

Media Release

The Hon Lily D'Ambrosio MP
Minister for Climate Action
Minister for Energy and Resources
Minister for the State Electricity Commission



Thursday, 8 June 2023

BETTER ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE AND SECURITY FOR VICTORIA

The Andrews Labor Government is reforming the way energy infrastructure is planned and developed – making sure Victoria’s electricity grid is built to support our ambitious renewables agenda while keeping communities at the heart of the process.

Minister for Energy and Resources Lily D’Ambrosio today launched the Victorian Transmission Investment Framework (VTIF) – which will ensure environmental, land-use, cultural and social factors are considered early in the process to inform locations for new transmission projects.

As Victoria’s ageing coal-fired power stations retire, we need new renewable energy capacity, supported by transmission infrastructure, to get electricity from the state’s wind and solar resources to homes and businesses across the state.

The Victorian Government body, VicGrid, will lead transmission project planning and development, and ensure local communities, landholders, Traditional Owners and other key stakeholders are consulted on these major projects from start to finish.

VicGrid will deliver tailored engagement to the needs of Traditional Owners and local stakeholder groups, including local reference groups as advisory bodies and having a physical presence in local communities by employing local staff to build trust and confidence in the planning process.

VicGrid will also develop a framework for government, industry and community partnerships to ensure that host communities benefit directly, and regional development opportunities are maximised.

VicGrid already coordinates the planning and development of Victoria’s renewable energy zones and will continue to lead this work as it adopts new roles and responsibilities under the Framework.

This includes developing a Victorian Transmission Plan – an outlook of the transmission infrastructure required for Victoria’s renewable energy transition over the next 15 years.

Priority areas for renewable energy zone development will be identified by early 2024, with publication of a draft Victorian Transmission Plan for consultation expected by late 2024.

For more information, visit engage.vic.gov.au/victorian-transmission-investment-framework.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Energy and Resources Lily D’Ambrosio

“This is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to reform the way we plan our energy infrastructure with genuine consultation with communities and industry at the heart of the process.”

“As Victoria moves toward 95 percent renewables by 2035, we have to update and modernise our grid to deliver this cheaper, more reliable energy to homes and businesses across the state.”

Quote attributable to VicGrid CEO Alistair Parker

“The Victorian Transmission Investment Framework will help us get the planning of new infrastructure right, so we can make sure all Victorians benefit from the transition to renewable energy.”

Media contact: Siobhan McKenna 0480 147 921 | siobhan.mckenna@minstaff.vic.gov.au