

17 June 2020

Community consultation commences; have your say on Victoria's most critical transmission network project in 30 years

Planning is underway for the Western Victoria Transmission Network Project which will help to deliver clean and affordable energy to Victorian consumers. When fully operational in 2025, the Western Victoria Transmission Network Project will see approximately 190 kilometres of overhead transmission line and infrastructure constructed, substantially increasing the amount of renewable energy that can be supplied from Victoria's wind and solar rich western regions.

Starting in Bulgana in Victoria's west, the transmission line will connect to Sydenham in Melbourne's north-west, via a new terminal station to the north of Ballarat.

AusNet Services has been appointed by the Australian Energy Market Operator to plan, consult on, design, construct, operate and maintain this new transmission line, the first of its kind in over 30 years in Victoria.

Community consultation has commenced in the identified area of interest. The area of interest is a broad area which is currently being investigated to understand existing constraints and opportunities, before a preferred transmission line corridor is identified.

AusNet Services, Mr Chad Hymas, Executive General Manager, Growth and Future Networks, believes community input will help to deliver a project that minimises impact to communities and the environment.

"Community input is fundamental. We warmly welcome anyone with an interest in the project to visit our website, where you can learn more about the project and have your say.

This project is all about Victoria's energy future, unlocking renewable sources and bringing major economic investment to western Victoria and its local economy."

Western Victoria is emerging as an important renewable energy-generation region. By increasing the capacity of transmission lines required to deliver this energy to the wider network, this project unlocks existing and future generation in the region, increasing availability of renewable energy on the market.

Developing this critical infrastructure will involve major economic investment in western Victoria, creating new jobs during and after construction, as well as support Victoria's move towards a cleaner energy future.

For further information, including a map of the area of interest and details for contacting with the Western Victorian Transmission Network Project team head to www.westvictnp.com.au

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Media Release



About AusNet Services

AusNet Services is a diversified Australian energy infrastructure business with over \$10.8 billion of electricity and gas network and connection assets. These assets deliver energy safely and reliably to around 1.5 million customers across Victoria. Our network and connection assets are designed, built, maintained and operated by our 1,900 employees across our regulated networks and our commercial energy services business, Mondo. AusNet Services is listed on the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX: AST).