This major upgrade to the transmission network will boost interstate power flows.

**Why is the project needed?**

The Queensland – New South Wales Interconnector will enable the sharing of more electricity between the two states which will benefit customers in the National Electricity Market.

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.

It will also:

- allow more lower-cost generation to be shared between these markets which will put downward pressure on the price of wholesale electricity and on customer bills, and
- support the development of renewable generation in new energy zones.

The QNI Upgrade will allow a further 460 MW of power to be transferred into Queensland and 190 MW more into New South Wales and is expected to deliver net benefits of up to $170 million to electricity customers.

The Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) and the NSW Government have both identified the QNI Upgrade as a priority project.

**What is the project?**

Work involves:

- upgrading 300 kilometres of existing transmission lines and replacing 58 towers between Liddell power station, and TransGrid’s Muswellbrook and Tamworth substations
- installing new technology and uprating equipment within substations at Tamworth, Muswellbrook, Dumaresq and Armidale to provide greater voltage stability and regulation.

**What are the project benefits?**

**More affordable power**

- Easier and more efficient sharing of generation – including lower cost renewables – will help reduce energy bills.

**Enhanced reliability**

- More interstate power flows will boost reliability ahead of the forecast closure of NSW’s Liddell power station in 2023.

**New local jobs**

- 155 jobs will be created during construction alone.

**What is an interconnector?**

An electricity interconnector is a connection that allows power to flow in both directions between regions in the National Electricity Market, providing access to a larger number of electricity generators.
Key project dates

- **Preliminary investigations and project scoping**: Q2 2019
- **Detailed design and site investigations**: Q4 2019
- **Approval by the Australian Energy Regulator**: Q1 2020
- **Construction commencement**: Mid 2020
- **Project commissioning**: Late 2021

Contact us
To contact the project team, phone 1800 222 537 or email community@transgrid.com.au