

Media Release

Date: Tuesday April 9, 2024



TCV invites community to “drop in” at April information sessions

Transmission Company Victoria (TCV) is continuing engagement for the VNI West project, with drop-in community information sessions scheduled across the draft corridor from April 16 to 18.

The informal sessions will take place from 2:30PM to 7:30PM at Kerang Memorial Hall (April 16), Charlton Hall (April 17) and Stawell Entertainment Centre (April 18).

TCV is currently working to narrow the draft corridor for the project from around 2km down to a preferred easement of about 100m wide in the third quarter of this year.

VNI West Project Director Sam Magee said maintaining open dialogue with landholders and listening to communities was essential for TCV to understand local issues and identify the best location for the project’s transmission lines.

“In that open spirit, the format for next week’s information sessions differs to previous events. Following feedback from the community, there won’t be any formal presentations and local community members have a wider window to drop in at a time that best suits their schedule to discuss the project and ask questions,” Mr Magee said.

“The informal sessions allow for one-on-one discussions with the project team including specialists in farming and agriculture, environment and planning processes as well as technical transmission matters.

“TCV has been meeting members of the local community and landholders on their farms, answering questions in local town halls and at the regional office in Kerang.

“This latest round of community drop-in sessions follows nearly 30 previous community information events, where we had an opportunity to hear from around 1,200 community members. We’ve listened and learned from these discussions; we know that communities want to speak directly to the experts – so we’re bringing them to you.”

TCV’s April sessions follow recent roundtable meetings with local community groups and landholders in Tragowel and Murrabit, as well as project briefings with the Gannawarra, Northern Grampians, Loddon and Buloke shire councils.

Please visit transmissionvictoria.com.au for further information.

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About VNI West

VNI West is a major project to build a new transmission line between Victoria and New South Wales. It will harness renewable energy in both states and improve the reliability and security of electricity supply as coal-fired power stations retire and energy demand continues to grow.

As coal-fired power stations retire, new renewable energy generation will be built to fill the supply gap. New transmission lines are needed to connect this power with our homes and businesses and improve reliability.

In Victoria, a draft corridor around 2km wide has been identified and will be narrowed down to a preferred easement of 70-120m wide in 2024, subject to project assessment and approvals. The corridor runs from Bulgana to near Kerang and then across the border into New South Wales. Construction is scheduled to commence after all approvals have been obtained, in 2026.

About TCV

Transmission Company Victoria (TCV) is a company created by AEMO Victorian Planning to progress the VNI West transmission project. TCV will discuss the VNI West transmission project with landholders, Traditional Owners and the community to understand local concerns as the project moves toward construction. As AEMO is the system planner and will not physically construct or own the transmission lines, it established TCV to make sure that commitments made in the early stages are captured and honoured across the life of the project. TCV will provide project updates and will work with the community on this important transmission line. For more information, head to www.transmissionvictoria.com.au.