

11.2 HUMELINK PROJECT UPDATE NUMBER 1 - 12 DECEMBER 2024 - ATTACHMENTS

Attachment Titles:

1. History of Previous Motions
2. Transgrid HumeLink Presentation - BUCC

Attachment 1 - History of Previous Motions

Council Motions & Submissions

16 July 2020

9.2 PROPOSED TRANSGRID HUMELINK

M147/20 RESOLVED:

A motion was moved and seconded that Council write to Transgrid and as a matter of urgency request that they present to Council on the options for the geographic location and further advice on the consultation process with the Snowy Valleys community.

Cr John Larter/Cr Julia Ham

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

17 September 2020

11.1 TRANSGRID - HUMELINK

**M213/20 RESOLVED:
THAT COUNCIL:**

1. Receive the report on TransGrid – Humelink from the Chief Executive Officer;
2. Continue to work with TransGrid and CASA in relation to the potential impact on the Tumut Aerodrome;
3. Continue to advocate for the Snowy Valleys community to be adequately consulted and compensated with a preference to annual payments of compensation;
4. Continue to request consideration for the corridor placement be preferentially located on public land where possible;
5. Advocate through the Mayor and Councillors for a legacy program to invest in the future of the impacted communities in the Snowy Valleys area;
6. Provide a copy of the report and Council's resolution to the local members and MLCs;
7. Request that TransGrid provide mobile connectivity along the defined corridor where there is no current secure mobile connectivity.

Cr Julia Ham/Cr Margaret Isselmann

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

21 October 2021

8.1 SNOWY VALLEYS COUNCIL POSITION ON TRANSGRID HUMELINK TRANSMISSION LINE

M221/21 RESOLVED:

THAT COUNCIL:

1. State its current and ongoing position on the Humelink Transmission line as requiring:
 - a. that Transgrid continue to engage appropriately with the Snowy Valleys community;
 - b. a preference that Humelink towers are built on public land;
 - c. a preference that Humelink facilitate a compensation model to impacted landholders in the form of an annual payment rather than land acquisition;
 - d. that consideration be given to the negative visual impact in the natural surrounding environment of the Snowy Valleys and the subsequent consequences on tourism promotion and development and limit this impact where feasible;
 - e. that assurance be provided that the route will not cause a "birdcage effect" surrounding the Snowy Valleys communities with power lines;
 - f. confirmation that Transgrid will commence a legacy program to invest in the future of the impacted communities in the Snowy Valleys areas;
 - g. confirmation that Transgrid will look to provide mobile connectivity along the defined corridor where there is no current secure mobile connectivity;
 - h. confirmation that Council will work with Transgrid and CASA in relation to the potential impact on the Tumut Aerodrome including future works.
2. Note that Councillor Ham currently represents Council and the community on the Humelink Community Consultative Group;
3. Write to Transgrid and advise them of Council's Position Statement as per Recommendation Point 1 and provide copies of the correspondence to local, state and federal members of Parliament and the Federal Minister for Industry, Energy and Emissions.

Cr James Hayes

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

17 March 2022

8.1 TRANSGRID HUMELINK PROJECT

M75/22 RESOLVED:

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Write to Matt Kean MP, State Minister for Energy and Environment requesting for the Minister or a member of his team to explain the compensation implications of the *Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991* for landholders likely to be impacted by the Transgrid proposal.
2. Write to Matt Kean MP, State Minister for Energy and Environment reiterating that Snowy Valleys Council's position is for the powerlines to go on public land as opposed to private land, and underground on private land.
3. Engage with Transgrid to:
 1. Further understand the implications of the *Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991* on the community
 2. Advocate for external funds to improve the road infrastructure on Elliott Way needed for safety reasons prior to the Maragle substation build (estimated to be at least \$16 million).
4. Advocate for a vision to provide high quality, long lasting, and stable high capacity methods of transmission for the long term, considering current and future developments in the energy industry; Write to CEO Transgrid:
 1. requesting their assessment of the proposed economic benefits created by Transgrid for Snowy Valleys Council and our community now and into the future
 2. to provide substantive options for ongoing annual compensation to affected properties and the Snowy Valleys community in general
 3. Advocate for the transmission network to be built to withstand increased frequency of severe weather events and a method of construction that minimises obstructing emergency services
5. Write to the Valuer General to give an estimate of the economic loss or gain expected on the valuation of properties in the Snowy Valleys area
6. Prioritise advocacy to Transgrid and government on this matter in the draft Delivery Program.
7. Write to Matt Kean MP, State Minister for Energy and Environment asking for a change to the *Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991* to include equivalent financial compensation for landholders as is currently provided for biodiversity offsets in public lands such as National Parks.

22

Cr Ian Chaffey

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

June 2023

6.2. NOTICE OF MOTION - HUMELINK - ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT - CLR J ARMOUR

M89/23 RESOLVED:

THAT COUNCIL request a 90-day response period to the upcoming Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Humelink.

Cr Johanna (Hansie) Armour/Cr Trina Thomson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

21 September 2023

6.2. NOTICE OF MOTION - TRANSGRID - UNDERGROUNDING OF HUMELINK TRANSMISSION INFRASTRUCTURE

M170/23 RESOLVED:

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Collaborate with the National Parks Association to continue to lobby for undergrounding of all/part of the Humelink transmission infrastructure.
2. Show a united front and collaborate with other councils e.g. Yass Valley Council, Upper Lachlan Shire Council and Wagga Wagga City Council in preparing a combined submission to the newly announced select committee.

Cr Johanna (Hansie) Armour/Cr Trina Thomson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

11 October 2023

Submission by Interim General Manager in response to the exhibition of the Critical State Significant Infrastructure project.

15 February 2024

7.1. MAYORAL MINUTE - IMPACTS OF THE HUMELINK TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

M14/24 RESOLVED:

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Invite Australian Energy Regulator Chairperson Ms Clare Savage and CEO Anthea Harris to address Council.
2. Invite Australian Energy Regulator Chairperson Ms Clare Savage and CEO Anthea Harris to hold a Board Meeting within the Snowy Valleys Local Government Area.

Cr Ian Chaffey/Cr Julia Ham

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

16 May 2024

1. PUBLIC FORUM

Jim Cox, Deputy Chair, along with Jesse Price, Pat Devlin and Kevin Cheung from the Australian Energy Regulator addressed the meeting where the matter of a lasting legacy through a Community Enhancement Fund or similar was discussed in relation to HumeLink.

20 June 2024

M110/24 RESOLVED:

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Officially request compensation from TransGrid for Snowy Valleys community to support the community residents and businesses from the impact of the HumeLink overhead high voltage powerlines in the form of money held in trust funds so that the annual interest will compensate the community into the future.
2. Lobbies relevant State and Federal Ministers and government departments, including the Australian Energy Regulator, for the establishment of community enhancement funds for those communities impacted by the electrical distribution infrastructure.

Cr Armour/Cr Hayes

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2 July 2024

Submission by Executive Manager Growth and Development in response to the HumeLink Environmental Impact Statement Amendment Report.

3 July 2024

Letter from Interim General Manager to The Hon Anthony Albanese MP in response to Resolution M110/24.

18 July 2024

Letter from Assistant Secretary, Infrastructure, Energy, and Regional Brack acknowledging letter sent by IGM on 3 July 2024. Correspondence was referred to the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) for a more detailed response.

Attachment 2 - Transgrid HumeLink Presentation - BUCC



Acknowledgement of Country

Snowy Valleys Council acknowledge and pay our respects to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the traditional custodians on the land in which we meet today.

We pay our respects to their ongoing custodianship of the lands and waters we work and live on throughout Australia. We extend our respect to elder past, present and emerging.

Transgrid HumeLink Project Overview

HumeLink is a new 500kV transmission line which will connect Wagga Wagga, Bannaby and Maragle.

The HumeLink project will be delivered by two joint venture partners with strong experience in infrastructure projects in regional NSW. The two joint ventures will each deliver a section of the route:

- HumeLink East: Acciona and GenusPlus Group Ltd (JV); and
- HumeLink West: UGL and CPB Contractors (JV).

The Snowy Valleys Local Government Area (LGA) is the interface (junction) point for the HumeLink West and HumeLink East transmission lines and has interactions with both East and West sections.

Batlow Resides in the 'West' component of the project.

Council has no statutory authority in this process as the project is classified as State Significant Infrastructure. The HumeLink project is a controlled action under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* and will be assessed under the bilateral agreement between the NSW and Commonwealth Governments.



Transgrid HumeLink Project Update

NSW State Approval was received on the 14 November 2024 and the project is currently awaiting Commonwealth Approval.

At this stage, HumeLink has been undertaking early works including detailed design, survey & investigations, and procurement.

The ‘Enabling Works’ are to commence after all project approvals and the final investment decision is made, which is expected to occur in December 2024.

Enabling Works will include construction of laydown areas, accommodation facilities and access tracks.

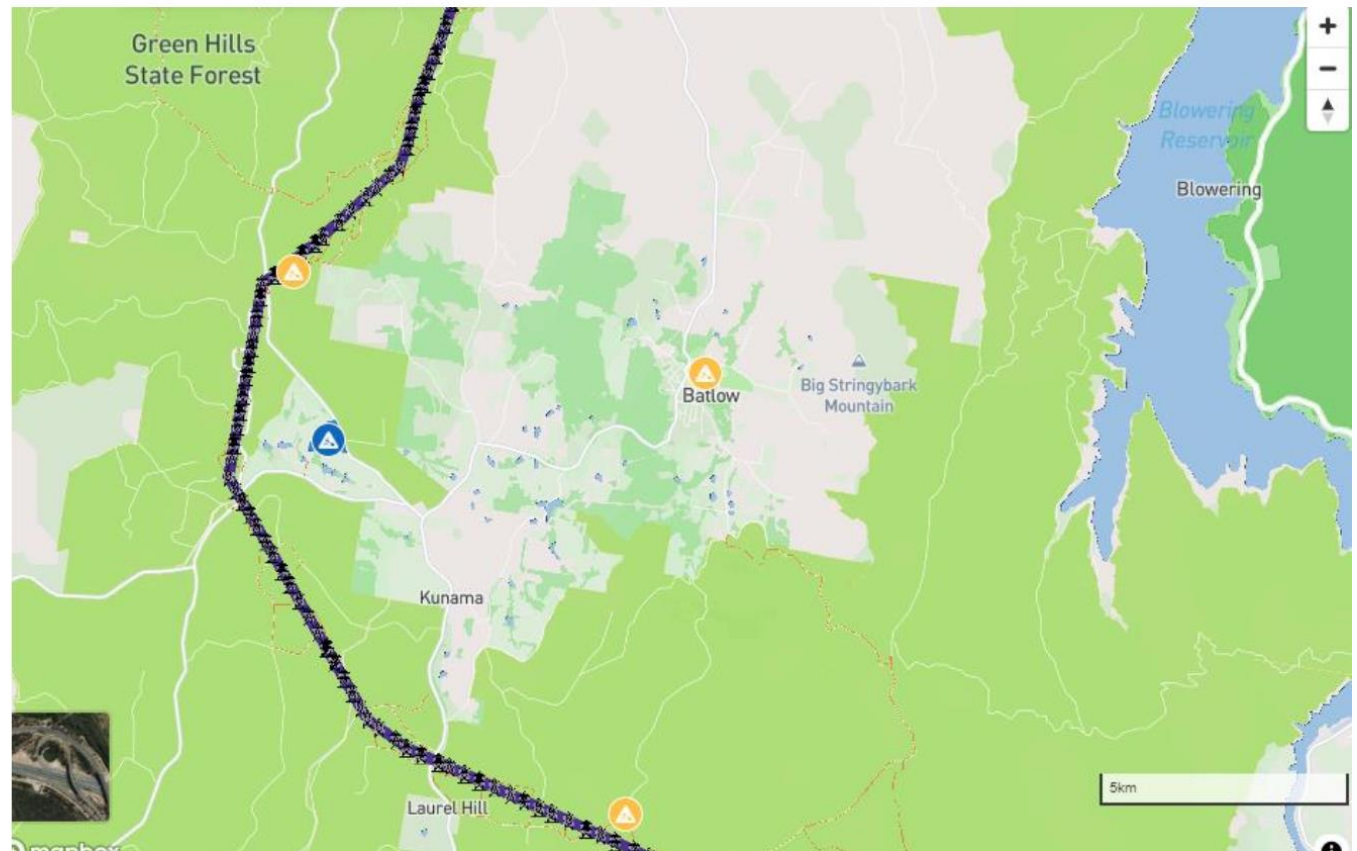
Key targets completion dates	
Site investigations	From now to late 2024
Enabling works	From late 2024 to early 2025
Substations x 3	From early 2025 to late 2026
Transmission towers and conductors	From early 2025 to late 2026

Accommodation Camp Update

Location is on Green Hills Access Road (blue circle) – approx. 10 minute drive (6.5km) west of Batlow township.

Accommodation will be suitable for 350 workers

The accommodation camp will be established during the Enabling Works phase. The access tracks to the site will be built followed by the compound construction.



Works Update

- The Batlow Memorial Avenue Compound will primarily be used for refueling vehicles, washdown and the water supply point.
- Council has developed a water supply agreement with HumeLink West and will be monitoring water usage
- Access tracks will be built for each of the tower locations – all of the construction S138 applications will be assessed by Council
- Emergency Services meeting – Council hosted a meeting between HumeLink to discuss the Emergency Management Plans and roles/responsibilities of all agencies
- Communication process – Council is working with HumeLink to ensure information will be shared with community regarding project activities
- Council have counters out on roads that will be used by the HumeLink project to help determine the level of impact this will have on our road network.
- Council is currently discussing road condition and maintenance requirements on affected roads with HumeLink partners to ensure that inspections and maintenance is undertaken throughout project delivery and roads are safe for the community

Community Opportunities



Currently, there are opportunities for local businesses to be suppliers for products or services.

There will also be opportunities for workforce employment.

<https://www.transgrid.com.au/projects-innovation/humelink>

Packages are posted on 'Industry Capability Network' (ICN) to allow all subcontractors and suppliers the opportunity for an Expression of Interest

https://gateway.icn.org.au/projects/9640/pg-9640?scroll_pos=100

Transgrid recently held a round of community grants - \$5,000 available. Another round will be open in 2025

Local Business Register

We are interested in hearing from sole traders and businesses in the region that could provide a variety of products or services including engineering, design, general trades, administration, and Indigenous and support services. We're also keen to hear from catering, accommodation, graphic design and printing services.

If you have a local business in the following Local Government Areas and are interested in working on the HumeLink Project, we would love to hear from you- simply complete our online form via the below link:

- Upper Lachlan Shire
- Yass Valley Council
- Snowy Valleys Council
- Cootamundra Gundagai Regional Council
- Wagga Wagga City Council, or
- Goulburn Mulwaree
- Hilltops Council

Local employment and supplier opportunities for HumeLink East and HumeLink West will be made widely available in the coming months.

[Register your business](#)

Program overview

Our communities are the backbone of the places we work and live. We aim to create positive and lasting relationships with our local communities. It's part of our commitment to building a sustainable future.

Transgrid's Community Partnerships Program offers grants of up to \$5,000 for not-for-profit organisations that are local to our planning, operations, and major project areas. Applications are typically open in March and October each year.

Not-for-profit groups provide a range of invaluable resources for their communities. Our Community Partnerships Program was created to give a boost to the people who live and work in the regions local to Transgrid assets or construction.

More than 275 organisations have shared in over \$1 million in Transgrid grants for a range of initiatives spanning from community infrastructure, to workshops, along with inclusivity and accessibility projects.

Current program status: Closed

Next round open date: First quarter 2025

Grant amount: Grants of up to \$5,000 are available