

COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP

Meeting #33 – 28 May 2025



A landscape photograph featuring a field of tall, green grass in the foreground, blowing in the wind. The background is a vast sky with large, soft clouds, some of which are illuminated with a warm, golden light, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The overall mood is serene and natural.

We acknowledge the Gunaikurnai people as the traditional custodians of the land and pay respect to their elders past and present.

Agenda

1. Welcome and Acknowledgement,
 - Standing items and actions
 - Apologies
 - Minutes and action items
 - Declaration of potential conflicts
2. Focus Topic
 - Star of the South, Onshore transmission update
3. Break
4. Brief focus topic
 - Project update – an industry outlook
5. What's happening on the project
6. What's happening in the community
7. Other business
 - Other questions or feedback
 - Key messages
 - Suggestions for future agenda items
 - Next meeting – Thursday 24 July 2025
8. Meeting close

ONSHORE TRANSMISSION UPDATE

Focus topic

Purpose of this update

- Provide an update on the project's onshore transmission plans
- Provide an overview of:
 - What studies we've done
 - What's next as we progress the EIA technical reports
 - How we'll seek feedback on the EIA.



Where are we now?



NOW

2020
Victorian and Commonwealth governments determined: EIS + EES required (Coordinated EIA process)

2020 | 2024
Completed extensive baseline studies of the marine and onshore environment.

2020 | 2025
Route dev. and land tenure
Geotechnical / pre-feasibility technical studies
Auction prep

Preparation of our EIA submission

- 25 technical studies
- Examines our baseline studies and investigations
- Assesses potential project impacts and mitigations
- Aiming to submit to government later this year

Progress Technical

- Auction preparations
- Concept designs updates and procurement preparations
- Post auction award, progress detailed design and finalise grid connection

Transmission update

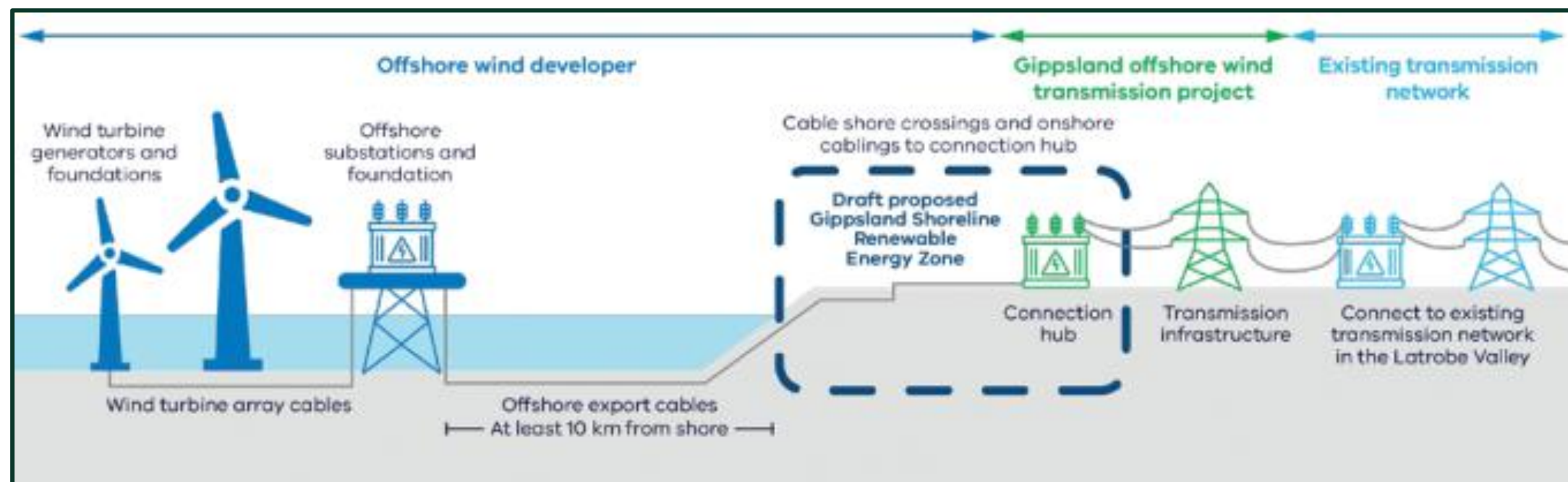
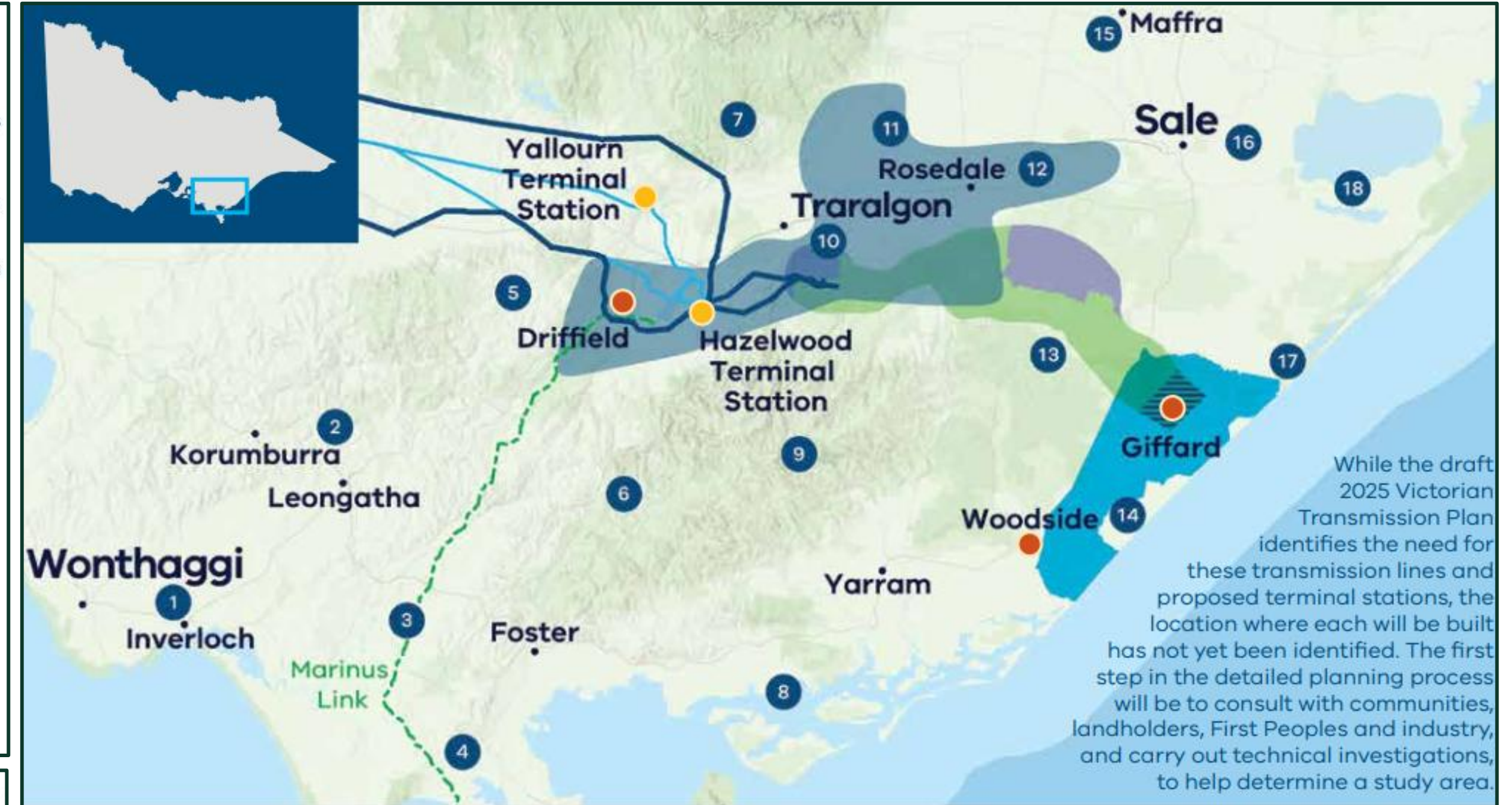
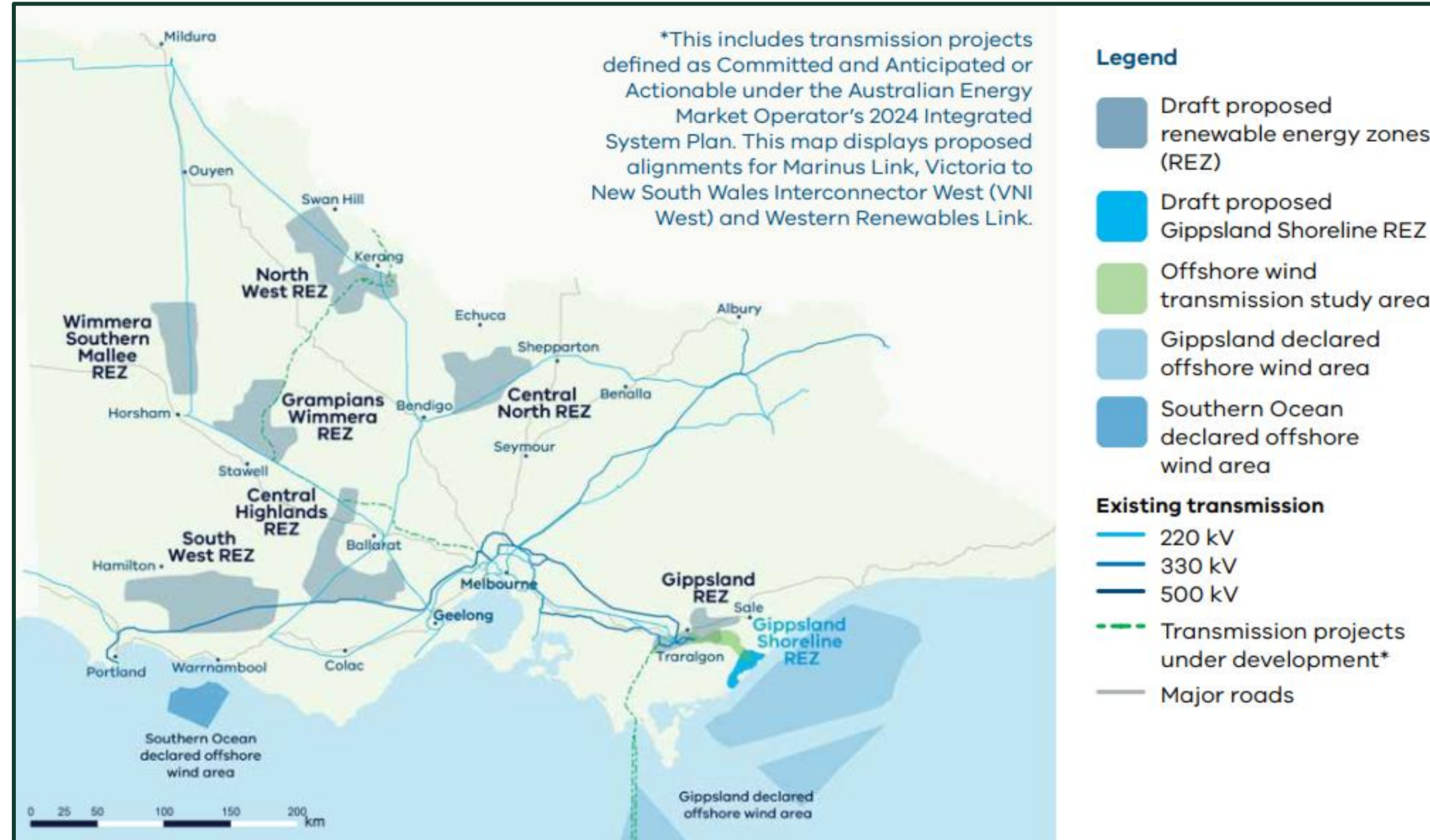
- Offshore wind projects are required to connect to the VicGrid 'connection hub'
- We're planning our route to get to the connection hub area
- Once the exact VicGrid hub location is known, we'll finalise how we'll reach it
- We're investigating different options to reach the hub and will include these in our EIS/EES
- Engagement with landholders is ongoing
- Ongoing preparations for the Victorian government auction plus market engagement



Evolution of the project area – onshore transmission

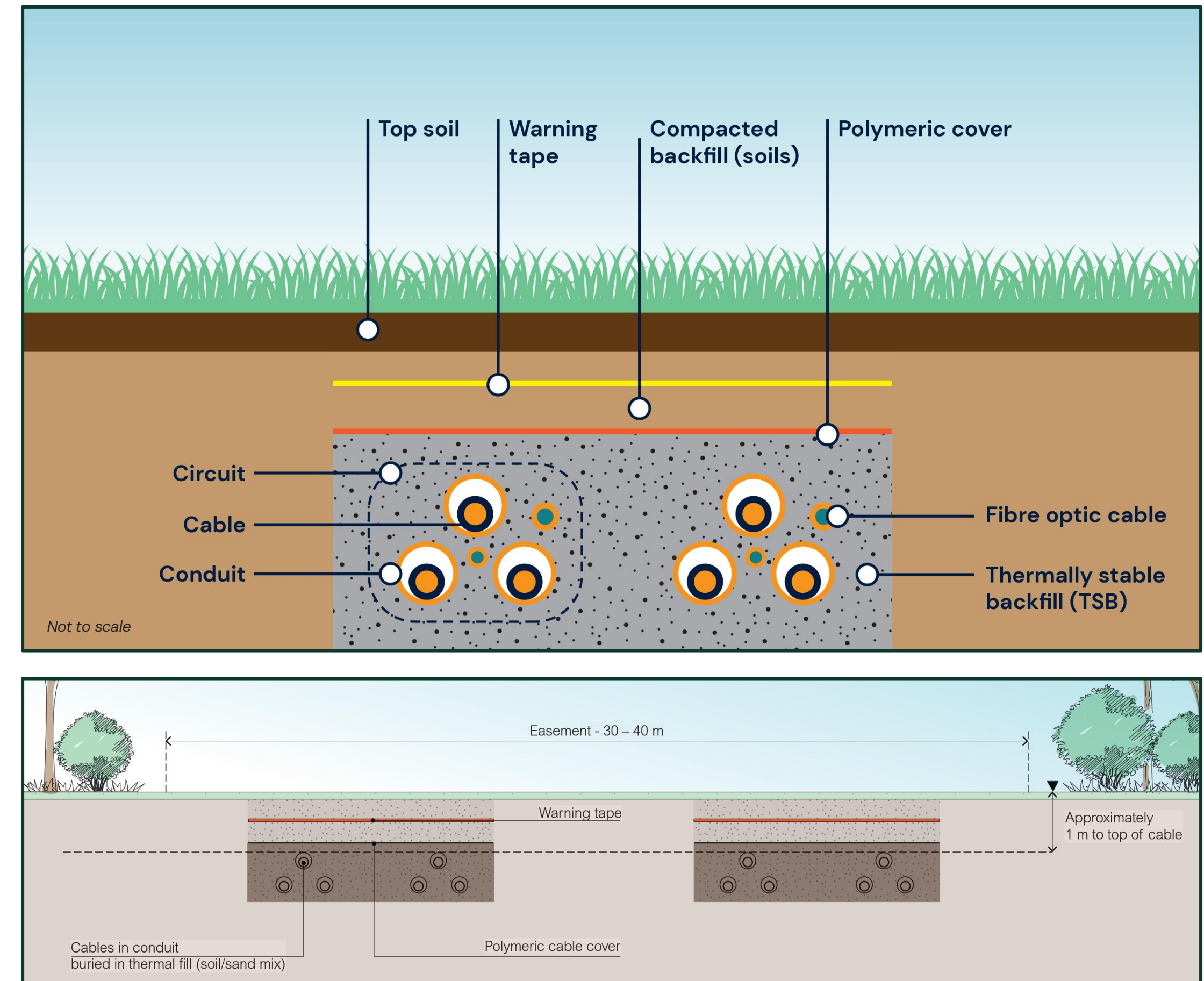


Draft VTP – Shoreline REZ & Transmission



Underground Cable system

- Multiple circuits operated within a 30-40m easement
- Approx. 30km between Reeves Beach and Giffard connection hub
- 50-60m temporary construction corridor, road access and laydown area
- Cables installed largely via open trench method. $\approx 1\text{m}$ cover
- Cables installed in ducts (conduit) or direct bury methods
- Cables likely to be surrounded by thermally stable fill
- Installation includes fibre optic cables, warning tape and mechanical protection systems
- Cables jointed at $\approx 1\text{ km}$ intervals
- Easement likely to look like a treeless area, with surface safety marking/signage and flush pit covers at joint bays (not fenced).



Construction Approach

1. Establish construction corridor

- Clearing, fencing, environmental and biosecurity controls, haul road construction

2. Civil works

- Trench excavation, ducts (if used) and joint bays installed
- Backfill trenches either thermal fill or sand and soils

3. Cable installation

- Cables either pulled through each duct between each joint bay, or laid in open trench ready for backfill
- Cable system jointed and joint bays backfilled
- System is tested, commissioned and brought into operation

4. Reinstatement

- Temporary roads and fencing removed and area reinstated.



Image source: WSP/CSE 2021, Diona 2018

Cable jointing

- Specialised connections between cable sections to make a continuous conductor
- 3 cables are jointed at each circuit joint location
- Each circuit is typically contained in an individual bay or partition of a multi-circuit bay
- Cables jointed at approx. 1 km intervals. Longer intervals = less joints = larger drums
- Up to 10 days per circuit joint
- Joints are housed in joint bays:
 - Typically, pre-fabricated concrete bays that are buried
 - Once joints are completed, they are backfilled like the cable trenches
 - Pit covers for link and fibre pit access during operations visible.

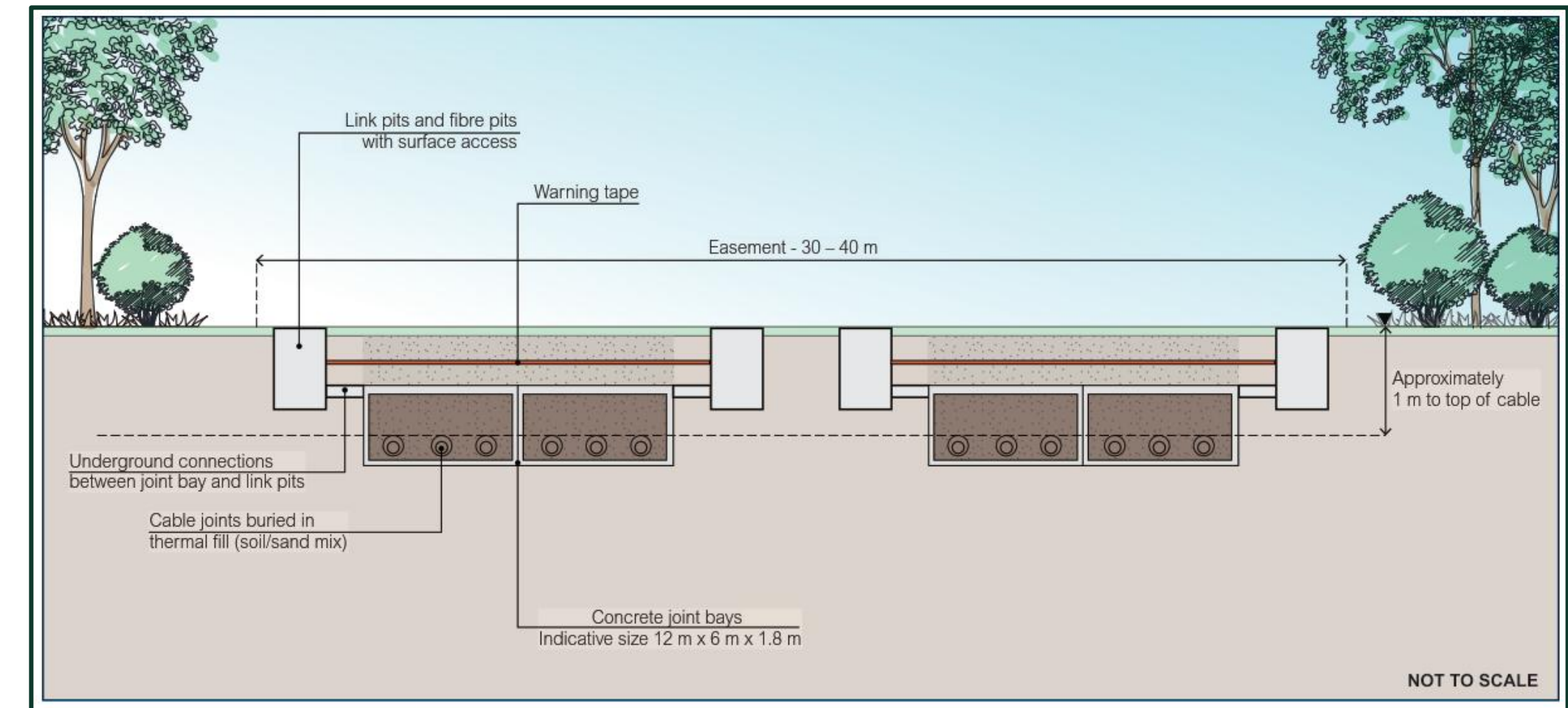


Image source: WSP/CSE 2021, SOTS 2021

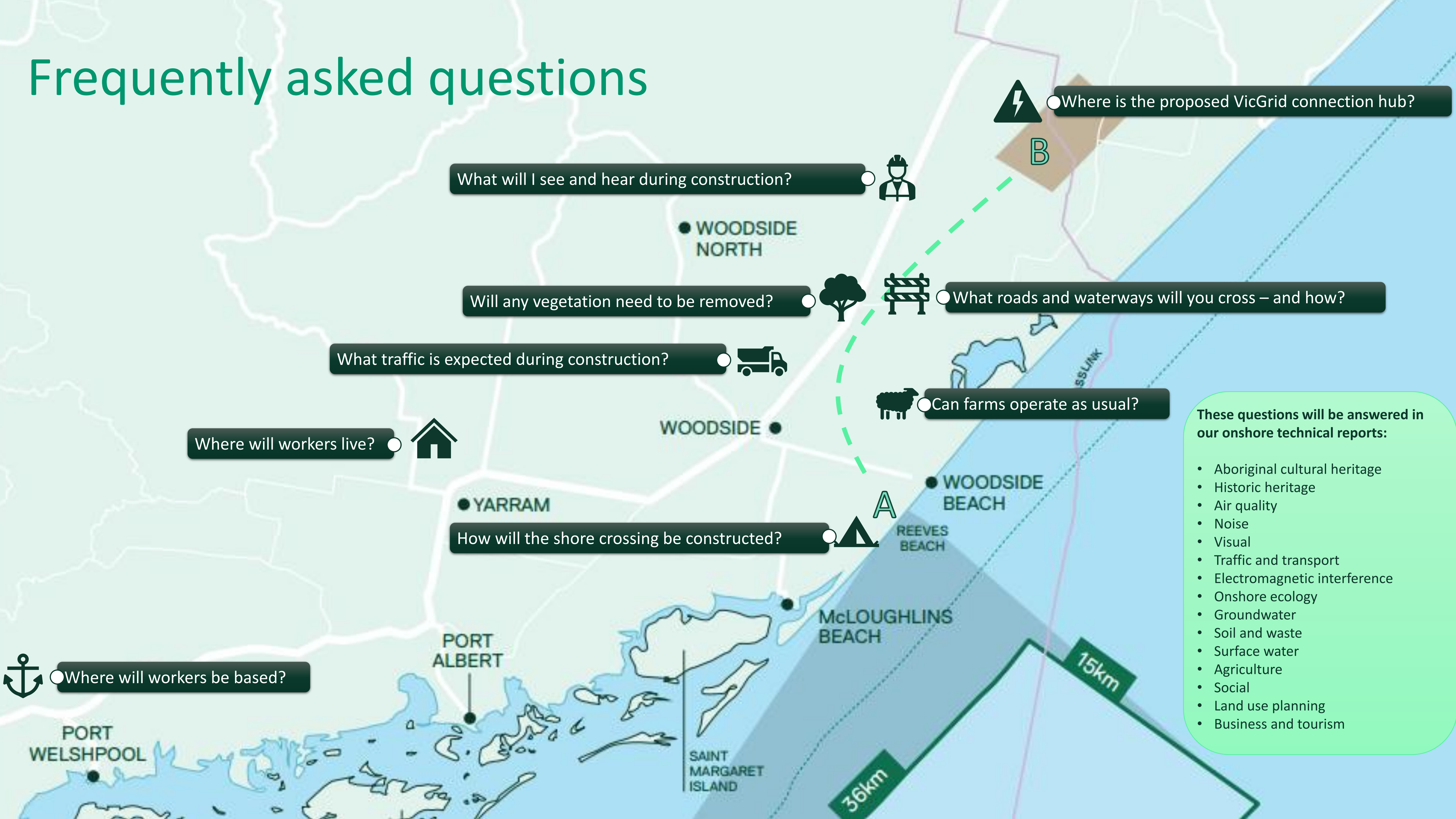
Sharing the EIA and seeking feedback



- Community briefings, including CAG
- Joint developer community information sessions
- Technical Reference Group
- Stakeholder meetings and workshops
- Landholder engagement

- EIA documentation will be available online and in local venues
- Community information sessions
- Stakeholder briefings
- Online hub for submissions (Engage Victoria)
- Independent Inquiry

Frequently asked questions



Where is the proposed VicGrid connection hub?

What will I see and hear during construction?

Will any vegetation need to be removed?

What traffic is expected during construction?

Where will workers live?

How will the shore crossing be constructed?

What roads and waterways will you cross – and how?

Can farms operate as usual?

- These questions will be answered in our onshore technical reports:
- Aboriginal cultural heritage
 - Historic heritage
 - Air quality
 - Noise
 - Visual
 - Traffic and transport
 - Electromagnetic interference
 - Onshore ecology
 - Groundwater
 - Soil and waste
 - Surface water
 - Agriculture
 - Social
 - Land use planning
 - Business and tourism

Where will workers be based?

36km
15km

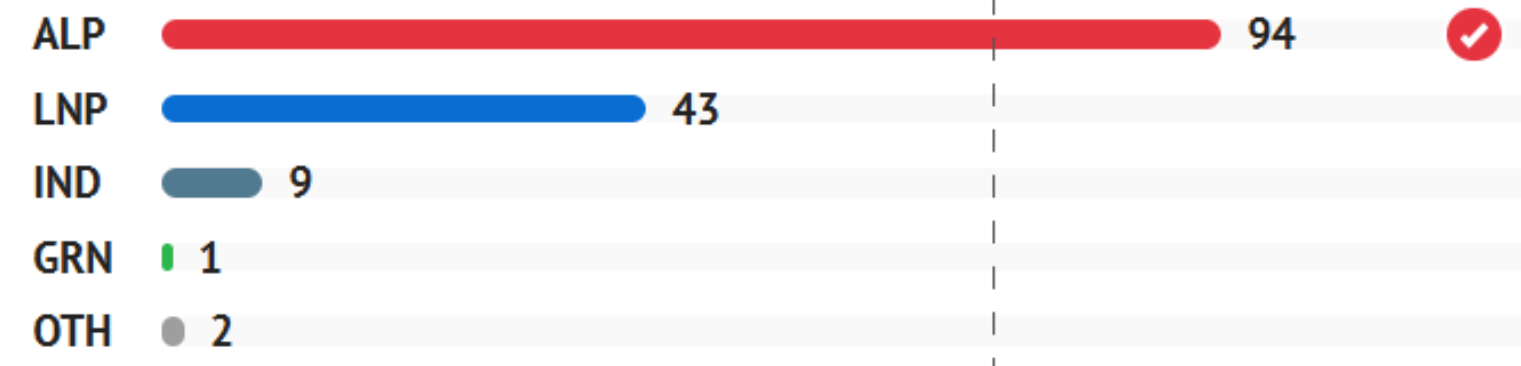
BREAK

PROJECT UPDATE

Brief focus topic

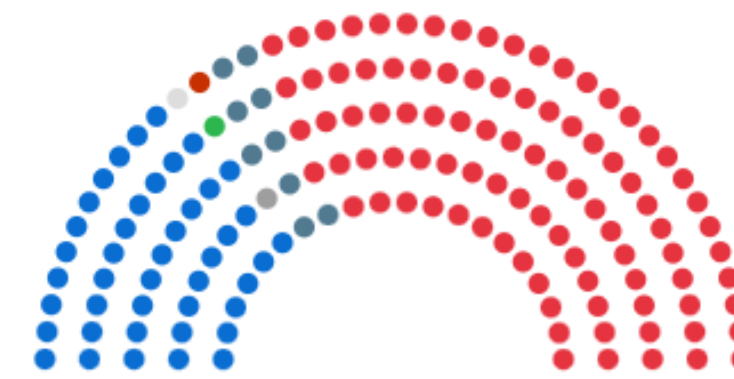
Election outcome

Seats won



76 seats needed for a majority

90.67% counted



1 seats remaining

Updated May 28, 2025, 9.24am



Murray Watt
Environment Minister



Tim Ayers
Industry, Innovation and Science Minister

EXCLUSIVE

Bowen feels 'silent' wind at his back on green agenda

By GEOFF CHAMBERS 19:30 MAY 13, 2025



Chris Bowen doubles down on Labor's rollout of offshore wind farms.

You can now listen to The Australian's articles.



Listen to this article

7 min

Emboldened Climate Change and Energy Minister Chris Bowen has doubled down on Labor's rollout of offshore wind farms, renewables and the phase-out of coal-fired power plants in a post-election attack on critics of his green power agenda, who he declares were rejected by Australia's "silent majority".

Implementation statement 4

Offshore Wind Energy Victoria, the government body responsible for coordinating the development of Victoria's offshore wind sector, released its fourth Offshore Wind Energy Implementation Statement.

This document shares next steps on:

- Procurement
- Legislative and regulatory reform
- Supply chain and local supply
- Transmission
- Ports.

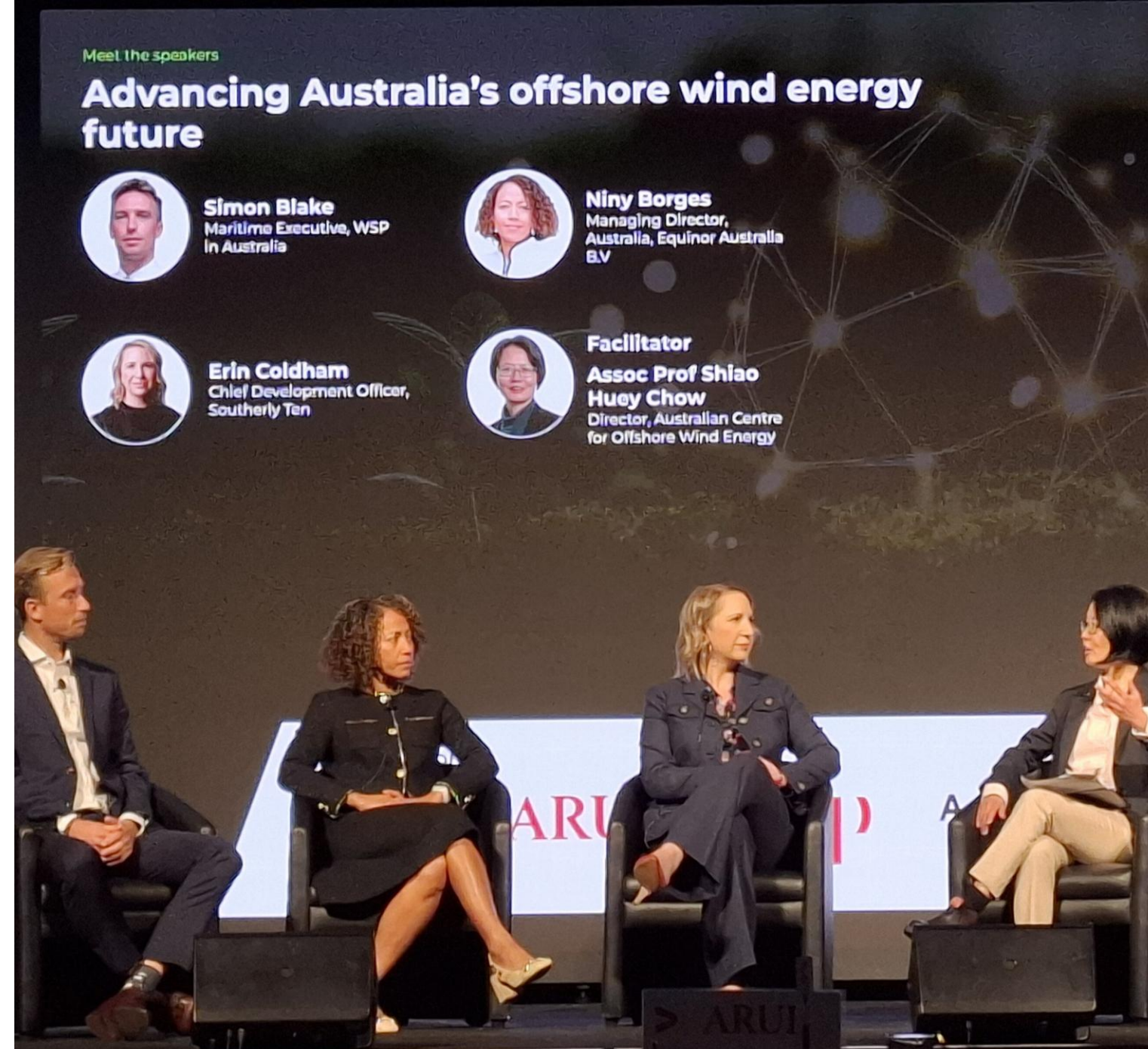
Source: [Offshore Wind Energy Victoria](#)

Implementation Statement 4

April 2025

What's happening on the project

- EIA briefing to WGCMA
- Tarra Festival's Cultivating Communities
- CEDA Climate and Energy Summit 2025
- Business visit to Condex Services Pty
- Presentation to Lavalla Catholic College
- EIA briefing to the Guardians of Nooramunga
- EIA briefing to Yarram Yarram Landcare Network
- CEDA Victorian State Budget Address 2025



What's coming up

EIA briefings

We're meeting with non-governmental environmental organisations ahead of the public exhibition of our environmental assessment later in 2025.

Events and presentations

- Australian Offshore Wind Industry Forum
- Trade & Tech Fit Career Expo
- South Gippsland Bass Coast Careers Expo
- Australian Wind Energy Conference
- Gippsland Offshore Wind Days in Toora, Loch Sport, and Woodside

GIPPSLAND OFFSHORE WIND DAYS

Come along in July and meet the developers behind Gippsland's proposed offshore wind projects



GIPPSLAND OFFSHORE WIND DAYS

JUL 23 TOORA HALL -
4:00 - 6:00 pm
23 Gray Street, Toora

JUL 30 LOCH SPORT COMMUNITY HOUSE -
4:30 - 6:30 pm
222-236 National Park Road, Loch Sport

JUL 31 WOODSIDE COMMUNITY HALL -
4:00 - 6:00 pm
Cnr Prince St and Austins Rd, Woodside



TRADE & TECH FIT

career expo

3-4 June 2025

Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre



AUSTRALIA WIND ENERGY 2025

CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION
17 - 18 JULY 2025

MCEC, MELBOURNE

#AuWE2025

Australian Offshore Wind Industry Forum

Location: Melbourne

Dates: 3 June 2025



CLEAN ENERGY COUNCIL

What's happening in the community?

- What are you hearing?
- What are the hot topics in your local area?



OTHER BUSINESS

Other business

Other questions and feedback?

Suggestions for future agenda items

- Email / call Jason or Paul

Next meeting – 4pm to 6pm
Thursday, 24 July 2025
South Gippsland (Venue TBC)

Date (subject to change)	Location	Topic (tentative, subject to change)
Wednesday, 17 September 2025	Latrobe Valley	(TBC)
Thursday, 6 November 2025	Sale	(TBC)

Thank you for your participation



PROJECTS BY



info@southerlyten.com.au
southerlyten.com.au

LinkedIn: [Southernly Ten](#)

Office: (03) 9108 4000
Community: 1800 340 340