



New Power Transmission Lines Kojonup – Albany – Wellstead

PROJECT UPDATE, OCTOBER 2007

Two 132,000 volt (132 kV) lines from Kojonup currently supply electricity to the Albany area. Due to the forecast increase in demand for electricity in the Great Southern area, Western Power will need to reinforce transmission networks into Albany by 2011.

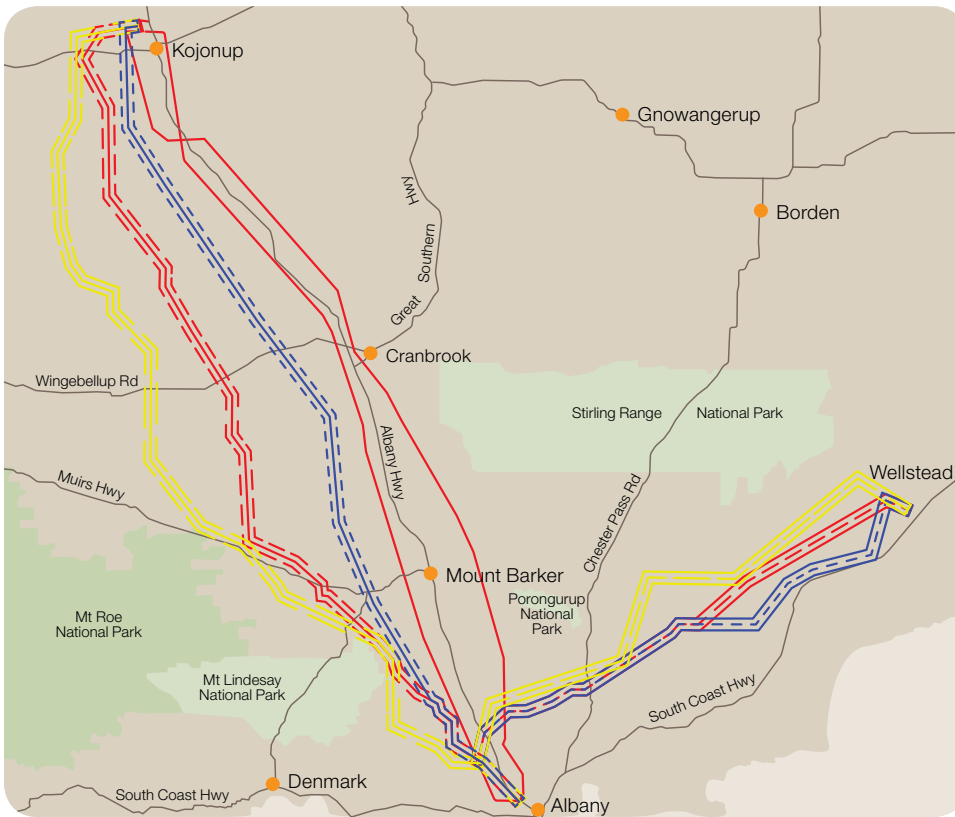
The project

Western Power will do this with the construction of a new double-circuit transmission line between Kojonup and Albany. The transmission line will provide the required additional capacity, and ultimately provide a more reliable power supply for homes and businesses in the region.

It is yet to be determined whether a 220 kV transmission line between Albany and Wellstead will be constructed to supply electricity to Grange Resources' proposed magnetite mine at Wellstead, 90 km north-east of Albany. It is important to note that Western Power's charter, as a network operator, is to provide network access and infrastructure services to all customers who request connection.

If Grange Resources choose not to proceed with their development or choose the 220 kV option via the Gnowangerup region, Western Power will construct the transmission line at 132 kV between Kojonup and Albany rather than the proposed 220 kV, to service the needs of the region. Additionally, the Albany to Wellstead line would not be constructed.





Your invitation

The final corridor for these transmission lines is not yet confirmed.

Western Power is working with landowners, local government agencies and other key stakeholders, and with independent consultant GHD, to select the preferred corridor for each line option.

We invite you to participate in the selection process.

Community to play a key role in corridor planning

The process of selecting suitable corridor options for the two lines began in March 2007. In May 2007, we held 11 information sessions at different locations between Kojonup, Albany and Wellstead. Subsequent feedback received suggests that some communities in the area did not feel that they had adequate opportunity to provide input. We are now extending our consultation process and urge you to take advantage of this opportunity to be informed and involved.

We are holding 4 'walk in' information sessions in October 2007. You will be able to meet the project team, gain a thorough understanding of the project and proposed options, ask questions and provide information on the constraints and opportunities in your local area.

Have your say

October community information sessions*

NAPIER	
Date	Monday 29 October 2007
Time	2–7pm
Location	Napier Hall Chester Pass Road, Napier

REDMOND	
Date	Tuesday 30 October 2007
Time	2–7pm
Location	Redmond Hall Redmond (ask for directions at the general store)

MOUNT BARKER	
Date	Wednesday 31 October 2007
Time	2–7pm
Location	Frost Pavilion McDonald Avenue, Mount Barker

KOJONUP	
Date	Thursday 1 November 2007
Time	2–7pm
Location	Kojonup Memorial Hall Albany Highway, Kojonup (next to the Shire offices)

*You do not need to register for a session. If you would like more information, refer to the contact details at the end of this brochure.

MAY-JUL 2007

REVIEW OF CONSTRAINTS

Collation of available constraints data, including environmental, social and technical information, such as vegetation mapping, significant flora databases, heritage and existing infrastructure.

INFORMATION SESSIONS

A series of open invitation information sessions were held in regional locations with key stakeholders and the wider community.

DEFINE TRANSMISSION LINE CORRIDOR OPTIONS

Using the constraints mapping, and any information obtained during the initial information sessions, the Corridor Selection Panel defined a set of broad corridors to be assessed further.

DEVELOP SUSTAINABILITY CRITERIA

The Corridor Selection Panel developed a set of criteria to assess each of the corridor options. These criteria cover the range of relevant sustainability issues, including environmental, social and economic factors.

CORRIDOR SELECTION PANEL

The Corridor Selection Panel was established to guide the overall process of selecting a line corridor.

JUL-OCT 2007

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

The corridor options will be assessed against sustainability criteria. This step uses technical information about the level of impact each option may have.

CRITERIA WEIGHTINGS WORKSHOPS

A series of facilitated workshops held in regional locations with key stakeholders to weight each of the sustainability criteria in order of importance. These different values will be included in making the decision on a preferred corridor.

OCT 2007

BE INVOLVED

Nominate yourself or someone you know to be in this Group.

BE INFORMED

Attend an information session to find out how the proposals may affect you and your community.

STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY GROUP

The Stakeholder Advisory Group will build on the work of the Corridor Selection Panel.

INFORMATION SESSIONS

Further information sessions, providing an opportunity to:

- Inform and promote awareness and understanding of the project and the sustainability assessment process; and
- Highlight additional features of local importance.

NOV 2007 onwards

MULTI-CRITERIA ANALYSIS

The criteria weightings are considered in conjunction with the results of the impact assessments. This will be used to compare the corridor options, and identify which corridor is preferred. The outcomes are then reviewed with the Stakeholder Advisory Group.

FEEDBACK INFORMATION SESSIONS

A series of information sessions held in regional locations, providing an opportunity to:

- Inform the community, and other stakeholders of the outcome of the sustainability assessment process; and
- Ask detailed questions about the outcomes.

DEFINING THE LINE ROUTE

Western Power will investigate a line route within the preferred corridor in close liaison with landowners.

ENVIRONMENTAL APPROVALS

Western Power will then commence the environmental approvals process for the transmission line route.

Stakeholder Advisory Group

There are significant complexities in selecting a transmission line corridor to balance environmental, economic and social requirements as well as technical constraints. To help with this challenge, two Stakeholder Advisory Groups will be established, one for the Kojonup to Albany line project and the other for the Albany to Wellstead line project. These groups will build on previous work prepared by the Corridor Selection Panel that identified the three corridor options currently under review.

Each Stakeholder Advisory Group is expected to consist of up to 40 members who will have strong local knowledge and experience, combined with a genuine desire to contribute positively to finding a preferred corridor that has the least impact on the wider community. As the objective is to find a suitable corridor option for the whole community, nominees must have a perspective beyond a single or self-interest.

If you think you fit the criteria or know someone who does, you can make a nomination for one or both of the Advisory Groups. Simply complete and return the enclosed nomination form.

The role of the Stakeholder Advisory Group

- This project relates only to a corridor route selection for a transmission line, between Kojonup and Albany and Albany and Wellstead. The Stakeholder Advisory Group cannot consider alternative forms of energy or locations.
- The role of the group will be to review the current corridor options, providing additional stakeholder input where relevant, based on local knowledge. It is an opportunity to strengthen the process, and build upon information already collected.
- The group will provide stakeholders with an opportunity to provide additional and significant local knowledge for consideration into the process.
- The group will have an advisory role, providing information and recommendations to Western Power. Final decisions about how to include the information provided by the Stakeholder Advisory Group will be made by Western Power.
- The deliberations of the group at the workshops, including participant names, will be minuted and made publicly available via the Western Power website.

Contact

Please contact Western Power's representative, Lyall Murphy, with any questions about this project.

Tel 9326 4744 or 0427 449 829
email lyall.Murphy@westernpower.com.au

You can also find out more project information on our website www.westernpower.com.au