

VNI West proposes the construction, operation and ongoing maintenance of a 500kV double circuit overhead transmission line that would connect the high voltage electricity grids in NSW and Victoria. As part of the project, a section of Transmission Line 51, which currently connects the existing Wagga and Lower Tumut 330kV substations, is required to be upgraded between Wagga substation and the future Gugaa 500kV substation to allow connection of the EnergyConnect, HumeLink and VNI West projects. The potential impacts associated with this upgrade are being assessed as part of the EIS for VNI West (NSW). For more information, refer to **Chapter 3: Project Description**.



Why is this required?

The Line 51 upgrade (referred to in the EIS as the network augmentation works) is required to integrate Transgrid's VNI West, EnergyConnect and HumeLink projects, and will deliver a 500kV transmission connection between the future Dinawan and Gugaa 500kV substations. This 500kV transmission backbone would then extend west to Victoria via VNI West and to the eastern seaboard via HumeLink. The network map below outlines the configuration between the three Transgrid projects.

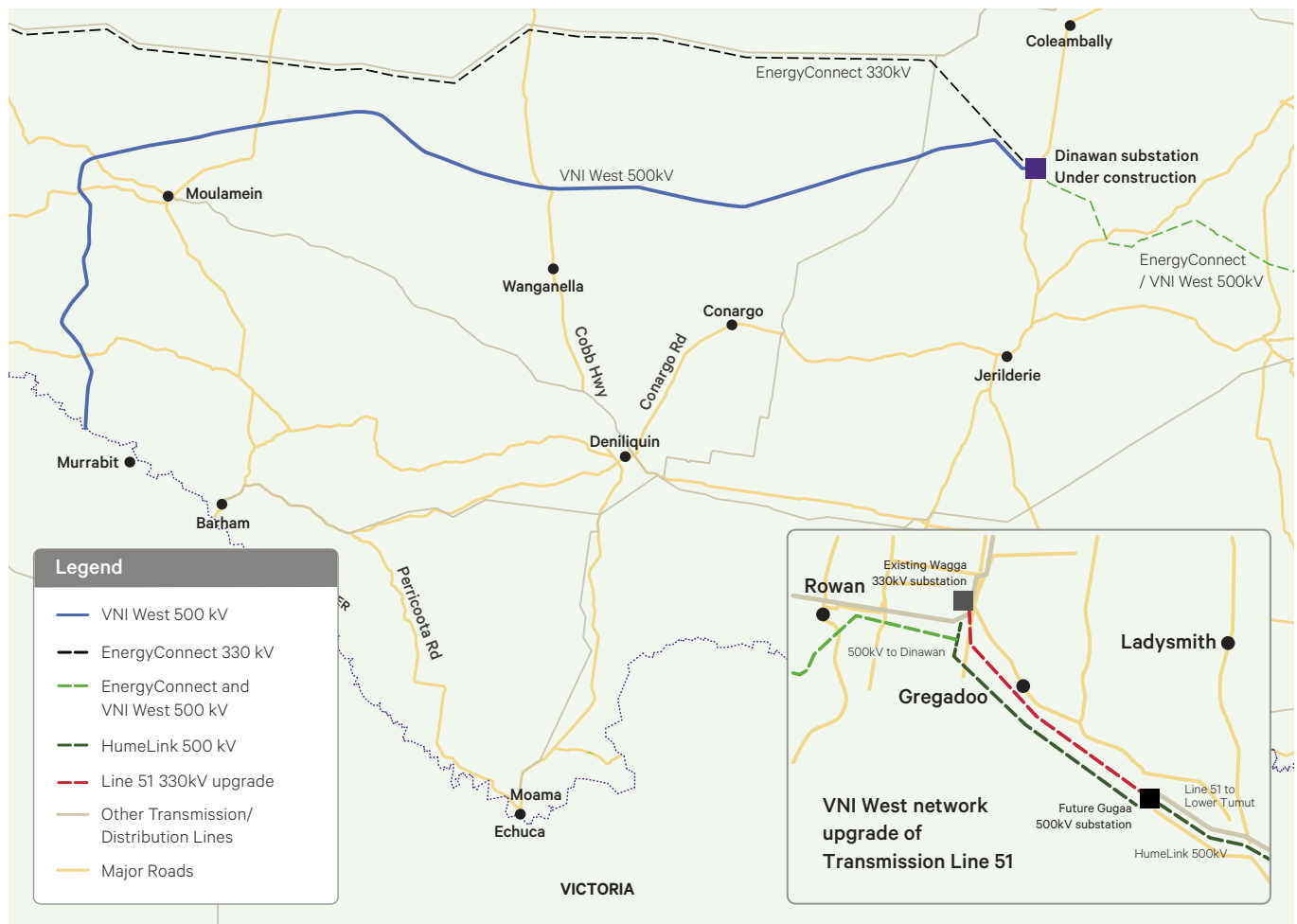


Image: Map of VNI West alignment including network upgrade of Line 51.



Proposed work

Transmission Line

A nine kilometre section of Line 51 between the existing Wagga 330kV substation (at Gregadoo) and the future Gugaa substation will be upgraded from a single circuit 330kV line to a new double circuit 330kV line.

Using upgraded existing 60-metre-wide easement, Transgrid plans to remove the existing tower structures in this section and replace them with new transmission line structures that will be up to 56 metres tall – around 15 to 20 metres taller than the existing towers.

Substation connections

The Line 51 upgrade would require some additional transmission line work within the vicinity of the existing Wagga 330kV and the future Gugaa 500kV substation, including:

- transmission line diversion work at Wagga 330kV substation
- connection works for Line 51, at Wagga 330kV and Gugaa substations.



Electric and magnetic fields (EMF)

The new Transmission Line 51 will be designed to ensure EMF levels are below recommended limits. An EMF assessment has been conducted as part of the EIS to ascertain the potential EMF outcomes of the proposed network augmentation works.

More information on Electric and magnetic fields is available at: <https://www.transgrid.com.au/safety/working-near-overhead-lines>.



Image: Example of a double circuit 330kV line.

Next steps

You have the opportunity to review and comment on the EIS via submission to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) during August 2025. Electronic copies of the EIS are available via:

- DPHI Major Projects website: <https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects>
- VNI West (NSW) project website: www.transgrid.com.au/vniw

Following the EIS Exhibition period, Transgrid will produce a Submissions Report to formally respond to community and stakeholder feedback received during exhibition.



For more information on the VNI West EIS, please scan the QR code, or visit www.transgrid.com.au/vniw.

Connect with us

Transgrid is committed to working with landowners and communities throughout the delivery of VNI West.

Please connect with us for more information.



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