

# Media Release

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## TCV to meet community representatives as consultation for VNI West continues

Transmission Company Victoria (TCV) representatives will attend meetings with community members from the Tragowel and St Arnaud areas tomorrow, as consultation about the transmission project continues.

Executives from AEMO and TCV Project Director Sam Magee will join the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner Andrew Dyer and Mallee MP Dr Anne Webster at the meetings to listen to the community and respond to questions about the proposed VNI West transmission project.

TCV Project Director Sam Magee said that: "Consultation is ongoing and an important part of the process as we plan for VNI West.

Feedback from local landholders and the community has played a pivotal role as we seek to identify the best location for the transmission lines.

We recognise that VNI West has created uncertainty in communities and has been stressful for many people. We are working hard to find the best final route for the final 70-120m-wide easement, so that it will minimise impacts on people, farming and the environment.

Over the past 12 months, consultation and conversations have provided the project team with many valuable insights, including helping us better understand key concerns for the community," he said.

"Since the route refinement process began in May last year, more than 1,200 people have attended 27 community information sessions. Importantly, our dedicated landholder liaisons are meeting with landholders across the corridor to listen to their feedback and concerns and better understand their land and businesses. This will help us to identify the best route to minimise impacts on farms and farming," Mr Magee said.

Community information sessions are currently being planned for April, in several locations across the draft corridor (details will be available via the website and local papers once finalised).

The Community Reference Group (CRG) is up and running, with 17 local representatives appointed to represent community interests and provide an alternative conduit to TCV. The third meeting of the CRG was held in Charlton in February. A range of other engagements take place on a regular basis including Council and stakeholder meetings, roundtables and workshops.

"This week, the team has been at the Wimmera field days talking to farmers and local business owners.

In addition, the Kerang regional office is open two days a week and anyone is welcome to drop by to get some information or chat to members of the project team.

We welcome the opportunity to participate in the meetings tomorrow, which have been convened by MP Anne Webster and Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner Andrew Dyer," he said.

For more information please visit [www.transmissionvictoria.com.au](http://www.transmissionvictoria.com.au) or call TCV on 1800 824 221.

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