

# Project update

Welcome to the Western Renewables Link March 2024 project update. In this update you can read more about farming with the Western Renewables Link, upcoming webinars focused on farming, the project's local business register, new fact sheets and the Essential Services Commission Land Access Code of Practice that came into effect on 1 March 2024.



## Farming with the Western Renewables Link – webinar sessions

Many farms currently operate under the 6,500 kilometers of existing transmission lines across Victoria.

We have designed the proposed Western Renewables Link 500kV transmission line with a **higher minimum ground clearance of 15m**. Vehicles and equipment of up to 5m in height will be able to travel and operate under the transmission line. Vehicles and equipment between 5m and 8.6m in height may be permitted under the Western Renewables Link subject to an AusNet safety assessment. Under existing AusNet transmission lines, vehicles and equipment with an operating height of more than 3m require a permit from AusNet.

To learn more about **farming with the Western Renewables Link**, you are invited to attend a webinar session to hear from specialists and ask questions about farming activities within and near the proposed easement for the Western Renewables Link.

To register your attendance for the webinar, click on the links below.

**Webinar 1** – Monday 25 March 11am–12.30pm

**Webinar 2** – Monday 25 March 7pm–8.30pm

For more information about farming with the Western Renewables visit: [www.westernrenewableslink.com.au/farming/](http://www.westernrenewableslink.com.au/farming/) and [watch our video](#) highlighting permitted farming activities.

## Planning and approvals

We're working toward finalising and submitting the **Environment Effects Statement (EES)**, to the Department of Transport and Planning in 2024.

We have just released a new fact sheet on our website on the **EES** and **Draft Planning Scheme Amendment**.

The **Draft Planning Scheme Amendment fact sheet** provides information about the proposed primary planning approval process for the Western Renewables Link, which is a planning scheme amendment.



## Land Access Code of Practice

The Essential Services Commission's (ESC) [Land Access Code of Practice](#) came into effect from 1 March 2024, replacing the [Land Access Statement of Expectations](#).

The purpose of the Code of Practice is to improve communication and minimise the impact of land access on landholders, occupiers and other key stakeholders. More information about the Code of Practice is available on the [ESC website](#).



## What is a terminal station?

Terminal stations play an important role in delivering a secure and reliable electricity supply. There are more than 60 terminal stations across Victoria, which control the flow and voltage of electricity between generation, transmission and distribution to homes and businesses.

The Western Renewables Link project includes proposed terminal station works near the existing Bulgana Terminal Station, including an upgrade to the existing 220kV equipment at the terminal station, and construction and operation of a new 500kV switchyard connected to the existing terminal station. The location of the new switchyard has not yet been determined, although it will be near the existing Bulgana Terminal Station.

More information about terminal stations can be found in the Terminal Stations [fact sheet](#).

Haunted Gully Terminal Station is a 500kV terminal station



## Local business register - now open

The Western Renewables Link is committed to supporting local communities and businesses along the proposed project route.

We are seeking the services of a range of businesses and industries to facilitate the construction of the proposed 190km transmission line. Services and resources required will include materials and equipment supply, general trades, construction, administration, catering and accommodation, plus many more.

We welcome local businesses, social enterprises and institutional providers, to express their interest via our [website](#).

### About the project

The Western Renewables Link is a proposed new 190km overhead high-voltage electricity transmission line that will carry renewable energy from Bulgana in western Victoria to Sydenham in Melbourne's north-west.

The project is critical infrastructure required to unlock the renewable energy potential of western Victoria as a key Renewable Energy Zone and will help deliver clean and affordable energy to all Victorians.

For more information about the project, visit our [website](#).

### More information

Visit the project website [www.westernrenewableslink.com.au](http://www.westernrenewableslink.com.au) for the latest project information.

### Contact us

[www.westernrenewableslink.com.au](http://www.westernrenewableslink.com.au)  
1300 360 795  
[info@westernrenewableslink.com.au](mailto:info@westernrenewableslink.com.au)

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