

EYRE PENINSULA REINFORCEMENT PROJECT

ABOUT THE PROJECT

After almost 50 years in service, the Eyre Peninsula's existing 132 kV transmission line is near capacity and is approaching the end of its operational life. ElectraNet needs to begin planning for the replacement and upgrade to the existing line to ensure ongoing reliable supply of electricity to the Eyre Peninsula.

WORKING TOGETHER ON THE EYRE PENINSULA

Community involvement in the early planning stages of upgrading and replacing a transmission line is very important to ElectraNet, as it helps us understand community values, priorities and areas of significance to inform our decisions and deliver better service outcomes.

Landowners living along the existing transmission line route and members of the wider community were invited to attend a series of community drop-in days held at Cleve, Ungarra and Port Lincoln in March this year. They learnt more about ElectraNet's Eyre Peninsula Reinforcement Project and had the opportunity to provide feedback to help inform route selection for a new transmission line on the Eyre Peninsula.

Through attendance at the 2012 Eyre Peninsula Field Days, the series of community drop-in days, 98 one-on-one meetings with landowners living along the existing 285 km transmission line route and consultation with the wider community, ElectraNet has collected a large amount of important information.

In addition, feedback has been sought from local councils, the Eyre Peninsula Regional Development Board and businesses in the region.

This information is being analysed and will be included alongside technical engineering, environmental, cultural and cost criteria to progress the route selection process.



ElectraNet Community Engagement Consultant, Josh, with Jim and Sally Lawrie attending the community drop-in day at the Ungarra Sports Club on 22 March 2013.

AER APPROVAL

In April 2013, the Australian Energy Regulator (AER) accepted the strategic importance and need to upgrade the Eyre Peninsula transmission network if the load demand increases. Funding to acquire land and easements in preparation for a future transmission line between Cultana and Port Lincoln in the 2013-2018 regulatory period was approved. The AER also accepted the transmission line project as a contingent project, for which funding can be awarded if specified triggers are met during the regulatory period, including completion of the Regulatory Investment Test for Transmission (RIT-T) process and commitment to sufficient new load connections in this region of the network.



PLANNING STUDY CONTINUATION

The construction of a new transmission line and decommissioning of the old one will not take place immediately; only when the need arises.

Investigating and determining the best route at this stage, allows for technical design to be undertaken promptly when load dictates.

DESKTOP ANALYSIS, PLANNING AND FIELD STUDIES

ElectraNet has conducted initial desktop studies of potential issues and constraints. A planning study that looked at an area 200m on either side of the existing transmission line was also conducted.

This helped ElectraNet understand the opportunities and constraints of a parallel alignment for a replacement transmission line. ElectraNet will continue to investigate options to deviate the line route at one or several locations.

Environmental flora and fauna surveys have identified sections of the route that will require further, more detailed analysis and surveying. These studies have commenced and will continue through Spring 2013.

ElectraNet has also recently re-signed a Heritage Term Agreement with the Bargarla Traditional Owners on Eyre Peninsula. A cultural heritage survey of the study corridor will be undertaken in the very near future.

THE NEW TRANSMISSION LINE WOULD...

- Be built above-ground, similar to the existing transmission line.
- Be bound to fixed connection points in Cultana, Yadnarie and Port Lincoln.
- Most likely be a 275 kV line with a minimum 50 metre wide easement.
- Be completed before decommissioning the existing transmission line.
- Be constructed as soon as load dictates and the applicable planning, regulatory and funding approvals are obtained.

THE NEXT STEPS:

ElectraNet		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyse initial information gathered from the community and results of investigative research. • Conduct multi criteria analysis to identify preferred route options.* • Inform community of the preferred option. <p><i>*These options will need to meet a range of factors, including technical suitability, environmental issues and achieve the lowest long-run cost for the South Australian community. These will be considered together with social considerations and community feedback during the option identification process.</i></p>
Landowners and the Eyre Peninsula community		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity to provide feedback to further refine a preferred route option.
ElectraNet		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare and lodge Statutory Referral and Approval documentation.
Landowners		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback opportunity in line with statutory approval process as determined by State and Commonwealth Governments.
ElectraNet	 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land and easement negotiation and acquisition commences with landowners. • Load is triggered (timing unknown). • Community is informed of forthcoming construction timelines. • Applicable planning, regulatory and funding approvals are obtained. • Construction of new transmission line along acquired easement commences. • On completion and energisation of a new transmission line, old line is de-energised.

KEEP UP-TO-DATE

If you have any queries, feedback or would like to keep updated, please contact ElectraNet's Community Engagement Consultant at community.liaison@electranet.com.au, toll-free on **1800 890 376** or visit electranet.com.au. You may also write in to **PO Box 7096, Hutt Street Post Office, Adelaide SA 5000.**

