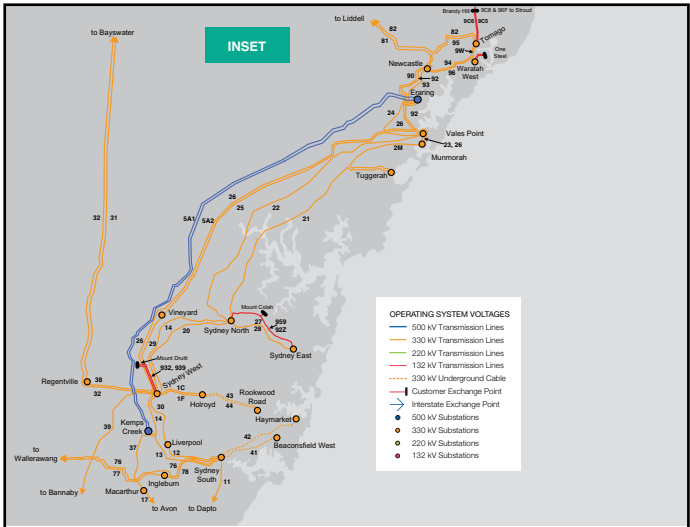


Northern NSW

TransGrid owns and operates the high voltage network connecting generators, distributors and major end users in NSW and the ACT.

Our network comprises 99 substations and nearly 13,000 kilometres of transmission lines and cables. Interconnected to Queensland and Victoria, it provides a strong electricity system that makes energy trading possible between Australia's three largest states along the east coast and supports the competitive wholesale National Electricity Market (NEM).



TransGrid's Northern Region extends from the Hawkesbury River to the Queensland Border and includes Central Coast, Hunter Valley, New England, North West Slopes, Mid North Coast and Far North Coast, with over 4,000km of transmission lines.

TransGrid's Northern Regional Centre is located at Wirra Crescent, Newcastle. A second depot is located at Goonoo Goonoo Road, Tamworth.

Tamworth Substation

The Tamworth 132 kV substation on Goonoo Goonoo Road is being rebuilt to replace the old substation that has reached the end of its serviceable life. The rebuild aims to ensure the reliability of current and future supply for Northern NSW. Construction on site is underway and is aimed to be completed in 2016. The rebuild is contained mostly within the current footprint of the existing substation property.

Coffs Harbour to Koolkhan Pole Replacement

The existing transmission line was first commissioned in 1966 and stretches approximately 80 kilometres between TransGrid's Coffs Harbour and Koolkhan substations. A condition assessment of the line identified that the existing wooden poles would need to be replaced to ensure the ongoing safety and reliability of the network. It is proposed that the twin wooden pole structures be replaced with new single concrete pole structures. It is anticipated that construction works will begin in early 2016 and be completed by December 2017.

Vales Point Substation

Vales Point substation forms an integral part of the transmission system on the Central Coast. An assessment of the condition of Vales Point substation and its assets revealed that many components are reaching the end of their service life and need replacement. The replacement of equipment at Vales Point substation is expected to be completed in 2018.

Taree Substation

Taree 132/66/33 kV substation was established in 1958 and the secondary systems of the substation are reaching the end of their service life and need replacement. The Substation, located at Muldoon Street West, forms an integral part of the delivery of electricity to the township of Taree. It is anticipated that construction works will begin mid-2016 and be completed by the end of 2017.

Transmission Tower Refurbishments

A number of TransGrid's transmission towers constructed in the 1950's require significant maintenance work to extend their service life and ensure reliability. Some towers need to be sand blasted and painted to remove and prevent rust, and others need to be modernised to improve tower safety and accessibility. This work will be carried out in a number of stages throughout the Northern Region over the coming years.

Northern Lines Remediation and OPGW upgrade

TransGrid is undergoing a range of projects across our existing transmission network in northern NSW that will improve the efficiency of their operations and delivery of electricity to consumers. The low spans transmission line project involves raising the height of some spans of existing transmission lines that have been identified as having low clearance to the ground or other objects.

The optical fibre ground wire (OPGW) project involves the replacement of ageing ground wires located on the top of existing transmission lines with new optic fibre cables.

Dynamic Line Rating Project Northern

The dynamic line rating project northern involves the installation of weather stations at strategically located positions along some of our existing transmission lines and substations. The weather stations will measure ambient temperature, wind speed and direction and solar radiation. The weather stations will provide real time data to allow for the more efficient operation of existing transmission lines under localised weather conditions.

Renewable Hub

TransGrid is working towards the construction of a Renewable Energy Hub in Northern NSW. The Hub will facilitate the connection of up to 700MW of renewable energy in the Glen Innes and Inverell areas. TransGrid is currently undertaking the feasibility stage and is also in discussions with ARENA and NSW Government to seek funding. It is anticipated this stage will be completed late 2015 which would enable an investment decision in 2016.

For more information

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