

28/11/2024

# MEDIA RELEASE

## Have Your Say on the VNI West Environment Effects Statement Scope

Local communities are encouraged to provide feedback on the Department of Transport and Planning's (DTP) draft scoping requirements for the VNI West Environment Effects Statement (EES).

An EES is Victoria's most rigorous and transparent environmental assessment. It describes a project, its rationale and potential environmental effects. It enables stakeholders and decision-makers to understand how the project is proposed to be implemented and the likely environmental effects of doing so.

The DTP leads the EES process, and they have developed draft scoping requirements outlining the matters for assessment through a public consultation process.

VNI West Project Director Tony Hedley said: "This is an important opportunity for community members to provide input on the VNI West EES scope.

"While this is one of two formal opportunities to provide input through the assessment and approvals process, TCV will continue to directly engage the community and seek feedback throughout the EES," he said.

Community consultation is an important part of the EES, and TCV will engage with landowners, local communities and Traditional Owners as technical studies are carried out over a wide range of topics, including agriculture, bushfire risk, and social and economic impacts.

TCV will share information about the EES studies and assessments and provide opportunities for the community to provide feedback, via our website as well as face-to-face events. DTP will outline the submissions process and answer questions about the Draft Scoping Consultation at a webinar scheduled for Monday 9 December (registration via the TCV website).

Members of the community can provide feedback on the draft scoping requirements through the government website Engage Victoria: <https://engage.vic.gov.au/vni-west-environment-effects-statement-ees-draft-scoping-requirements>

The draft scoping requirements will remain open for public comment until Wednesday 18 December 2024.

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 maintain the reliability and security of electricity supply as coal-fired power stations retire and energy demand continues to grow. The project must complete the EES process and obtain relevant Victorian and Commonwealth approvals before construction can commence.

For more information about VNI West and the EES, please visit our website: [www.transmissionvictoria.com.au](http://www.transmissionvictoria.com.au).

## ENDS

**Media Enquiries**  
**M: 0409 382 121**  
**E: [media@aemo.com.au](mailto:media@aemo.com.au)**

***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 preferred easement of 70m wide along most of the route has been identified. The easement 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](http://www.transmissionvictoria.com.au).