

# HumeLink Community Newsletter

August 2024



HumeLink is one of Australia's largest energy infrastructure projects connecting renewable energy sources to the grid, increasing availability and market competition - helping to put downward pressure on energy prices in Australia.

The project consists of 365 kilometres of 500 kV overhead transmission lines connecting Wagga Wagga, Bannaby and Maragle, and new or upgraded infrastructure at four substations.

HumeLink is critical to bringing more affordable, reliable and renewable energy to the grid and is a priority project for the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) and the Commonwealth and NSW governments. HumeLink is subject to the approval of the Australian Energy Regulator.

To view HumeLink's interactive route map go to [transgrid.com.au/humelink](https://transgrid.com.au/humelink)

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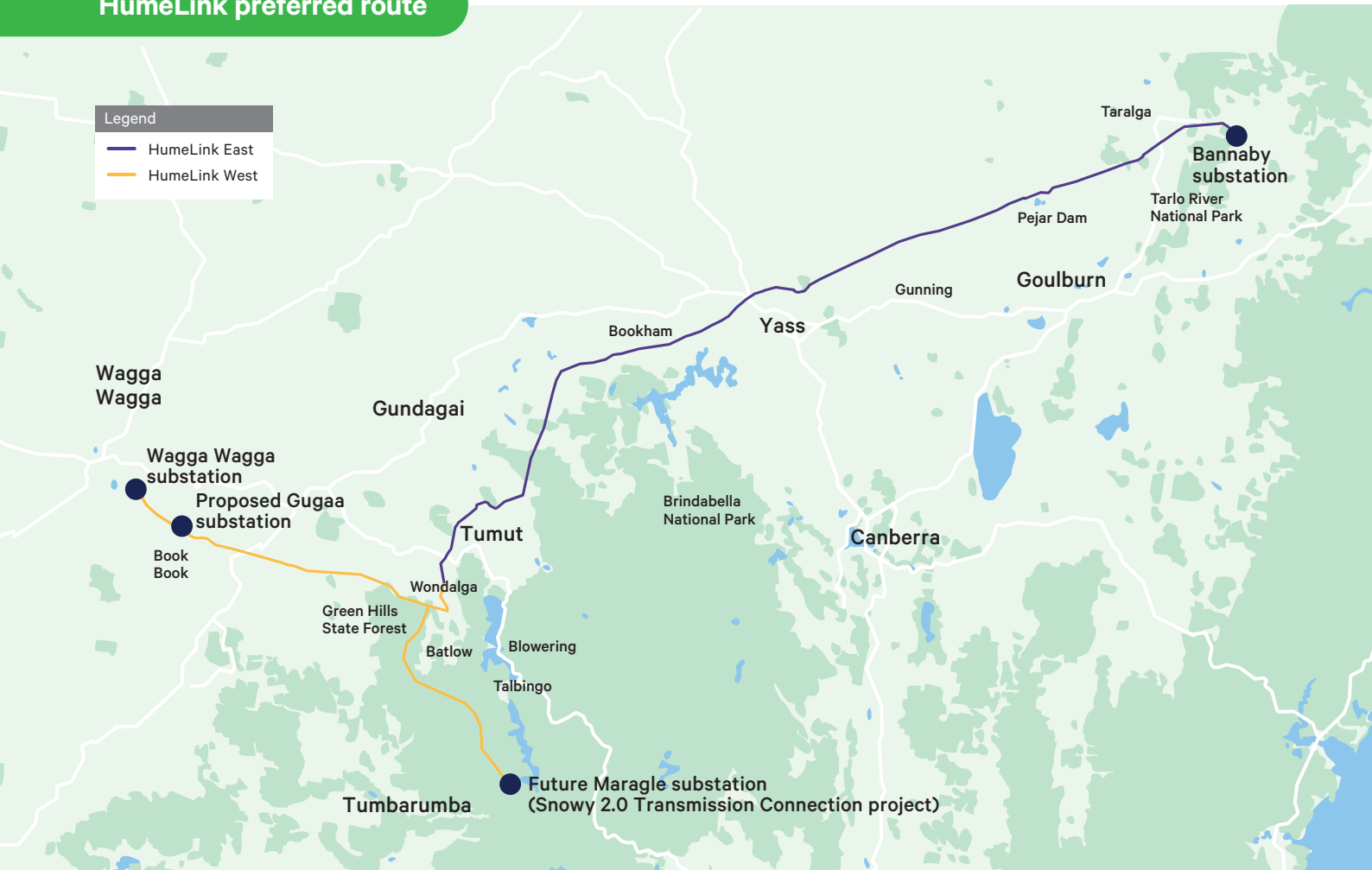
What's coming up

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## HumeLink preferred route





## What's coming up?

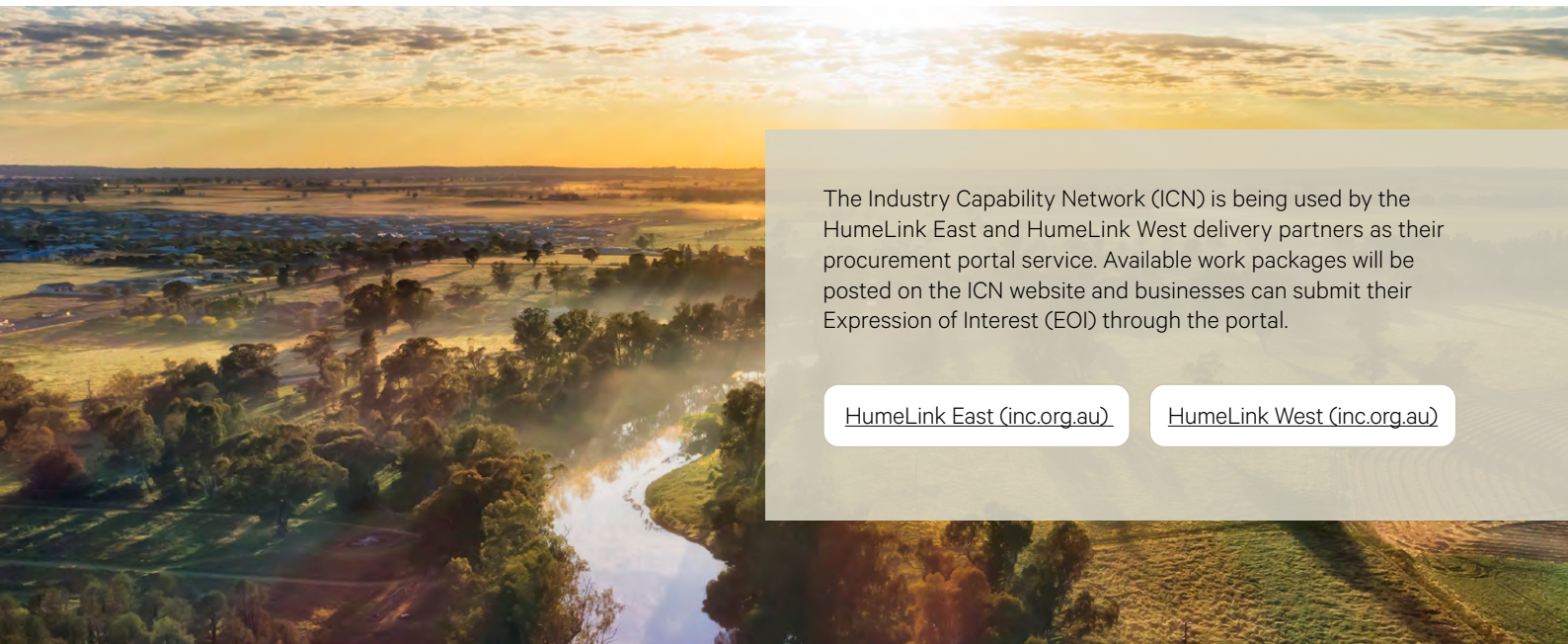
### Last chance to sign up to HumeLink East's Business Buzz sessions in August 2024

There are still a few spots available for HumeLink East's quarterly Business Buzz sessions. To date, more than 190 local businesses and interested traders have joined us at nine Business Buzz sessions across Tumut, Yass and Campbelltown and we encourage

you to join us at our August events. The Business Buzz sessions are a chance to connect with the HumeLink East team and dive into their commercial and training opportunities.

See the schedule below and RSVP [here](#).

Date	Time	Focus area	Location	Venue
Monday, 19 August 2024	9:30am – 2:00pm	First Nations Businesses	Goulburn	Goulburn Workers Club
Tuesday, 20 August 2024	4:00pm-5:00pm	Procurement, training and work opportunities for local businesses	Crookwell	Crookwell Services Club



The Industry Capability Network (ICN) is being used by the HumeLink East and HumeLink West delivery partners as their procurement portal service. Available work packages will be posted on the ICN website and businesses can submit their Expression of Interest (EOI) through the portal.

[HumeLink East \(inc.org.au\)](https://inc.org.au)

[HumeLink West \(inc.org.au\)](https://inc.org.au)



## Local business register

If you have a business in the local government areas along the HumeLink project footprint and are interested in working with the HumeLink project, we would like to hear from you.

Simply register your business and we will share your details with our delivery partners. The local business register will also be the project teams' first port of call when we are looking to procure goods and services at various stages of the project.



If you are a local business interested in working on HumeLink register your business [here](#).



## Project update

### Australian Energy Regulator's Contingent Project Application Stage 2 decision

The Australian Energy Regulator (AER) published its decision for Stage 2 of Transgrid's Contingent Project Application (CPA2) for the HumeLink project on 2 August, 2024. The decision can be viewed on the AER's [website](#).

A Contingent Project Application (CPA) is the application a regulated business like Transgrid makes to the Australian Energy

Regulator to amend its revenue determination for a project such as HumeLink, to include cost recovery from consumers.

Transgrid will now assess the AER's determination and await finalisation of environmental planning determination, before making a final investment decision.

### Next steps

If planning determination from State and Commonwealth governments is granted, the NSW Minister for Planning and Public Spaces will provide a Conditions of Approval for the project's next

stage. Following planning determination, site establishment and enabling works for the project would begin from late 2024. We will keep the community informed as the project approvals progress.

### Ongoing site investigations and associated activities

Site investigations and associated activities will continue across the alignment for the remainder of 2024.

Types of investigations include geotechnical and ecological surveys, water testing and noise and vibration surveys. While we await planning determination by the NSW and Commonwealth governments, these activities can occur to ensure we stay on track with the project program.

The work is undertaken by the HumeLink East and HumeLink West delivery partners, in line with the relevant guidelines and approvals.

We will issue a work notification this month outlining these investigations, which will inform the detailed design of the project. All work notifications are available on the [HumeLink East](#) and [HumeLink West](#) websites.

Work will take place during standard construction hours of 7.00am to 6.00pm Monday to Friday and 8.00am-1.00pm on Saturdays. If out of hours work is required, we will contact all impacted landowners and near neighbours seven days before the work starts.



**Pictured:** Heritage digs at Bannaby Substation undertaken by the HumeLink project team.



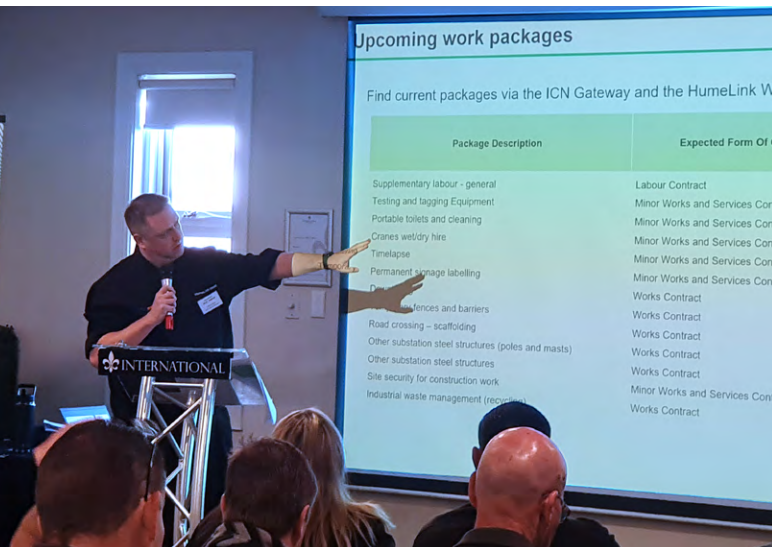
## In the community

### Meet the Buyer event in July and August 2024

We were thrilled with the response to the July Meet the Buyer event, where more than 120 local sole traders and businesses joined us to learn more about the HumeLink project. Due to this overwhelming interest, HumeLink West and HumeLink East additionally hosted a Meet the Buyer event in early August. This event gave attendees an opportunity to have in-person discussions with both delivery partners about current and future

work packages and to network with other businesses from across the region.

Spots were in high demand, with more than 150 local businesses and traders registered for the August event. HumeLink West and HumeLink East will continue to host more industry events, so keep an eye out for more email invitations.



Images: HumeLink West's Meet the Buyer event in July

We would also like to thank everyone who has attended our Meet the Buyer events. It has been great talking to and connecting with a diverse range of businesses who are interested in being part of the HumeLink project.



### Community Partnerships Program: Congratulations to our successful applicants

Congratulations to the successful recipients from Round One of the Community Partnerships Program (CPP) for 2024! Transgrid would like to thank everyone that applied for this round of the CPP, which offers grants of up to \$5,000 for not-for-profit organisations that are local to our planning, operations and major project areas.

Since 2020, Transgrid has awarded more than \$1 million in grants to not-for-profit organisations for a range of initiatives spanning from community infrastructure to workshops, along with inclusivity and accessibility projects.

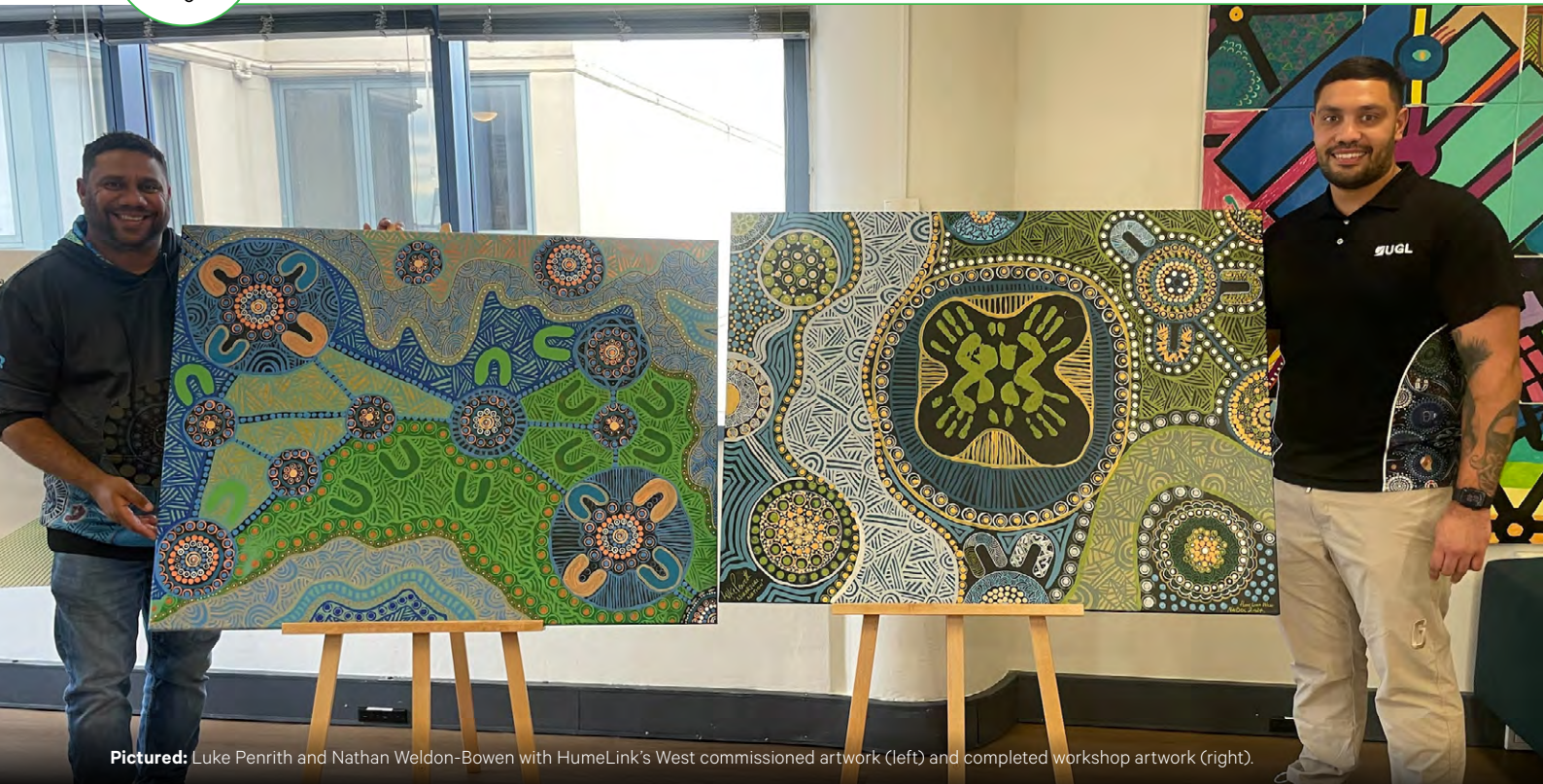
For more information on the program and past beneficiaries, see Transgrid's Community Partnerships Program [webpage](#). The next round of applications is scheduled to open in October 2024.

To help applicants feel prepared and supported through the CPP process, Transgrid has organised a community grants writing workshop at our Discovery Hub in Wagga in September (with remote dial-in option as well).

The workshop will offer tips on writing exceptional grant applications, as well as a chance to hear from industry experts. To register your interest, please send an email to [cpp@transgrid.com.au](mailto:cpp@transgrid.com.au) with subject: EOI for grants workshop. Please also advise if you'd like to attend in person or online.



## Unique artwork for HumeLink West



**Picture:** Luke Penrith and Nathan Weldon-Bowen with HumeLink's West commissioned artwork (left) and completed workshop artwork (right).

As part of HumeLink West's NAIDOC week celebrations, proud Wiradjuri man Luke Penrith held an art workshop for the project team. Luke has had a long history working with CPB and UGL and has lived on Wiradjuri country his whole life. During the event, Luke presented a commissioned artwork to the HumeLink West team and shared the meaning behind this bespoke piece.



*For the Wiradjuri nation, rivers are the lifeblood of our communities. They provide us with vital resources, hold deep spiritual significance and are integral to our cultural heritage.*

*In the far north, we have the Wambuul (Macquarie River). Moving to the central west, we encounter the Galari (Lachlan River). In the central southern region, we have the Marrambidya (Murrumbidgee River), and our southern border is marked by the Milawa (Murray River). Each of these rivers is a vital artery that sustains our people and our land.*

*The artwork depicts the landscape from the high country, the cold country, illustrating how its creeks, rivers and water systems flow down through to the plains of the Wiradjuri nation. This is especially fitting due to the natural use of water through the Snowy Hydro system, which mirrors the journey of our rivers. We also acknowledge the Ngarigo and Wolgalu peoples, the traditional owners of the western side of the Snowy Mountains.*

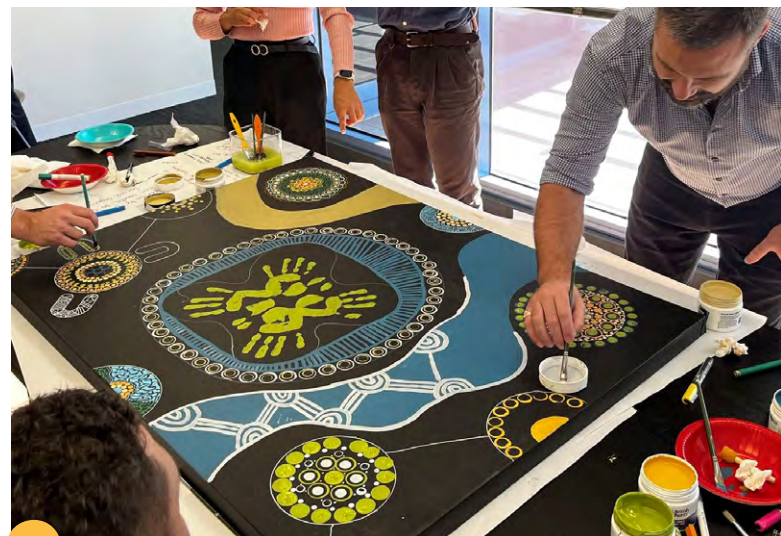
*Through this artwork, we aim to highlight the importance of cultural flows to First Nations communities. We are still fighting for these rights, but through art and education, we strive to bring awareness and understanding.*

**Our old people spoke of YINDYAMARRA – to do slowly, to respect, to be gentle, and to honour. At the end of the day, it's about caring for Country and putting our land first.**

Luke Penrith



With Luke's guidance, the HumeLink project team also contributed to another artwork, taking turns to paint sections and create a collaborative painting that symbolises what the project means to them. The artwork was named by Luke as 'Yindyamarra Mawang', the Wiradjuri term meaning 'respect together'.



**Image:** The HumeLink project team contributing to the artwork 'Yindyamarra Mawang'



## Support services for landowners

We recognise our transmission projects may have increased the level of stress and anxiety experienced by landowners. We are committed to supporting landowners who are impacted by the project, and have engaged Assure Programs, an independent, confidential counselling service, to provide free short-term support to anyone who feels they need assistance

or simply wants to talk. If you are a landowner and would like confidential support and counselling, we encourage you to book a free appointment by calling Assure Programs on 1800 808 374, or requesting an appointment online at [assureprograms.com.au/book-an-appointment/](https://assureprograms.com.au/book-an-appointment/).

## Acknowledgement of Country

Transgrid acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this great land. We recognise and acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the first explorers, scientists, farmers, astronomers and storytellers.

We pay respects to the people, the Elders both past and present and celebrate the diversity and successes of Aboriginal peoples and their ongoing connections to the lands and waters where we work and live.



## Connect with us

Transgrid is committed to working with landowners and communities through HumeLink project.

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



**1800 317 367** (free call)  
**HumeLink@transgrid.com.au**  
**transgrid.com.au/HumeLink**

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