

VNI West is a proposed 500kV double-circuit transmission line connecting the energy grids of NSW and Victoria. As part of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) being prepared, we are assessing the potential impacts associated with construction of temporary workforce accommodation sites and construction compounds required to support construction activity on the project.



### Temporary workforce accommodation facilities and construction compounds

The criteria for assessing appropriate construction compound and temporary worker accommodation facility sites includes the size of the site and:

- minimising the number of landowners affected and maintaining appropriate distance from sensitive receivers
- avoiding environmental impacts as far as possible, including minimising impacts on flora and fauna, minimising the need for vegetation clearing, maximising the distance from waterbodies and targeting areas previously disturbed
- the accessibility of the site including topography and minimising distance required to travel between the facilities and the project sites.

#### Temporary workforce accommodation facilities

A series of temporary workforce accommodation facilities will be required at strategic locations along the project alignment to

provide housing for workers during construction. These facilities will be constructed during the initial site establishment works (subject to project approval) and will reduce pressure on current housing and accommodation availability in nearby townships and will also reduce the travel time for the workforce to and from the project. The proposed location of these facilities will be detailed in the EIS.

The temporary workforce accommodation facilities would likely include:

- accommodation for between 150 and up to 500 beds (depending on location)
- concrete batching plant/s
- helipad/helicopter support facilities
- demountable site offices and amenities
- food and catering facilities, fitness and recreational facilities, and telecommunication services for personal use.



**Image:** Example of an established temporary worker accommodation camp site (Cobb Highway, Booroorban) currently in use as part of the EnergyConnect (NSW – Eastern section) project



## Construction compounds

Construction compounds will accommodate a range of facilities such as material storage (laydown) areas, site offices, amenities, equipment storage, maintenance sheds, concrete batching plants and stockpile areas. The EIS will consider the compound location as well as identify opportunities to refine the design and/or construction methodologies to minimise or prevent impacts.

The proposed use of the temporary workforce accommodation facilities and construction compound areas will be refined as the project design develops in consultation with relevant stakeholders and construction contractors.

All construction compounds and temporary worker accommodation facilities would be appropriately fenced to secure the sites. The facilities will also include temporary lighting, measures to protect against fire and appropriate water quality and erosion and sediment controls.

Transgrid are currently working to secure lease agreements on the identified properties. We will keep landowners informed regarding

the final arrangements and use of each site. These will be established prior to the commencement of works within these sites. The construction compounds and temporary worker accommodation facilities would be in place throughout the entire construction period.

### Site restoration

Restoring and rehabilitating construction compounds and temporary worker accommodation facilities will occur and as soon as practicably possible once construction has been completed. Restoration would occur to make good any disturbances caused during project activities (or as otherwise agreed with the relevant landholder). If requested and agreed with Transgrid in advance, landowners would be able to retain facilities and construction infrastructure, such as any hard stand areas created as part of these facilities.

### Next steps

There will be ongoing opportunities for the community to provide input throughout the development of the EIS. Once all the technical assessments have been completed the EIS is placed on public exhibition. During this time, the community members will be able to view the EIS and all supporting studies and provide written submissions on the project to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure.

## Connect with us

Transgrid is committed to working with landowners and communities through the development of VNI West.

**Please connect with us for more information.**



Transgrid

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