

TCV reaching out to landholders in VNI West draft corridor

Transmission Company Victoria (TCV) has refined the 5km to 50km VNI West area of interest into a draft corridor for the VNI West project. This has been done utilising feedback from landholders, community members, Traditional Owners and government agencies, as well as data from engineering, environmental and cultural assessments.

TCV's landholder liaison team will begin calling landholders from this week to advise them that their property or farm is currently within the draft corridor for VNI West.

Each landholder will be appointed a landholder liaison, who will be their key contact and able to help answer questions on important issues, including farming with transmission lines, biosecurity arrangements, access agreements and compensation for easement and other payments.

Out of respect for the landholders in the draft corridor, TCV has committed to do everything it can to contact these farmers and property owners before publishing details of the draft corridor.

TCV Spokesperson, Nicola Falcon said: "This is a significant milestone as it now allows one-on-one conversations with farmers and landholders, to listen and answer questions related to their properties.

"These conversations are an essential element of the work to refine the route for VNI West and confirm the information and insights from recent community consultation, technical analysis and the interactive map," she said.

TCV has identified a draft corridor for the project which runs from the Murray River through to Bulgana, averaging approximately 2km wide.

"We were hoping to get down to a narrower corridor by this stage but with the data collected through studies and consultation, we decided to focus on a broader corridor for the next phase of the project to provide more flexibility and better options to find the optimal route," Ms Falcon said.

"This approach will allow us to incorporate the feedback and insights our land team gathers from landholders into the route refining process," she said.

In coming months, TCV will refer a draft corridor to the Minister for Planning to consider whether an Environment Effects Statement is required.

VNI West cannot proceed without planning approval from the State and Commonwealth Governments, which will require comprehensive environmental assessments over the next 12 – 18 months.

The TCV land team will be asking for access to properties for environmental field studies in coming months, but not all the land holdings in the corridor will be required for this work.

Our land team will negotiate access agreements, including biosecurity requirements, before any field surveys commence. Further information can be found in the [Landholder Guide](#) on our website.

Landholders are eligible to receive \$10,000, two payments of \$5,000 over two years, for entering a land access agreement.

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This payment recognises the time commitment required to negotiate these agreements, including time that will take a farmer and their family away from their normal work and routine. TCV will also fund landholders' reasonable costs for legal review of the land access agreement.

Discussions with landholders will help to validate data collected in the planning process so far. This includes verifying constraints identified in the recent [Environmental Constraints Summary Report](#) and through community feedback on the [interactive map](#).

“TCV will continue to further refine the route for VNI West that has the least impact to agriculture, cultural heritage and values rural communities and the environment,” Ms Falcon said.

“Input from the community and landholders is a critical part of that process.”

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About TCV

Transmission Company Victoria (TCV) is a new company created by AEMO Victorian Planning to progress the VNI West transmission project.

TCV is currently in the process of applying for a transmission licence in Victoria, which is a normal step for providers of electricity transmission infrastructure in the state.

A transmission licence enables the holder to transmit electricity and operate the transmission infrastructure, and will also support the land access, planning and environment approvals work

TCV will discuss the VNI West transmission project with landholders, Traditional Owners and the community to understand local concerns and ensure that commitments made in the early stages are captured and honoured across the life of the project.

TCV will provide early project updates and will work with the community on this important transmission line.

For more information, head to www.transmissionvictoria.com.au.