Work is underway on a major upgrade to the transmission network that will boost interstate power flows.

This $230 million upgrade will increase the transfer capacity between Queensland and NSW to ensure more reliable supply of electricity to customers at all times, including during periods of peak demand.

Easier and more efficient sharing of generation – including lower cost renewables – will help reduce energy bills. 155 jobs will be created during construction alone.

This factsheet explains the scope of work for the QNI Upgrade and what to expect during construction.

**Scope of work for the QNI Upgrade**

TransGrid is upgrading 50 year old transmission lines between Liddell power station, and TransGrid’s Muswellbrook and Tamworth substations.

The upgrade will allow these lines to transfer more power and will require raising the height of the conductor along areas of the transmission lines.

Activities may include:

- Replacing transmission towers with poles
- Installing new poles along existing spans
- Strengthening existing towers
- Transmission line insulator works.

We will also upgrade substations at Tamworth, Dumaresq, Armidale and Muswellbrook.

**Transmission tower replacements**

At locations where we need to replace towers, new structures will be:

- Placed in the same location as existing towers within TransGrid’s easement
- Twin steel pole structures
- 5–14 metres higher than existing towers
- Installed using a work area established on TransGrid’s line easement.

**Key project dates**

- **Start of site preparation works**
  - May 2020

- **Start of transmission pole installation works**
  - August 2020

- **Project commissioning**
  - November 2021

- **Construction break over summer due to bushfire risk and high power demand**
  - December 2020 – February 2021
What to expect

**Site preparation**
- Access track upgrades (where required)
- Earth works to set up a safe and level work site.

**Construction**
- Increased vehicle movements in and around the work site
- Some dust and noisy work. This includes using a large drill rig to install 5 metre deep concrete foundations for each pole.
- Our crews will be working at heights
- Work will be done in stages – there may be periods of inactivity between phases
- New poles will be transported to site in sections, making it easier to access work sites
- Around 3–4 weeks at each location, weather permitting.

**Equipment**
- Large Cranes
- Drill rigs
- Elevated work platforms
- Graders
- Concrete trucks
- Work vehicles
- Excavators

Work hours
Work hours are 7am to 6pm Monday to Saturday.
No work is planned for Sundays or public holidays.

How we will work with you
We are committed to working closely with landholders to minimise impacts as much as possible.
Where access to private land is required, a TransGrid representative will contact landholders to discuss planned activities.
We will make every effort to keep noise to a minimum.
Any spoil will be re-used on-site and we will cover stockpiles to reduce dust.

When we're finished
Following the completion of work, all work sites will be rehabilitated.

Connect with us
Contact the project team on 1800 222 537 or at community@transgrid.com.au
Find out more at www.transgrid.com.au/QNI