

Project overview

The Western Renewables Link is critical infrastructure required to unlock the renewable energy potential of western Victoria as the state transitions to cleaner, more sustainable energy.

What is the Western Renewables Link?

The Western Renewables Link is a proposed 500kV double circuit overhead electricity transmission line from near Bulgana in western Victoria to Sydenham in Melbourne's north-west.

Why is the Western Renewables Link needed?

As we transition from coal, a new transmission line is required to transport renewable energy from wind and solar farms in western Victoria, a key renewable energy zone, to homes and businesses across the state and into the National Electricity Market. This project is urgently needed to reduce congestion on the existing transmission network, which will unlock more clean energy and help put downward pressure on electricity prices.

Who is delivering the project?

The Western Renewables Link is being delivered by AusNet Services (AusNet). We currently operate 6,500km of transmission lines across Victoria. The Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) selected AusNet to deliver the project following a competitive tender process in December 2019.

Project outcomes

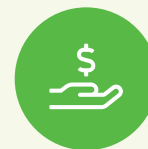
The Western Renewables Link will deliver major economic investment in western Victoria. We are partnering with landholders, communities, Traditional Owners and regional leaders to understand local values, reduce impacts and establish mutually beneficial relationships that will help build a social and economic legacy beyond the project's construction. We are committed to continuing to engage with landholders and the community as the project progresses.



Capable of carrying more than 3,000MW of energy



Capable of delivering enough clean energy for more than 1 million homes



Unlocking wind and solar projects in western Victoria

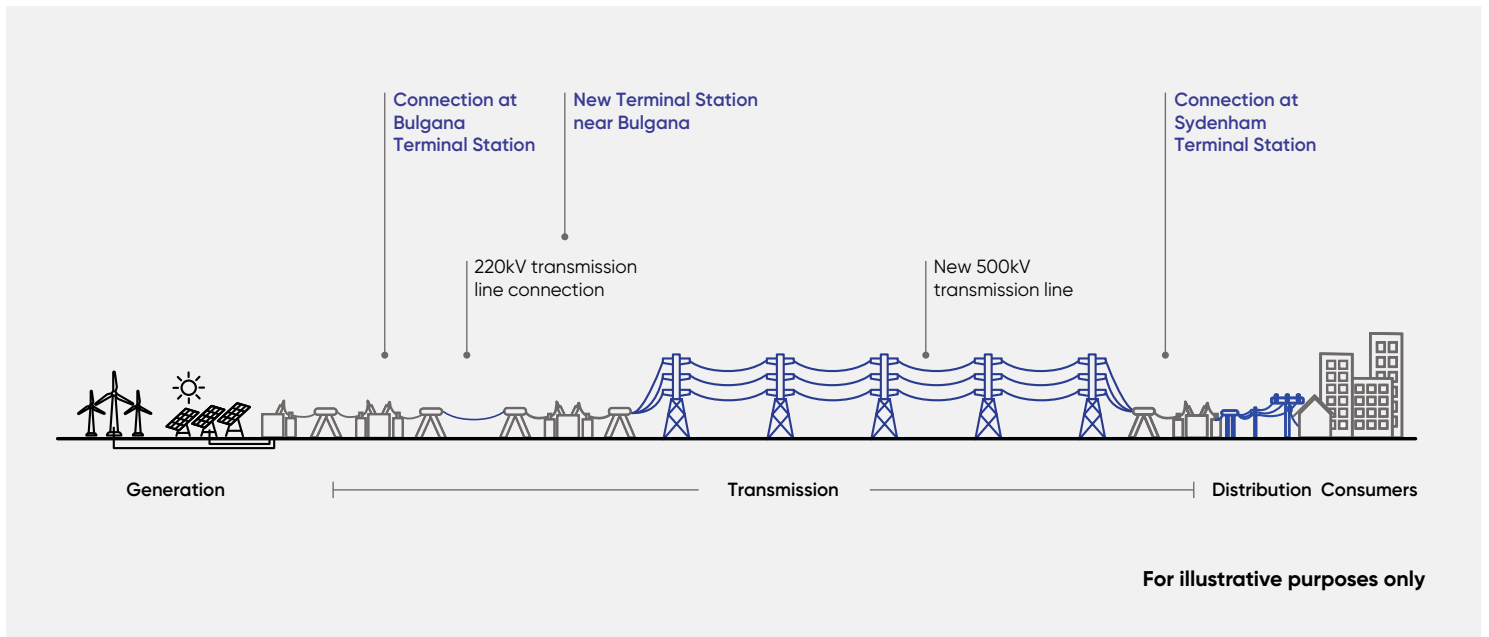


650 jobs in construction

Delivered by

AusNet

Project infrastructure



~190km transmission line



~440 500kV towers



~150km of access tracks for construction and maintenance

Planning and approvals

We are required to prepare an Environment Effects Statement for the Western Renewables Link project that will be assessed by the Victorian Minister for Planning and an Inquiry and Advisory Committee. To inform the Environment Effects Statement and project design, we are undertaking extensive technical studies including field surveys and investigations, along with landholder, community and stakeholder consultation.

A range of feasible project alternatives have been investigated including:

- Alternative corridors and routes.
- Locations for infrastructure such as terminal stations.
- Designs including overhead and underground.
- Other options for the planning, construction or operation of the project.

We are working toward the Environment Effects Statement public exhibition and inquiry, which includes a public hearing, taking place throughout 2025.

Proposed route

The proposed route for the Western Renewables Link was identified based on landholder, community and stakeholder input, impact assessments, technical investigations and constructability. We are continuing to work with landholders and stakeholders to respond to their feedback on the proposed route, tower siting and access track locations. The route for the Western Renewables Link will not be finalised until the Minister for Planning completes their assessment of the Environment Effects Statement and any matters raised by the Minister are addressed.

Our latest proposed route information and updates along with our interactive map can be viewed on our [website](#).

Construction

The Environment Effects Statement process must be complete, and Victorian and Commonwealth approvals must be obtained, including approval of a Planning Scheme Amendment, before construction. Pending project approvals, construction is expected to be complete in 2027.

More information

Visit the project website westernrenewableslink.com.au for the latest project information.

Contact us

- 🌐 westernrenewableslink.com.au
- 📞 1800 WRL WRL (975 975)
- ✉️ info@westernrenewableslink.com.au

Delivered by

AusNet