

VNI West

Route Development

FACT SHEET

VNI West is a proposed new 500kV double-circuit transmission line connecting the energy grids of NSW and Victoria. In NSW, the new line will run from Transgrid's Dinawan substation being built north of Jerilderie, to the Victorian border north of Kerang.

This fact sheet provides information on the process Transgrid will use to develop a route for VNI West.

Project need

The first step in developing a new transmission line, is to confirm the technical solution which best meets the needs of electricity consumers.

This is typically done by completing a Regulatory Investment Test for Transmission, known as the RIT-T.



Determining the Study Area

Once the technical solution is confirmed, a Study Area is determined. This is a broad area of investigation between two known points, usually substations at the start and end points of the transmission line.

The Study Area will be up to around 50km in width, and allow for the development of a number of corridor and route options.

Regional constraints and opportunities

Within the study area, we first identify:

- constraints, such as social and environmental factors, that must or should be avoided, and
- opportunities to minimise the potential impact on **local communities and the environment**.

Constraints can include intensive agriculture, licensed airstrips, conservation areas and significant cultural heritage sites.

Opportunities can include aligning the new line with existing infrastructure, such as existing power lines or roads.



Identifying a corridor

The third step in route development is to develop optional corridors within the Study Area. Corridors are up to 10km wide and seek to avoid constraints in the landscape to provide the least impactful area in which to focus route development.

Identification of a preferred corridor is informed by engagement with local communities and industry representatives, along with high level environmental assessment.



Route development

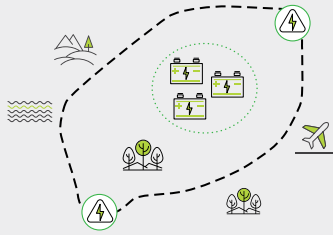
Transgrid will then start detailed consultation with landholder within the corridor to understand property-specific considerations and constraints.

This engagement, together with specialist studies and surveys, will help us develop the proposed transmission route. Some of the specialist studies and local assessments will include:

- cultural heritage surveys
- ecology surveys, including flora and fauna
- geotechnical studies
- hydrology surveys.



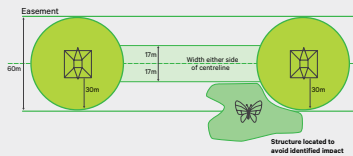
Route development process



Stage 1:
Identify need and technical solution

Stage 2:
Determine Study Area

Stage 3:
Corridor identification



Stage 6:
Detailed design and easement finalisation

Stage 5:
Environmental assessment

Stage 4:
Route development



Where we are in the route development process

Stage 3	Area	Purpose	Engagement activities
Corridor identification	Typically, between one and 10 kilometres wide	To identify a preferred corridor within the area of interest. The preferred corridor considers community and stakeholder feedback and high level environmental, technical social constraints.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholder workshops Community information sessions Landholder meetings

Transgrid is committed to working with landowners and communities through the construction of VNI West. **Please connect with us if you need any information.**

