transmission line.

The topography and ground structure varies considerably between Wagga Wagga and Maragle, and this vital geotechnical information will ensure the transmission line meets the highest design standards.

Provision of access tracks

The HumeLink West team has begun building and upgrading the network of access tracks needed to get workers, machinery and equipment to key locations along the 140km project alignment in preparation for the start of construction from mid-2025.

This work will gradually gain momentum and continue well into 2025.

In total, over 300km of access tracks will be required to reach key locations, including materials and equipment storage compounds at Maragle, Batlow, Ellerslie, Tarcutta and Gugaa and at the sites of two new substations (at Maragle and Gugaa), two self-sufficient worker accommodation facilities (one at Tarcutta the other at Kunama) and the transmission line alignment.



Civil site preparations for the temporary materials laydown and storage compound at Gugaa to the east of Wagga Wagga have been completed.



One of the HumeLink West access points under construction near Tarcutta.

Enabling Work: Minor earthworks

The HumeLink West team is operating under strictly defined environmental and planning approval controls throughout the current Enabling Works stage of project delivery.

These preliminary activities are focused on completion of minor earthworks including surface preparations and installation of drainage at site access points, and preparation of compacted soil for each of the material laydown and equipment storage compounds. These activities will continue over the coming month.

The Quarterly HumeLink West Community Newsletter is available for download here: [Quarterly HumeLink West Community Newsletter](#).

Nominate a deserving student for a \$15,000 scholarship

HumeLink West engagement with the local community uncovered a need for students from low socio-economic backgrounds to access support for personal growth and career development.

'She Can Too' Scholarships are available for select Year 11 and 12 girls who have demonstrated financial need, academic commitment and have shown care for their community. Valued at \$15,000 each, the scholarships will help eligible female students currently in Year 11 with learning related expenses. To apply simply scan the QR code or CLICK to register interest.

Worker accommodation facilities at Tarcutta and Kunama

A temporary access point has been installed on Mates Gully Road for the establishment of a worker accommodation facility immediately west of Tarcutta. Similar works are being undertaken near Batlow in preparation for construction of an accommodation facility at Kunama. Preparatory surface works, drainage and fencing works at the Tarcutta accommodation facility are scheduled to progress over the coming month.

Each of the approximately 350 person facilities has been designed to meet ambitious HumeLink West project sustainability targets including:

- re-use of waste water for dust suppression during project construction
- use of green power (sourced from renewable energy) for all facilities, and
- collection and composting of all food waste.

Provision of equipment laydown areas near Batlow and at Ellerslie and Gregadoo

Temporary material laydown and equipment storage compounds are needed along the HumeLink West alignment. One at Gugaa near Wagga Wagga has already been prepared and handed over to the project transport and logistics team and civil surface preparations are currently being completed at another, near Batlow.

Preparation of a third laydown and storage compound at Ellerslie will progress from May. Each of the facilities will be used as a logistics staging hub, ensuring that sufficient materials are at hand for distribution along the alignment throughout construction.



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-west/



For an interpreter, call **131 450** and ask the service to call Transgrid on **1800 317 367**.

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. © HumeLink West JV 2025.