



Market sounding HumeLink

Invitation for registration of interest

April 2022

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1. Introduction

Transgrid is preparing to commence the formal procurement process for the HumeLink project. Prior to this, we are undertaking market sounding to inform the design and selection of procurement models and processes.

In conjunction with the HumeLink market sounding process, we would like to maximise employment and procurement opportunities with local businesses wherever possible. There will be ongoing opportunities for businesses to register interest in HumeLink.

Opportunities for interested businesses (including Indigenous and local businesses)

Interested businesses (including Indigenous and local businesses) are invited to register their interest in HumeLink by sending an email with their details to humelink.opportunities@transgrid.com.au

Market sounding for the delivery (design and construction) of HumeLink

Transgrid invites suitably experienced and capable entities who can play a significant role in the delivery of the HumeLink project to register their interest in participating in the HumeLink market sounding process. The market sounding precedes and will inform a planned procurement process to select one or more entities to deliver the project. Entities should register their interest in accordance with the requirements of this document.

Transgrid will select participants for the market sounding in accordance with the criteria set out in Section 2 of this document. The market sounding will provide an important opportunity for participants to express their interest in delivering all or part of HumeLink and provide feedback to Transgrid that will inform and shape the proposed procurement process and delivery strategy for the project.

For the avoidance of doubt, the market sounding does not form part of the HumeLink procurement process. A participant's involvement in the market sounding is not a prerequisite or guarantee for ongoing involvement in the procurement process. Key market sounding activities and associated target dates are set out in Table 1 below (subject to change, as notified by Transgrid).

Table 1 - Market sounding program

Market sounding activity	Target date
Invitation for registration of interest released	4 April 2022
Transgrid notifies entities of the outcome of their registration form and non-disclosure agreement submission.	4 April – 8 April 2022
Latest date and time for entities to submit their registration form and non-disclosure agreement to Transgrid to participate in the market sounding process.	8 April 2022 at 5:00pm AET (Entities are encouraged to lodge their submissions at the earliest opportunity)
Participants issued with the project information document (which will include a questionnaire and other collateral information)	4 April – 8 April 2022 (Provided on receipt of validly completed registration form and non-disclosure agreement)
Market sounding briefing session with participants (online)	12 April 2022 at 2:00pm AET
Latest date and time for relevant participants to submit their questionnaire to Transgrid	14 April 2022 at 5:00pm AET

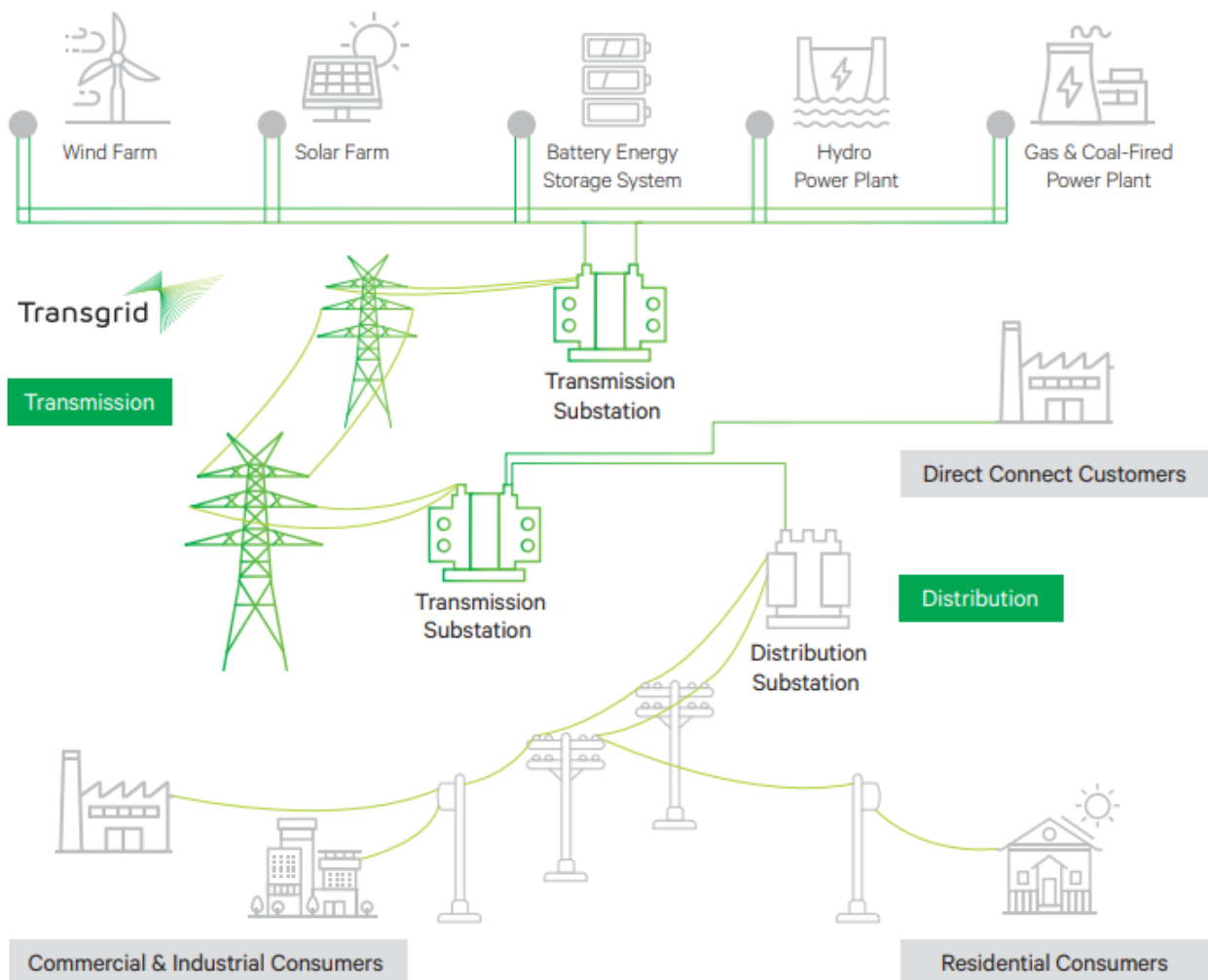
Who we are

Transgrid operates and manages the high voltage electricity transmission network in NSW and the Australian Capital Territory (ACT). Our network is the backbone of the National Energy Market, enabling energy trading between Australia's three largest states along the east coast and supporting the competitive wholesale electricity market. This allows energy users to gain access to the lowest cost generation available.

Our most crucial work is leading the transition to Australia's clean energy future. The traditional coal system that served our country for decades is nearing the end of its life, to be replaced by wind and solar generation. We're making the right decisions now to prepare for the opportunities and challenges ahead – a changing climate, population growth and technology innovation.

Through efficient maintenance, proficient operation of assets and prudent investment in our network, we keep more than three million homes and businesses connected to electricity 24/7. We also offer a range of infrastructure and telecommunication services through our commercial arm, Lumea, to meet the growing needs of our customers.

Transgrid within the electricity supply chain



Leading the transition to a clean energy future

Transmission is pivotal to this changing energy landscape. Our vision is to support Australia in becoming a global clean energy leader – benefitting communities, the economy, and the environment.

As the share of intermittent renewable generation increases, we will play a critical role in ensuring the secure operation of the NSW power system as part of a more robust and sustainable energy market.



Vision

Lead the transition to a clean energy future



Purpose

Making a better power system for Australians

About HumeLink

The Australian energy landscape is transitioning to a greater mix of low-emission renewable energy sources, such as wind and solar, together with traditional energy sources. To support this transition and connect Australian communities and businesses to these lower cost energy sources, the national electricity grid needs to evolve.

HumeLink is a priority project for the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) and for the Commonwealth and NSW Governments. HumeLink will address energy cost, security and reliability issues by providing 360 kilometres of new 500kV high voltage transmission lines designed to reinforce the NSW Southern Shared Network. It will also provide connections to the existing Snowy Hydro Scheme and other new and existing regional generation assets and:

- allow new energy sources to come online, including renewables;
- unlock the full capacity of the expanded Snowy Hydro scheme;
- enable greater sharing of energy between the eastern states; and
- benefit regional communities through jobs and support regional economic growth.



More information about HumeLink is available at <https://www.transgrid.com.au/humelink>

2. Registration process

To register and become a participant in the HumeLink market sounding process, the entity must:

- a) in Transgrid's opinion:
 - (i) be a bona fide **delivery contractor** who has the capabilities and experience to play a significant role in a consortium, or to act as a head contractor in its own right, to deliver HumeLink as demonstrated by the information requested at Attachment 1 – Registration Form; or
 - (ii) be a bona fide **engineering design firm, delivery subcontractor or supplier** that could play a significant role in the delivery of HumeLink as demonstrated by the information requested at Attachment 1 – Registration Form; and
- b) correctly complete and properly execute the non-disclosure agreement at Attachment 2.

Entities that are not selected to be participants in the market sounding process for delivery (design and construction) will have their details registered by Transgrid as an interested business to the HumeLink project. Transgrid will contact the entity should future suitable opportunities arise to participate in the delivery of the HumeLink project.

To register, a participant or interested party must submit:

- one unencrypted PDF file of the fully completed registration form contained at Attachment 1
- one unencrypted PDF file of the completed and executed non-disclosure agreement contained at Attachment 2

to humelink.enquiries@transgrid.com.au

PDF files submitted must not exceed 30MB in any one email.

Transgrid will accept completed registration forms and non-disclosure agreements up until 8 April 2022 at 5:00pm AET. Entities may not alter the registration forms or non-disclosure agreements. Without any obligation to do so, where the integrity of the registration process is not compromised, Transgrid may determine in its absolute discretion that it is appropriate to consider a late submission of a registration form and non-disclosure agreement.

Transgrid will contact all entities that submit a registration form and non-disclosure agreement via email to confirm whether or not they have been selected as a participant.

Entities selected as participants in the market sounding process will be:

- issued with the project information document (which will include a questionnaire and other collateral information); and
- provided with further details regarding the next steps for the market sounding process, including confirmation of the date and time for an online market sounding briefing session.

3. Market sounding briefing session

During the market sounding briefing session, Transgrid will provide an overview of HumeLink and the proposed procurement process. At this session, Transgrid may also respond and address select requests for clarification or other queries submitted in advance by participants (in accordance with section 4 of this document).

The market sounding briefing session will be held online at 2:00pm – 3:00pm AET on 12 April 2022.

Transgrid will issue a Microsoft Outlook calendar invitation to each of the representatives nominated by the participant in its registration form, no later than two business days before the session. Within this invitation will be details of how to join the online briefing. The meeting invitation should not be forwarded to anyone without written approval from Transgrid. Any unauthorised attendees will not be admitted to the briefing session and the forwarding parties may be excluded from further participation in the market sounding process.

Participants are referred to Attachment 3 – Market Sounding Briefing Session Protocols which outlines the protocols that will apply.

If a participant is unable to attend the briefing session, they should inform Transgrid via the registration form. The session will be recorded and registered participants will be given access to the recording.

4. Requests for clarification

Should you have a query specific to this registration process, please contact Transgrid's HumeLink team via email at humelink.enquiries@transgrid.com.au

Please ensure that the name of your company is clearly displayed in the title block of any email that is sent to Transgrid.

Transgrid is not obligated to respond to any request for clarification relating to any activities for the market sounding process, or any future procurement process, or any other aspect of the project. Any replies and questions may be made available to all participants.

5. Terms and conditions of the registration of interest process

Successful registration to participate in the Market Sounding process for HumeLink will be determined at Transgrid's sole discretion, with no right of appeal. Transgrid is not required to justify or give reasons for the acceptance or rejection of a registration form and will not be offering debriefings.

At its sole discretion, Transgrid may:

- a) withdraw, amend, vary or discontinue the market sounding process, or any aspect of any subsequent procurement process, at any time by notice in writing
- b) remove a participant from the market sounding process, or any aspect of a subsequent procurement process, should its demonstrated capability and experience to deliver HumeLink change.

Transgrid has no obligations or liabilities to any recipient of this registration form for this market sounding, and Transgrid will not be liable for any claims, expenses or losses incurred by any person in connection with this market sounding process, or any later procurement process, including any decision not to proceed with or change the market sounding process or procurement process.

Transgrid reserves the right to make further enquires and seek further information to review or validate the details provided by any entity as part of this market sounding process.

The documents issued by Transgrid in connection with this market sounding process do not constitute an offer or a binding undertaking of any kind in favour of any entity or participant.

Attachment 1 – Registration form

Entity details

Entity details	
Name of entity (proposed participant):	
Names of all associated parties (if the proposed participant is more than a single entity):	
ABN (or equivalent):	
ACN (or equivalent):	
Registered address:	

Entity contact details

Entity contact details and attendance	
Primary contact:	Name: Title: Phone: Mobile: Email: Office Address:
Alternative contact:	Name: Title: Phone: Mobile: Email: Office Address:
Attendance – will you attend the market sounding briefing session?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (tick one)

Experience and capabilities

The response to this section is limited to two A4 pages (using a minimum size 10 font).

Part A – Delivery contractors

Bona fide delivery contractor confirmation	
The entity confirms that it is a bona fide delivery contractor who has the capability and experience to play a significant role in a consortium, or to act as a head contractor in its own right, to deliver HumeLink.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (tick one)

[If the proposed participant's response to Part A is "no" please move to Part B]

To support this confirmation, you are required to provide details of at least **one** relevant major energy project (similar in scale and/or nature to HumeLink), where the entity has played a significant role in a consortium, or has acted as a head contractor in its own right, to deliver the project.

The example project should include one of following:

- upgrade of an existing or delivery of new substation infrastructure, where your involvement had a contract value of greater than **\$50 million**; or
- delivery of high-voltage transmission lines, where your involvement had a contract value of greater than **\$250 million**.

Example past project	
Project name & description (brief):	
Project value:	
Client organisation:	
Entity's specific role on project:	

Part B – Engineering design firms, delivery subcontractors or suppliers

Bona fide engineering firm, delivery subcontractor or supplier confirmation	
<p>The entity confirms that it is a bona fide engineering design firm, delivery subcontractor or supplier that would play a significant role in the delivery of the HumeLink.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (tick one)

[If the proposed participant's response to Part B is "no" please move to Part C]

To support this confirmation, you are required to provide details of at least **one** relevant major energy project (similar in scale and/or nature to HumeLink), where the entity has played a significant role to deliver the project.

The example project should include one of the following:

- upgrade of an existing or delivery of new substation infrastructure; or
- delivery of high-voltage transmission lines.

Example past project	
Project name & description (brief):	
Project value:	
Client organisation:	
Entity's specific role on project:	

Part C – Other interested businesses (including Indigenous and local businesses)

Other interested businesses (including Indigenous and local businesses) are invited to register their interest in HumeLink by sending an email to humelink.opportunities@transgrid.com.au

Acknowledge

I, _____, on behalf of,
acknowledge that the details and information provided in this registration form are true and accurate,
and warrant that I have the authority to make this acknowledgement on behalf of

Signature

Name

Title

Attachment 2 – Non-disclosure agreement

Attachment 3 – Market sounding briefing session protocols

These protocols are provided to facilitate an efficient and productive briefing session to the benefit of all participants and Transgrid.

Prior to the briefing session

- An electronic calendar invitation for a briefing session will be sent to each of the representatives nominated by the participant in its registration form, or as otherwise agreed by Transgrid in writing via humelink.enquiries@transgrid.com.au. The meeting invitation should not be forwarded to anyone without written approval from Transgrid. Any unauthorised attendees will not be admitted to the briefing session.
- The invitation will contain a link to the online platform where the briefing session will be held. When joining the session, attendees will automatically be placed into the 'lobby'. Transgrid will then admit each attendee.
- To maximise audio quality of the briefing session, Transgrid requests that each attendee signs into the session individually and there is only one attendee per computer.
- Attendees to the briefing session should sign in five minutes prior to its commencement so any connection issues may be resolved.
- Attendees should ensure their full name is visible when signing in. Failure to show the full name could result in the attendee not being admitted to the briefing session.

Protocols during the briefing session

- The use of video recording by participants is prohibited.
- The facilitator will keep all microphones muted to ensure the best audio quality for each attendee.
- Each attendee should also ensure their microphone is muted at all times.
- Each attendee should have their camera on at the commencement of the briefing session.
- Transgrid will present and manage the screen during the briefing session.
- As a general rule, attendees are asked not to talk over another attendee while they are talking. The attendee should wait until the other attendee has finished talking.