HumeLink

Water usage and transportation

FACT SHEET | FEBRUARY 2026

What is HumeLink?

HumeLink is one of Australia's largest energy infrastructure projects connecting renewable energy sources to the grid 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. The project is being delivered in two sections, by two joint venture partners, HumeLink East: Acciona and Genus and HumeLink West: UGL and CPB Contractors. For more information, go to transgrid.com.au/humelink.

Main construction works on HumeLink East and HumeLink West began in September 2025 and are progressing. These works include construction of transmission towers, building the new substations at Gugaa and Maragle, and upgrading the existing substations at Bannaby and Wagga Wagga.

Enabling works that began in early 2025, such as establishing access points and access tracks, have continued alongside main construction activities.

To carry out this work, the project is accessing potable and non-potable water from fill points across the project alignment until project completion. The location and use of these fill points has been determined in consultation with councils. Fill stations on public land remain available for council, emergency services and public use during and after project construction.

How is water being utilised?

HumeLink workers use water at compounds and accommodation facilities for drinking, cooking and sanitation. During enabling and construction works, water is used for dust suppression, soil compaction and other construction activities.

Types of water

Different types of water are used, depending on the activity and the stage of the project. Using the appropriate type of water for each task optimises resources and is more sustainable. For a detailed breakdown of the various water types, refer to Table 1.

To support sustainable water use, wastewater management practices are in place at the worker accommodation facilities. These include the re-use of treated wastewater for activities such as dust suppression, made possible through on-site water treatment plants.

Table 1: Types of water

Type	Definition
Potable	Water that is safe to drink
Non-potable	Water that is not suitable for drinking
Treated Wastewater	Wastewater that has been processed to a high quality
Reticulated bore	Groundwater access by drilling a bore into underground water storages. Provision of water to livestock via a piped-water network
River Water	Water from a natural stream
Treated water storage	The infrastructure used to hold and maintain the quality of potable water
Untreated water storage	The temporary holding of water that has not undergone any treatment to remove contaminants

Water sources

Water sources and locations have been determined in consultation with councils, following investigations during the planning stage. The HumeLink West Joint Venture (HLWJV) made agreements with Snowy Valleys and Wagga Wagga councils for the provision of water, including the agreement to establish new water fill locations and upgrade existing infrastructure. The agreements allow the councils to prioritise community and residents' supplies, when required.

Potable and non-potable water is being accessed from nine water fill stations across the Wagga Wagga and Snowy Valleys council areas until project completion. HLWJV worked with Snowy Valleys Council and Riverina Water to construct new water filling stations. These standpipes are available for use by the council, emergency services and the public during construction and will be handed over to council after the project's completion. Table 2 below outlines additional information on water fill locations across the HumeLink alignment.

The HumeLink East Joint Venture (HLEJV) will continue to work with private landowners to secure water access throughout their project alignment. These agreements will allow HLEJV to use specific amounts of water from landowners' bores or dams.

Potable water for the Adjungbilly site is sourced from a bore that was established by HLEJV, and then treated, while the Yass worker accommodation site accesses potable water through council supply.

Water supply in a severe weather event or an emergency

In an event of an emergency, the water needs of the community will be prioritised over the needs of the HumeLink project. This ensures that essential services and critical needs are met promptly and efficiently, helping to safeguard the wellbeing of the community.

Where are the water fill locations?

The table below provides additional information on water fill locations across the project alignment.

Table 2: Water fill locations

Location	Water fill infrastructure	Water type
Elizabeth Street, Forest Hill	Existing standpipe	Potable (treated river water)
Mates Gully Road, Tarcutta	Temporary standpipe installed by HLWJV	Non-potable (treated wastewater)
Sydney Street, Tarcutta (outside Tarcutta RFS)	Standpipe and pad constructed by Riverina Water	Potable (treated reticulated bore water)
Campbell Street, Adelong, at water treatment plant	Standpipe constructed by Snowy Valleys Council	Non-potable (river water)
Memorial Avenue, Batlow (outside Memorial Ave compound) – blue kiosk	Standpipe constructed by Snowy Valleys Council	Potable (treated water storage)
Memorial Avenue, Batlow (outside Memorial Ave compound) – green kiosk	Standpipe constructed by Snowy Valleys Council	Non-potable (untreated water storage)
Green Hills Access Road, Kunama	Temporary standpipe installed by HLWJV	Non-potable (treated wastewater)
McMeekin Street, Tumbarumba	Standpipe constructed by Snowy Valleys Council	Potable (treated water storage)
Elliott Way near Tooma Road, Paddys River (private property)	Water sourced from river	Non-potable
William Street, Gundagai	Existing standpipe	Potable
Fitzroy Street, Tumut	New bulk fill installed by Snowy Valleys Council	Non-potable
Yass Valley Council water supply	Existing water supply infrastructure	Potable and non-potable
Adjungbilly Worker Accommodation Facility	Constructed new bore for accommodation camp water supply	Non-potable and potable

How is water transported?

Water tankers, vehicles equipped with a large tank, are used to transport water. The number of trips between any single water fill location and destination site varies depending on the stage of construction and activities requiring water. Potable water is transported in trucks with capacity of up to 30kL (kilolitres). Water tankers transporting water for dust suppression have a capacity between 8 and 15kL.

Wastewater treatment

Wastewater treatment plants have been established at the Adjungbilly, Yass, Kunama and Tarcutta worker accommodation facilities. The treated wastewater is stored and reused for activities such as dust suppression.

Each of the standalone materials storage yards, the Maragle substation compound, the Bannaby substation compound, and the Yass and Faulder Avenue laydown areas also have water storage dams designed to capture water run-off during rain events. This captured water is used for dust suppression on nearby construction sites where feasible.

The Tarcutta, Kunama, Yass and Adjungbilly worker accommodation facilities also capture grey water and rainwater from their large roof areas for use during civil earthworks at project access points, access tracks and transmission tower foundation sites. This sustainable approach minimises the project's use of potable water.

On some occasions, when treated wastewater or captured non-potable water is not available, water sourced from Council-approved water fill locations is used for dust suppression purposes.

Any excess treated wastewater from dust suppression activities is transported to a council wastewater treatment plant for disposal (e.g. during wet weather when dust suppression is not required).

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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