

EnergyConnect

Route selection

FACT SHEET

EnergyConnect

EnergyConnect is an energy infrastructure project that will lower power bills for homes and businesses and create 1,500 jobs, primarily across regional NSW.

The Australian energy landscape is transforming, with an increased focus on renewable energy sources. To connect Australian communities and businesses to these new energy sources, the national electricity grid needs to evolve.

EnergyConnect will deliver the infrastructure to support this evolution by connecting the energy grids of NSW, SA and Victoria with a new 900 km electricity transmission line, known as an interconnector.

The proposed interconnector would run between Wagga Wagga in NSW and Robertstown in SA, with a connection to Red Cliffs in VIC.

Route selection

We have been working with landholders and local communities since November 2018. Our engagement has included community information sessions and individual face-to-face meetings, where we have heard region-wide opportunities and property specific considerations and constraints.

Together with specialist studies and local assessments, our engagement has helped us develop the proposed transmission route.

Some of the specialist studies and local assessments include:

- cultural heritage surveys
- ecology surveys, including flora and fauna
- geotechnical studies
- hydrology surveys.

Route refinement

To identify a preferred route for the transmission line, an area of investigation is initially determined. This area is between two known points, being the start and end points of the transmission line. These points are usually at the location of a sub-station.

The area of investigation is then refined and further developed to identify an initial route. This process involves extensive feedback from local community members and landholders, specialist studies and detailed engineering design work.

To finalise the interconnector route, we are working with landholders to identify an 80 m easement corridor.

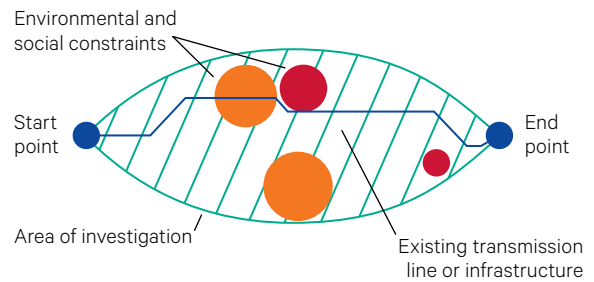
Regional constraints and opportunities

Within the area of investigation, we first identify:

- constraints such as social and environmental factors that must or should be avoided
- opportunities to minimise the potential impact on local communities and the environment.

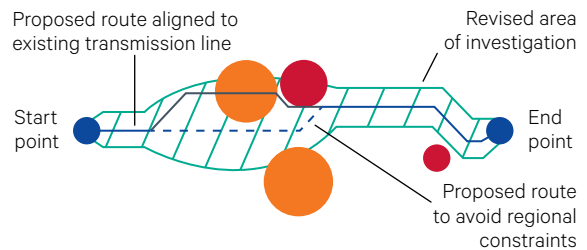
Constraints can include intensive agriculture, licensed airstrips, conservation areas and significant cultural heritage sites.

Opportunities can include aligning the new transmission line with existing transmission infrastructure, fence lines, roads and access tracks.



Refining the area of investigation

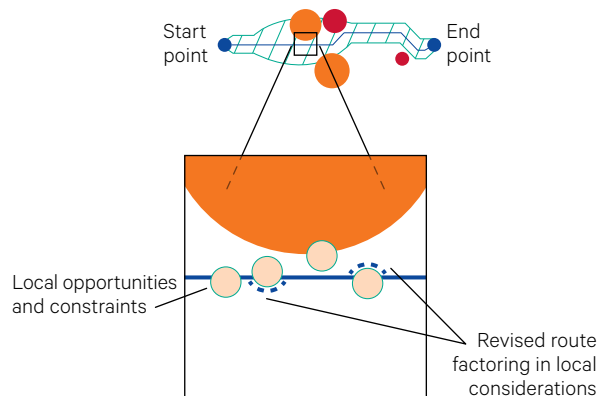
As constraints are identified and opportunities to minimise potential disturbance are confirmed, the area of investigation is refined to focus the potential route alignment.



Local considerations

Transgrid representatives consult various stakeholders, including landowners, community members and Traditional Custodians, to help identify local considerations that assist in informing the proposed route.

In addition, the proposed transmission route is further refined by detailed environmental and cultural heritage surveys, land access negotiations and engineering design.



Connect with us

Transgrid is committed to working with landowners and communities through the construction of EnergyConnect. Please connect with us if you need any information.



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