

HumeLink Community Newsletter

August/September 2023

What is HumeLink?

HumeLink is one of Australia's largest energy infrastructure projects connecting renewable energy sources to the grid, increasing availability and market competition and helping to put downward pressure on energy prices in Australia.

The project consists of 360 kilometres of 500 kV overhead transmission lines connecting Wagga Wagga, Bannaby and Maragle, and new or upgraded infrastructure at four substations.

HumeLink is critical to bringing more affordable, reliable and renewable energy to the grid and is a priority project for the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) and the Commonwealth and NSW Governments. HumeLink is subject to the approval of the Australian Energy Regulator.

To view HumeLink's interactive route map go to transgrid.com.au/humelink.

In this issue:

[Project update](#)

[In the community](#)

[Green Hills route refinement](#)

[Community Partnership Program recipients – September round launched](#)

[What's coming up](#)

HumeLink preferred route



Figure 1: HumeLink preferred route.



Project update

HumeLink’s Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is now on exhibition and the project team is in the community sharing information about the EIS and the project.

We’re also hosting a series of EIS webinars focusing on specialist studies, findings and proposed strategies and mitigation plans as well as how to make a submission.

The HumeLink project timeline



In the community



The EIS is on public exhibition

The public exhibition period is an opportunity for you to have your say on the project. You can find detailed information on how to make a submission [here](#).



Attend an event

Community information sessions will be held across the HumeLink project area throughout September and we’d love for you to drop in and talk to us and view the EIS. View the schedule of events [here](#).

If you are unable to join us in-person or online, we have developed a digital EIS which is a user-friendly and interactive platform to present the key outcomes of the EIS. You can view the digital EIS on the HumeLink [website](#).



Image: Remote Access Community Hub (RACH) setup in the project area during the EIS exhibition.

Have your say

Find out how to have your say about the EIS [here](#).



What is happening now?

Green Hills route alignment

Following six months of investigations and consultation with impacted landowners, Transgrid has determined that the alternate western route through Green Hills State Forest is the most viable route for HumeLink. It will now be progressed in place of the original eastern route and as a result, the preferred 200 metre corridor along the 360 kilometre HumeLink alignment is now confirmed.

This preferred alignment will remove private landowners from requiring an easement, reduce community impact and the visual impact from transmission towers. Transgrid will no longer progress with further assessment and negotiation with landowners along the original eastern route through Gilmore Valley south of Wondalga.

The Green Hills route will be assessed in a project Amendment Report, which will be lodged concurrently with the Submissions Report to the Department of Planning and Environment following the completion of the EIS public exhibition.

We thank landowners and the community for their time and patience during this process. We recognise the project has been a significant burden for some landowners and remain committed to working with you to ensure you are supported as we transition to the new route.

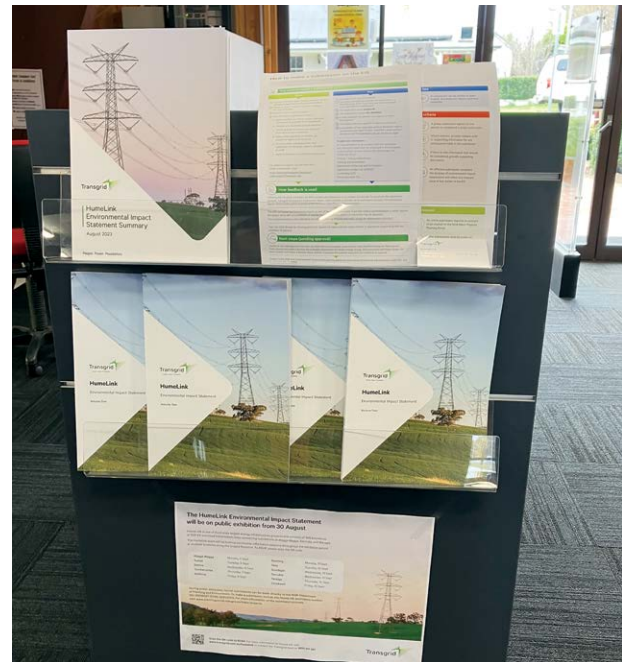


Image: The HumeLink EIS on display at Tumbarumba Library.

View the preferred corridor and provide feedback via our [Interactive Map](#).



Figure 2: HumeLink preferred route.



Local business register

If you have a business in the Local Government areas along the HumeLink alignment and are interested in working on the HumeLink project, we would love to hear from you.

Simply register your business and we will share your details with major construction contractors. The local business register will also be the project teams' first port of call when we are looking to procure goods and services at various stages of the project.

If you are a local business interested in working on HumeLink register your business [here](#).



Community partnership grant recipients – September round launched

Transgrid's Community Partnership Program offers grants of up to \$5,000 to not-for-profit organisations that are local to our planning, operations, and major project areas.

In August more than 50 recipients of these grants were announced, including organisations from Yass, Taralga, Tumbarumba, Murrumbateman, Tumut, Wagga Wagga, Gunning, Grabben Gullen and Junee. Congratulations to the recipients. You can view the list of recipients [here](#).

Applications for the current round of grants closes on 30 September 2023. To find out more and apply, [click here](#).



What's coming up

Community Information Sessions

Thank you to everyone who joined our in-person and online events in September. Details about our next round of events will be available on the project website soon.

HumeLink's Remote Access Community Hub (RACH) is on-the road.

Keep an eye on the [project website](#) to see when RACH will be in your area.

Acknowledgement of Country

Transgrid acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this great land. We recognise and acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the first explorers, scientists, farmers, astronomers, and storytellers.

We pay respects to the people, the Elders both past and present and celebrate the diversity and successes of Aboriginal peoples and their ongoing connections to the lands and waters where we work and live.

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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