



Planning the future energy grid together

Community Factsheet



Our Energy Transition

Energy powers every part of our lives, from work and education, to travel and play. As our ageing and increasingly unreliable coal-fired power stations retire and are replaced by renewables, our electricity grid needs to evolve.

We are replacing fossil fuels like coal with our abundant renewable energy sources – such as solar and wind – to generate affordable and reliable electricity for all Victorians.

Victoria's electricity grid is historically strongest in the Latrobe Valley, where coal-fired power stations are based. However, renewable resources are dispersed across Victoria.

New transmission infrastructure is critical to moving high volumes of energy from new areas where it is generated, to homes and businesses where it will be used. This is our energy transition.

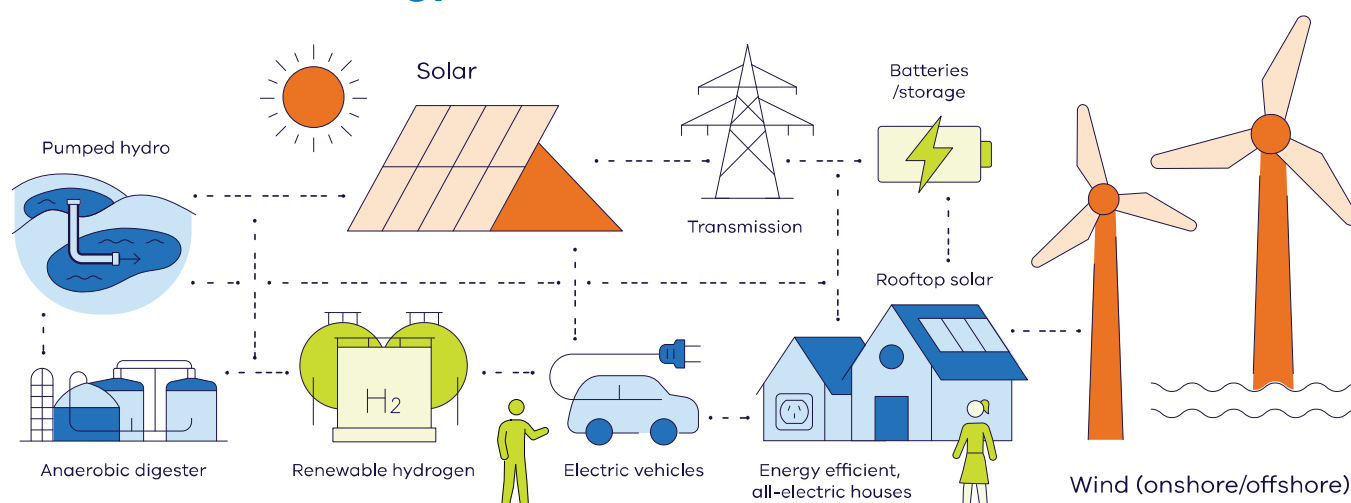
What does the energy transition mean for me?

This transition means unprecedented new investment in renewable energy generation, transmission, and storage. As more homes, businesses and cars go all-electric, we will need more electricity than ever before.

It will also help create social and economic opportunities for Victorians, including via partnerships with Traditional Owner Corporations, through job creation and local supply chain development.

While the energy transition might sound daunting, the Victorian Government is committed to delivering a well-planned, affordable, reliable and secure electricity system for all Victorians.

What does the energy transition look like?



The role of Vicgrid

VicGrid is a division within the Victorian Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA). It coordinates the overarching planning and development of Victoria's Renewable Energy Zones (REZs). This includes coordinating new transmission infrastructure to reduce impacts as much as possible and create benefits for landholders, local communities, and Traditional Owners.

Renewable Energy Zones or 'REZs' are areas of the state with abundant renewable energy resources, like wind and sun. To get energy from the wind or sun to where it's needed, REZs may also house storage technologies, and transmission infrastructure such as high voltage lines and substations.

Developing the first Victorian Transmission Plan

VicGrid is commencing the planning of Victorian Renewable Energy Zones through our first state-wide Victorian Transmission Plan (VTP).

This Plan will include a 15-year outlook for transmission infrastructure projects needed to meet the state's electricity system needs and unlock Renewable Energy Zones.

It will determine the appropriate level of renewable energy development across Victoria based on balancing a range of factors, including system needs, environmental factors, cost, land use and community views.

It will ensure we are building the right infrastructure in the right places and that we are not building more than we need.

State-wide Strategic Land Use Assessment

An important first step in building the Victorian Transmission Plan is to identify "Renewable Energy Zone Priority Areas".

These are geographical areas that could be appropriate for the development of generation, storage and transmission. They are a starting point from which further investigation and planning for Renewable Energy Zones can be undertaken.

To help identify Priority Areas, VicGrid is conducting a state-wide energy-specific Strategic Land Use Assessment (or SLUA).

The purpose of this assessment is to help guide where Renewable Energy Zone development should occur across the state, considering a range of land use, engineering, environmental, cultural and social factors. It will also consider local and regional values and preferences, to minimise local community impacts and maximise opportunities for regions to benefit from Renewable Energy Zone development.

The result of this state-wide assessment will be a high-level view of the suitability of land for potentially hosting renewable energy generation and transmission. The outcomes of this assessment will help to avoid or minimise impacts to areas that are considered highly sensitive or significant.



Scan here to find out more

To request a hardcopy survey call
1800 418 341

We want to hear from you and make sure your voice was heard

To help VicGrid plan Victoria's Renewable Energy Zones, we are asking you to share your views about renewable energy and transmission development. We're also asking you to help us identify places important to you in your area and to share your local knowledge of the issues VicGrid should consider through the Strategic Land Use Assessment.



Complete the Renewable Energy Planning Survey either online or through our research partners, Voconiq



Engage with our Interactive Map



Attend one of our upcoming Community Workshops