

Environment Effects Statement

The Environment Effects Statement (EES) and draft Planning Scheme Amendment (PSA) closed for comment at 11.59pm on Monday 25 August 2025 but remain available for viewing.

The Inquiry and Advisory Committee (IAC) (appointed by the Minister for Planning) will hold a directions hearing on Monday 15 September 2025 to set the scope and conduct of the public hearing, which begins the week of Monday 27 October 2025. At the public hearing the IAC will consider the exhibited EES and draft PSA, all submissions and evidence, the views of Traditional Owners and Registered Aboriginal Parties, and any other relevant information. Further information on the IAC and directions and public hearings is available on the [Planning Panels Victoria website](#).

Those who elected to participate in the inquiry when making their submission will be contacted prior to the hearing.



EES and approvals overview

The Western Renewables Link is a complex project developed over several years with ongoing engagement with landholders, communities, industry and government. The project requires detailed technical investigations and a comprehensive planning and approval process before construction may commence.

The Environment Effects Statement (EES) describes the proposed project and its expected environmental effects, the process undertaken to develop the project, and how we propose to avoid, mitigate or manage environmental effects.


The EES process is administered by the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP), formerly the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP), on behalf of Victoria's Minister for Planning.

The Western Renewables Link EES has been prepared in accordance with the Ministerial guidelines for the assessment of environmental effects under the Environment Effects Act 1978 (Vic) and scoping requirements issued by the Minister for Planning for the project. We have also prepared a draft Planning Scheme Amendment (PSA), in accordance with the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (Vic).


Further information on the EES public review process can be found on the [Department of Transport and Planning website \(Public review of an EES\)](#). Whilst the EES exhibition period closed

at 11.59pm on Monday 25 August 2025, the EES remains accessible for public viewing.

Next steps: The Inquiry and Advisory Committee (IAC) (appointed by the Minister for Planning) will hold a **directions hearing on Monday 15 September 2025** to set the scope and conduct of the **public hearing, which begins the week of Monday 27 October 2025**. At the public hearing the IAC will consider the exhibited EES and draft PSA, all submissions and evidence, the views of Traditional Owners and Registered Aboriginal Parties, and any other relevant information. Further information on the IAC and directions and public hearings is available on the [Planning Panels Victoria website](#).



Information about the Environment Effects Act 1978 (Vic) and EES process is also available on the [DTP website](#).



The [EES Scoping Requirements](#) are available on the DTP website.

Environment Effects Statement (EES) considerations

 <div>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage</div>	 <div>Agriculture and Forestry</div>	 <div>Air Quality</div>	 <div>Aviation</div>	 <div>Biodiversity</div>
 <div>Bushfire</div>	 <div>Climate Change</div>	 <div>Contaminated Land</div>	 <div>Economic</div>	 <div>EMI and EMF</div>
 <div>Geology and Soils</div>	 <div>Greenhouse Gas</div>	 <div>Groundwater</div>	 <div>Historical Heritage</div>	 <div>Landscape and Visual</div>
 <div>Land Use and Planning</div>	 <div>Noise and Vibration</div>	 <div>Social</div>	 <div>Surface Water</div>	 <div>Transport</div>