

HumeLink Community Newsletter

January 2024

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 365 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.

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HumeLink preferred route

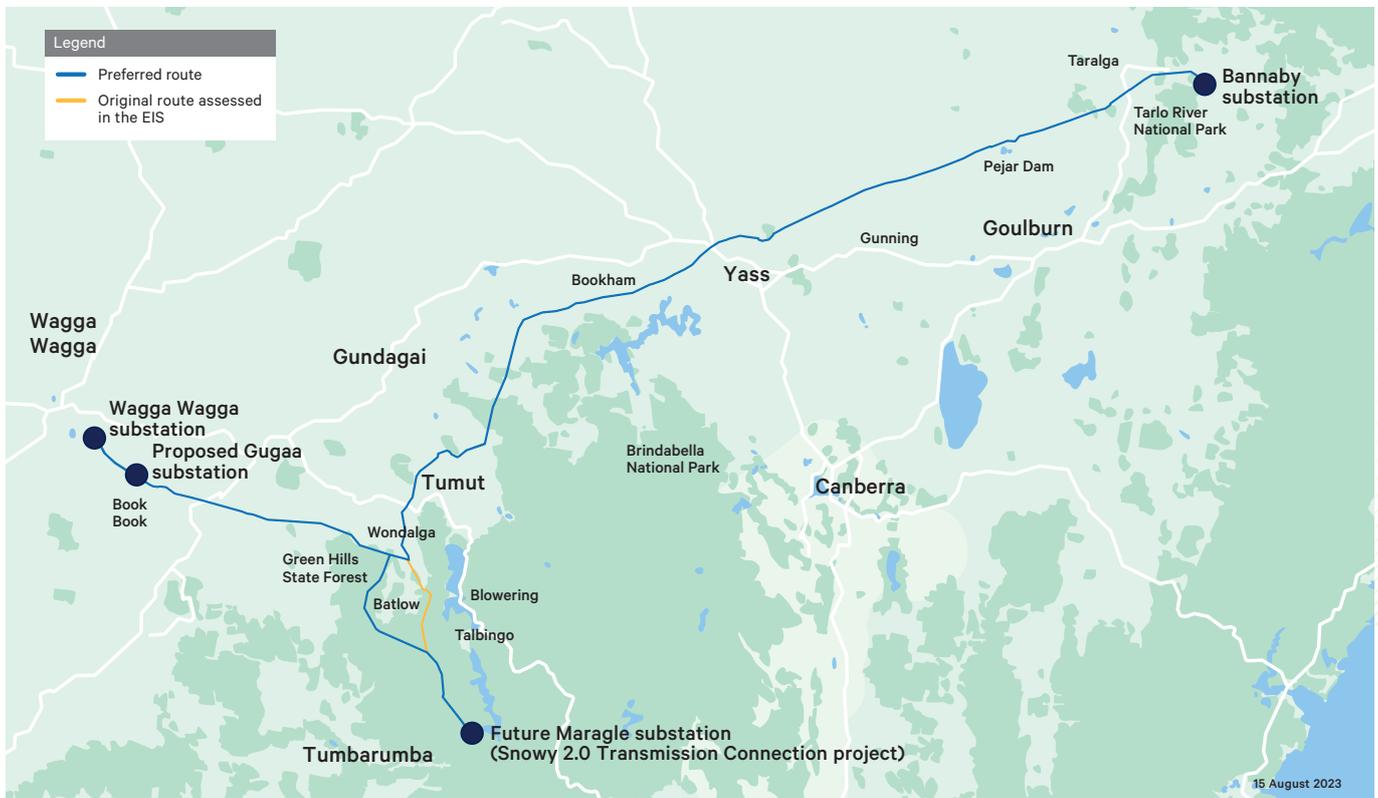


Figure 1: HumeLink preferred route.



Project update

Contingent Project Application

A Contingent Project Application (CPA) is a request made by regulated businesses like Transgrid to the Australian Energy Regulator (AER) to include cost recovery from consumers for a project such as HumeLink in its revenue determination. The AER assesses the application to ensure that consumers pay no more than is needed to build the new infrastructure.

The AER provided its determinations for HumeLink Stage 1 part 1 (Early Works) on 17 August 2022 and Stage 1 part 2 (Long Lead Equipment) on 25 August 2023. In December 2023 we provided our Stage 2 CPA for the delivery of the HumeLink project.

A formal consultation program will follow and will include public exhibition of the application for a statutory period of a minimum of four weeks. More details of this public exhibition and opportunity to provide feedback will be made available in the coming weeks.



Construction partners

Pending government approval, the delivery of HumeLink will involve the construction of the 365km route in two sections (east and west). Transgrid has awarded contracts to two reputable Tier 1 delivery partners for HumeLink East and HumeLink West. These partners are joint ventures (JV) with strong experience in delivering infrastructure projects in regional NSW:

- HumeLink East: [Acciona Construction Australia Pty Ltd](#) and [Genus Group Ltd](#) (AG JV); and
- HumeLink West: [UGL Engineering Pty Ltd](#) and [CPB Contractors Pty Ltd](#) (UGL-CPB JV).

The delivery partner contracts are structured in two stages, with site investigations and associated activities to begin immediately and finish in mid-2024, including detailed design and procurement.

The second stage comprises main construction works and will begin after all project approvals have been granted and the final investment decision is made. We are expecting construction works on HumeLink to be completed by 2026.



Figure 2: HumeLink delivery partner contract signing in December 2023.

For more information on construction please see the [Construction fact sheet](#).



Both delivery partners bring advanced technical expertise to the project, along with a clear commitment to investing in local communities through Indigenous employment and business opportunities for local suppliers, as well as training and education to support the clean energy industry and jobs of the future.

You may shortly see these delivery partners in the community as they begin their site investigations and seek to build relationships directly with landowners, communities, local businesses and stakeholders.

Following the planning approvals and the completion of detailed design in mid-2024, they will have a growing presence in the community and will look to work closely with landowners, local councils and businesses to consult and collaborate on this nation-critical project.

As we progress with the project, we will continue to provide you with regular updates and any additional information on timings of key activities and how impacts (if any) are proposed to be managed.



Upcoming site investigations and associated activities

Prior to work commencing the community will receive a work notification

A work notification is a document that notifies the community of upcoming activities as part of the project's development.

Transgrid will inform the community of upcoming site investigations and associated activities in advance through these work notifications and on the HumeLink website. If you live within the project footprint, you may have received a work notification already or are likely to receive a work notification shortly.

Each notification will include:

- scope of work
- location of work
- hours of work
- duration of activity
- type of equipment used and likely impacts, such as noise, traffic, and access

- mitigation measures where possible/practicable
- project team contact details (contact number, postal address and email address.)

How will the community receive a work notification?

All work notifications will be letterbox dropped to landowners and business owners along the HumeLink footprint.

All work notifications will also be published on the HumeLink project website. To contact us about a work notification call 1800 317 367.

Additional information can be found on our [Work Notification, January 2024 – Upcoming site investigations and associated activities fact sheet](#).



Amendment Report and Submissions Report update

Transgrid has identified a number of proposed amendments and refinements to the HumeLink project as presented in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) lodged with the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI), formerly the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) in August 2023. These amendments and refinements provide functional improvements to the design and construction methodology and also respond to community and stakeholder feedback.

The Amendment Report will describe and assess potential impacts from the proposed changes and identifies how impacts would be managed and mitigated.

Following the EIS public exhibition, the DPHI placed all submissions on the NSW Major Projects Planning Portal website and provided Transgrid with the submissions received.

All community submissions are being summarised in a Submissions Report, which collates and categorises the submissions received and provides a response. An individual response will be provided to agency and council submissions. The Submissions Report and Amendment Report will cross-reference one another and should be read in conjunction. The documents will be submitted to the DPHI concurrently in 2024.

Update on transmission line length

In the December issue of our project newsletter and communications shared late 2023, we referred to an updated transmission line length of 385 kilometres. The reference to 385 kilometres refers to the total length of materials, not the transmission line length. The correct length of the transmission line is 365 kilometres. We apologise for any confusion caused. If you have any questions, please give us a call on 1800 317 367 or email us on humelink@transgrid.com.au



In the community

As the project progresses with the Submissions Report and Amendment Report, the project team will be hosting several online and face-to-face community events from 12 February to 4 March 2024. If you are interested in learning more about the Amendment Report, please join us at our upcoming community information sessions.

In-person events

In-person events will be held between Monday 12 February and Friday 23 February across the project footprint. They will be drop-in style and no formal presentation will be made. Please see the schedule below and RSVP [here](#).

Date	Time	Location	Venue
Monday, 12 February	4pm - 6pm	Gunning	Gunning Council Chambers
Tuesday, 13 February	11am - 1pm, 4pm - 6pm	Yass	Swaggers Motor Inn
Wednesday, 14 February	11am - 1pm	Gundagai	Gundagai District Services Club
Thursday, 15 February	11am - 1pm	Crookwell	Crookwell Memorial Hall
Thursday, 15 February	4pm - 6pm	Taralga	Taralga War Memorial Hall
Friday, 16 February	11am - 1pm	Goulburn	Goulburn Workers Club
Monday, 19 February	4pm - 6pm	Wagga Wagga	Mercure Hotel
Tuesday, 20 February	11am - 1pm, 4pm - 6pm	Tarcutta	Tarcutta Memorial Hall
Wednesday, 21 February	11am - 1pm	Tumut	Tumut Valmar Support Services
Wednesday, 21 February	4pm - 6pm	Tumbarumba	Tumbarumba Motel
Thursday, 22 February	11am - 1pm, 4pm - 6pm	Batlow	Batlow Literary Institute
Friday, 23 February	11am - 1pm	Adelong	Adelong Services, Citizens & Bowling Club

Online events

If you are unable to join us in-person, online events will be held via Zoom between 27 February – 4 March.

The same presentation will be given at each session, so please only register for one event. To RSVP, simply click on the preferred date and time below:

[Tuesday 27 February - 5:30pm - 7:00pm AEST](#)

[Thursday 29 February - 12:00pm - 1:30pm AEST](#)

[Monday 4 March - 12:00pm - 1:30pm AEST](#)

If you need technical support with Zoom prior to the webinar events, call the project team on 1800 317 367.

Street meetings

In addition to our community information sessions, the Transgrid project team will also be hosting street meetings with our Remote Access Community Hub (RACH). At these meetings you are welcome to speak with the project team about progress and amendments that will be included in the Amendment Report.

In addition to the events Transgrid is hosting for HumeLink, in the coming weeks you are likely to see information about HumeLink events hosted by the Delivery Partners. These events will include information about their construction program and engagement with local businesses. We encourage you to attend the events that are of interest to you.

Date	Time	Location	Venue
Wednesday, 14 February	8am - 10am	Yass	Meehan St, Yass
Tuesday, 13 February	8am - 10am	Crookwell	Robertson Lane & Spring St, Crookwell
Wednesday, 14 February	8am - 10am, 4pm - 6pm	Tarcutta	Across from Coffee @ Joe's
Thursday, 22 February	8am - 10am, 11am - 1pm, 4pm - 6pm	Batlow	Batlow Literary Institute

For more information on our community information sessions and webinars, please see [HumeLink's webpage](#).



Local business register

If you have a business in the local government areas along the HumeLink project footprint and are interested in working with the HumeLink project, we would love to hear from you.

Simply register your business and we will share your details with our delivery partners. 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](#).



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.



1800 3173 67 (free call)
humelink@transgrid.com.au
transgrid.com.au/humelink

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