



Since erecting the first tower late last year, the HumeLink West team has constructed more than thirty transmission towers on the project alignment.

## Transmission tower construction powering ahead

### The task of erecting over 360 transmission towers along the 140km alignment of HumeLink West is off to a convincing start.

To date, over 30 towers have been erected, with that number set to steadily increase over the coming year until over 360 are constructed by early 2027.

HumeLink, which will connect Snowy 2.0 into the power grid, comprises 365 kilometres of 500 kV overhead transmission lines linking Maragle with Wagga Wagga and Bannaby, two new substations and two others that being upgraded.

The first batch of towers erected on the HumeLink West section of the project is located near Book Book to the southeast of Wagga Wagga. Conductor stringing will begin in the same area in May.

Meanwhile, more than 180 transmission tower pads have been constructed along the alignment, including in the forestry plantation area between Batlow and Maragle in the Snowy Valleys region.

The erection of transmission towers near Maragle Substation, where the Snowy 2.0 hydro-electric project will supply renewable energy to the national grid via HumeLink, is expected to start by mid-2026.

The UGL and CPB Contractors Engineering Design team has developed, tested and validated a total of nine different transmission tower types to account for varied topography and load factors along the alignment.

The smallest towers, needed to connect HumeLink West into the existing Wagga Wagga Substation, stand about 50 metres tall - with the 500kV towers along the alignment averaging 72 metres in height, depending on the location.

Each tower is designed and constructed to withstand the toughest of local conditions, accounting for varied ground types, altitude, potential high winds and extremes of temperature.

In total, workers will have drilled around 1,500 deep concrete tower foundation piles along the 140km HumeLink West alignment by late 2027.



The community selected and prioritised their preferred projects following consultations and engagement across the project region.

## Major community facilities upgrade funding announced

Community facilities in the Snowy Valleys and Wagga Wagga Local Government Areas are to receive a funding injection from the nation-critical HumeLink transmission line project as part of Transgrid's commitment to delivering substantial and enduring legacies to the local region.

Recreational, tourist and childcare facilities will benefit from major upgrades under the second round of funding from HumeLink's Community Investment and Benefits Program which is delivering social, economic and environmental benefits along the project corridor.

"These extra funds will ensure community groups along the HumeLink alignment can continue to deliver the services their communities have told Transgrid they want and the services they deserve," Transgrid General Manager for Community and Social Licence Michael Johnson said.

"The selected projects will ensure a long-lasting positive legacy that will remain in place for the communities hosting the critical infrastructure that Australia's clean energy transition requires."

The four projects sharing the funding are:

- The Tarcutta Recreational Ground Infrastructure Improvement Plan
- The Batlow Multi-Purpose Leisure Hub upgrade
- The Adelong Golden Gully Caravan Park Accommodation upgrade, and
- The Snowy Valleys Council Carcoola Children's Centre Playground upgrade at Tumbarumba.

Transgrid's HumeLink West construction partners, UGL and CPB Contractors, will be responsible for managing the delivery of the four projects over the following 18 months.

Acting HumeLink West Project Director, Vince Newton said "We're proud to be delivering these four exciting initiatives, which have been identified and prioritised by the community and look forward to making them a reality."

The four projects were selected and prioritised by the community following a collaborative evaluation process.

## Managing traffic conditions and road safety on HumeLink West

Transgrid and its HumeLink delivery partners have been working closely with local councils to proactively address any impacts on local roads, as required under the project's planning and environmental approvals.

The HumeLink delivery partners have road maintenance agreements in place with Snowy Valleys Council, and provide monthly payments for maintenance activities as and when they are required.

Independent road condition surveys were completed before construction began and shared with councils, and the same process will occur at the end of construction to identify any rectification works not already completed.

All project vehicles in the Transgrid and HumeLink fleets are fitted with monitoring systems that provide live tracking and ensure compliance with approved routes.

"These measures are in place to reduce road and traffic impacts for local communities throughout construction," Transgrid HumeLink Program Director Jeremy Roberts said.

"We acknowledge this work can be disruptive and thank the community for their understanding as we deliver this nation-critical project to enable cleaner and cheaper renewable energy for households and businesses."

For further information, please see the [HumeLink Traffic and Transport Factsheet](#) on the project website.



Foundation piles and slabs are being installed at the Maragle Substation site.

## Substation foundations being built

With civil earthworks at the new Maragle Substation completed late in 2025, the focus has shifted to constructing the concrete foundation piles and slabs needed to soon begin fitting the required steelwork and electrical equipment.

When completed in 2027, the new 500kV substation will connect with a new switchyard (seen in the background of the image to the left). Renewable power generated by the Snowy 2.0 hydro project will arrive at the switchyard as 330kV and will be converted to 500kV at the substation for transmission to the national power grid, via HumeLink West.

A further new 500kV substation is under construction at Gregadoo and another is being upgraded at Wagga Wagga.

## Gugaa substation site takes shape

HumeLink West workers have completed bulk civil earthworks at the new 330kV/500kV Gugaa Substation at Gregadoo, to the southeast of Wagga Wagga.

The challenge of drilling 855 bored piles, fitting an equal number of steel reinforcement piling cages, and pouring over 3,000 cubic metres of concrete in total is well underway, with about a quarter of the foundation piles now completed.

The new substation will connect with the existing Wagga Wagga Substation, which is being upgraded.

## Local businesses are participating

Many local businesses are making a significant contribution to Transgrid's delivery of HumeLink West.

For example, a Wagga Wagga based company, Ironbark Training, is ensuring worker competency and proficiency in important knowledge and skills areas such as working at heights, operating cranes and plant, rigging and dogging and driving 4WD vehicles in remote areas.

The local business has so far delivered around 1,000 units of training. CEO, Dave Joyce says "It's rewarding to see local people gaining skills and confidence while helping deliver something that will benefit Australia for decades to come."



All HumeLink West on-site 4WD drivers are trained with Ironbark.



Upgrade works to the existing Wagga Wagga Substation have begun.

## Trainees building secure careers

HumeLink West is helping to upskill local workers to equip them with the skills needed to build a career in construction.

The project is currently delivering pre-employment programs, apprenticeships and traineeships for 16 participants on HumeLink West - including locals from Wagga Wagga and Tumut.

The creation of new job opportunities in the growing energy transmission civil construction sector not only benefits HumeLink West, but also workers keen to build a secure future.



Local HumeLink West workers taking part in new career training.

## Help for Batlow and Tarcutta RFS

HumeLink West is working and training with local NSW Rural Fire Service volunteers, including the teams at Batlow and Tarcutta.

Workers based at the Kunama and Tarcutta accommodation facilities have been attending sessions with the specialist firefighting teams to familiarise themselves with RFS operations, equipment and what to do in response to a fire emergency.

The project receives daily updates from the RFS about fire hazard levels - information that is shared with workers at the start of every shift, with construction activity adapting to changed conditions.

On behalf of HumeLink West, Community Manager, Chantelle Garrett recently presented the local RFS with 34 pairs of work boots and UHF radios to assist volunteer firefighters with the year round task of being bushfire ready.



RFS Group Captain, Cal Lippiatt (left) and Paul Wemyss (right) receive VHF radios from HumeLink West Community Manager Chantelle Garrett (centre).

## Out and about with the community

Our community team will be at the following local events in March, April and May if you would like to come and say hello.

- Tarcutta community info session - Tuesday March 10th
- Try a Trade Day, Tumut - Wednesday March 11th
- Adelong Show - Saturday March 14th
- Tumbarumba Show - Saturday & Sunday March 21st & 22nd
- Batlow Show - Saturday March 28th
- Kunama Worker Accommodation Facility - Sunday April 12th
- Tarcutta Camp Draft - Friday to Sunday April 3rd to 5th

- Markets By the Lake, Wagga Wagga - Saturday April 4th
- Markets, Royal Adelong Hotel - Saturday April 11th
- Markets Tarcutta Village - Saturday April 18th
- Batlow Ciderfest - Saturday May 16th.

Children and their parents and guardians are also welcome to visit the Snowy Valleys Resilience Hub this April School Holidays to participate in hands-on activities that include showing kids how electricity and energy transmission work.

To register - email: [community@humelinkwest.com.au](mailto:community@humelinkwest.com.au) or call 1800 317 367.

## HumeLink West 3-month lookahead

Activity (subject to change)	March	April	May
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 forestry areas along the alignment	●	●	●
Construction of concrete batch plants at Tarcutta and 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.



1800 317 367  
(free call)

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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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