



New power transmission line between Kojonup and Albany

PROJECT BROCHURE APRIL 2007

Western Power is conducting a six-month consultation process before work begins on the construction of a new transmission line between Kojonup and Albany.

Communities between Kojonup and Albany will be invited to participate in a line corridor selection process to help Western Power achieve the best possible line route.

The project

Two 132,000 volt (132 kV) lines from Kojonup currently supply electricity to Albany. Due to an expected increase in electricity use, the Albany region will need to reinforce transmission systems into Albany by 2011. Western Power will do this with the construction of a new 220,000 volt (220 kV) double-circuit transmission line between Kojonup and Albany.

This new transmission line will help provide reliable, quality electricity supply to meet growing power needs in the Albany region. The line will also have sufficient capacity to supply electricity to Grange Resources Ltd's proposed magnetite mine at Wellstead, 90 km north-east of Albany.

Should the Grange Resources mine not proceed, Western Power will construct a 132 kV transmission line rather than the proposed 220 kV transmission line.



The consultation process

Western Power has appointed an independent consulting firm, GHD, to assist in engaging with local communities to select the best route for the line between Kojonup and Albany. The consultation process starts in April 2007 and finishes in October 2007.

Selecting a line route

GHD will be inviting interested community members to help select a line route. GHD uses the Sustainability Assessment Process to evaluate a range of corridor options before a final route is selected. There are a number of steps involved in the process and the input of the local community is essential.

April 2007 – Identifying constraints

The process starts with a desktop review of constraints. It allows GHD to examine the areas between the start and end points of the line route and to identify any areas that may affect the line. Aboriginal and European heritage areas, natural features such as mountain ranges and rivers may have an effect on the construction of the line.

May 2007 – Information sessions

GHD will provide information to the communities between Kojonup and Albany and will ask for feedback about opportunities and constraints.

GHD will then conduct a workshop to identify sustainability criteria such as visual amenity, cost, farming activity and biosecurity. These are some examples of issues that are important to local communities and will be taken into account when determining the best line route.

A Stakeholder Reference Group, comprising members from all affected communities will be established at the information sessions.

May 2007 – first Stakeholder Reference Group meeting

A Stakeholder Reference Group, comprising key stakeholders from state and local government authorities, community groups and landowners from affected communities, will be established following the information sessions.

June-August – Impact assessment

Each potential line route will be assessed to determine the impact of the sustainability criteria.



Contact

Please contact Western Power's representative,
Lyllall Murphy, with any queries about this project.

Telephone: 9326 4744 or 0427 449 829

Email: lyllall.murphy@westernpower.com.au

25-29 June and 2-6 July – Information packs

Information on the selection criteria and possible line routes will be provided to affected communities for their feedback.

10-13 July, 16-20 July, 22-27 July, 7-10 August – Stakeholder workshops

Key stakeholders will be invited to provide weightings on the sustainability criteria according to what is important to them.

July-August 2007 – second Stakeholder Reference Group workshop

Outcomes of the impact assessment and sustainability criteria weightings will be reviewed and line corridor route options finalised.

Multi-criteria analysis

The impact assessment and feedback from the stakeholder workshops will be used to compare the line route options.

Report

A report will be published about the sustainability assessment process and its outcome. Stakeholders are then notified of the preferred option.

17-20 October and 23-26 October – Feedback information sessions

Information about the result and the rationale for the selection of the preferred option is given to key stakeholders

Register your interest in attending an information session by 2 May 2007.

To accommodate all interested parties, registration for the information sessions is essential. To register please call Vivian Garde at GHD on telephone: 6222 8419 or email on vivian.garde@ghd.com.au.

Dates and times of information sessions*

Location	Date	Time	Venue	Address
Kojonup	9 May	8 – 10am	Kojonup Lesser Hall	Albany Hwy, Kojonup
Tambellup	9 May	7 – 9pm	Tambellup Pavilion	East Tce, Tambellup
Frankland	10 May	8 – 10am	Frankland Hall	Wingebellup Rd, Frankland
Cranbrook	10 May	7 – 9pm	Cranbrook Lesser Hall	Gathorne St, Cranbrook
Kendenup	11 May	8 – 10am	Kendenup Hall	41 Hassell Ave, Kendenup
Mount Barker	15 May	7 – 9pm	Frost Pavilion	McDonald Ave, Mount Barker
Narrikup	16 May	8 – 10am	Narrikup Community Hall	Spencer Rd, Narrikup
Porongurup	16 May	7 – 9pm	Karribank Country Retreat	Porongurup Rd, Porongurup
Albany	17 May	8 – 10am	PCYC	77 Sanford Rd, Albany
Manypeaks	17 May	7 – 9pm	Manypeaks Hall	South Coast Hwy, Manypeaks
Wellstead	18 May	8 – 10am	Wellstead Community Hall	Wellstead St, Wellstead

* subject to change

More details will be advertised in local newspapers and radio stations or go to Current Projects at www.westernpower.com.au and follow the links.

To register for an information session, please call Vivian Garde at GHD on 6222 8419 or email vivian.garde@ghd.com.au.

Questions and answers

Why not place the line underground?

Burying the new transmission line is uneconomic. It would increase the cost by seven to ten times which would result in severe cutbacks to many other programs planned around the State. Technical issues due to the terrain would also make it extremely difficult to bury the line.

Will environmentally sensitive areas be protected?

The line route selection process will consider environmentally sensitive areas as constraints to be avoided.

Will Grange Resources contribute to the cost of constructing the 220 kV transmission line?

Yes. If a staged development of the mine is possible, Grange Resources will make a significant capital contribution to the cost of building the 220 kV line.

How close will the new transmission line be to the Stirling Range and the Porongorups?

Stakeholder and community feedback will help to determine the proximity of the transmission line to the Stirling Ranges and the Porongorups.



Two existing 132 kV transmission lines between Kojonup and Albany.