

Welcome to the final Western Renewables Link project update for 2024. This update provides a recap of the project over the past year and explains how you can stay informed and engaged with the Western Renewables Link Environment Effects Statement process.

We would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank landholders, project neighbours, stakeholders and the community for their engagement with the Western Renewables Link project throughout 2024.

We deeply appreciate everyone who has shared feedback, worked collaboratively with us, and facilitated field surveys and investigations to assess environmental impacts. Important progress has been made as we continued to listen, engage and work with you to plan and co-design the project.

Next year will be a significant year for the project as we finalise and publicly exhibit the **Environment Effects Statement (EES)**. To prepare the EES we have conducted extensive field surveys and technical studies to understand potential impacts, explore design alternatives that reduce them, and recommend measures to address unavoidable impacts. As we continue our work preparing for the EES, we encourage you to stay involved. In the new year, we will share more information and opportunities to engage with the EES and associated planning approvals. This will include guidance on navigating the process, reading the studies, and making a formal submission, which will be considered by the Minister for Planning.

The project team will be available throughout the holiday period during business hours (excluding public holidays) to respond to any feedback, enquiries and concerns about the Western Renewables Link project.

We wish you all a safe and enjoyable holiday period.



Snapshot of 2024



2

Confirmed proposed route updates

(north of Waubra in May 2024 and Bulgana terminal station update in August 2024)



8

Community pop-ups



100+

Community survey participants

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What's happened in 2024

This year, the Western Renewables Link project has continued to refine the design and planning for the project. Here's a snapshot of community engagement and project information from 2024:

Snapshot: Engagement, initiatives and announcements in 2024

FEBRUARY 2024

Online local business register

In February, we launched a new initiative enabling a wide variety of local businesses to register their interest in working with the project by providing details of their services via our [Business register form](#).

Farming with the Western Renewables Link

In response to landholder feedback, we shared detailed information about farming with transmission lines through online webinars with technical specialists. In addition, we updated our [Landholder Guide: Easement safety and permitted activities](#) with new information about easement safety and permitted activities, focusing on agricultural and farming activities.

FEBRUARY AND MARCH 2024

New fact sheets

We published three new fact sheets providing landholders, stakeholders and the community with project information about the [Environment Effects Statement](#), [Draft Planning Scheme Amendment](#) and [Terminal Stations](#).

MARCH 2024

Essential Services Commission (ESC) Land Access Code of Practice

The ESC's Land Access Code of Practice came into effect on 1 March 2024, which replaced the ESC Land Access Statement of Expectations. We reviewed and updated our procedures, protocols, and our [Landholder Guide: Land access for field surveys and investigations](#) to align with new requirements.

MAY 2024

Proposed route update: North of Waubra

In May, we shared proposed route updates with the release of the [Updated proposed route north of Waubra fact sheet](#).

JUNE 2024

Living near the Western Renewables Link

We created a [dedicated page for project neighbours](#) on our website and invited them via post to [register their details as a neighbour](#) to allow us to share important information about the project in a timely manner. Project neighbours could also register their interest in a residential visual impact assessment to be conducted later in the year.

AUGUST 2024

Potential project delivery partner shortlist

We engaged early with the project's potential delivery partners to gain their support and input on developing the construction methodology and determining the Environmental Performance Requirements.

Proposed route update: Bulgana Terminal Station

In August, we shared updates to the proposed route and announced a new terminal station near to the existing Bulgana Terminal Station. The [Updated proposed route \(August 2024\) fact sheet](#) was published, and the project's [interactive map](#) was updated to reflect these changes.

AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 2024

In August, we published our [Designing the proposed Western Renewables Link video](#) which shares information about how we have designed the Western Renewables link. We also published our [Constructing overhead transmission lines video](#) in September, which explains the process involved in constructing 500kV overhead transmission lines, from access tracks and foundations to testing, commissioning and site rehabilitation.

SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 2024

We hosted pop-up information sessions and attended Elmore Field Days to provide information about the updated proposed route, field survey findings and the Draft Planning Scheme Amendment. Over 100 people participated in the project's Community Survey, which was open throughout September and October 2024. We also published an [Environment Effects Statement Overview webpage](#) on our project website, providing further information about the planning and approvals processes, as well as what we know about existing environmental features and community values in the project area.



Want to speak with a member of our team?

We're committed to continuing to engage with the community and will continue to consider all feedback. We encourage anyone interested or affected to contact the project on our dedicated number 1800 975 975 or email us at info@westernrenewableslink.com.au.

In the new year there will be opportunities to meet with members of our team who are regularly out and about in the community providing important project information and updates.



About the project

The Western Renewables Link is a proposed new 190km overhead high-voltage electricity transmission line that will carry renewable energy near 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.

More information

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

Contact us

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