

Land access for field surveys is key to finding the best path for VNI West

Transmission Company Victoria (TCV) is carrying out field surveys across the VNI West draft corridor. This work is important and builds our understanding of environmental considerations such as flora and fauna and geological features in the area. We will apply the findings along with feedback from landholders and the community to help identify the route for transmission that minimises impacts to people, farming and the environment.

Studies started in October last year and include non-invasive ground investigations and site walkovers to identify key wildlife habitat and vegetation, as well as geotechnical studies which involve drilling small boreholes to determine ground and soil conditions. These activities have mainly been carried out on public land, with the permission of relevant authorities.



Under the comprehensive Environment Effects Statement (EES) process over the next 18 months, TCV will carry out a range of more detailed technical studies including bushfire, cultural heritage and environmental assessments.

If we need to access private property, we will request consent from landholders. We will respect any biosecurity measures and follow farm rules, documented in a formal land access agreement with the property owner. Recognising that this process causes some inconvenience, TCV has increased the payment available to landholders where a larger area is included in the agreement for survey access. Payments to landholders range from \$10,000 to a maximum of \$50,000 once a voluntary land access agreement is signed.

A land access agreement is for survey works only. If a landholder signs a land access agreement, that is not an agreement to have infrastructure on their property or allow construction or other works.



Information on upcoming field surveys and assessments is available on the TCV website and will be updated regularly.

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