

Traffic and Transport



Environment Effects Statement

The [Environment Effects Statement \(EES\)](#) is Victoria's most rigorous and transparent environmental impact assessment. It describes the project, its rationale, and potential environmental and social effects.

Scoping requirements

In February 2025, the Victorian Minister for Planning issued the final scoping requirements for the VNI West EES, setting out the proposed specific matters to be investigated and documented. While the scoping requirements are intended to cover all relevant matters, the EES can also address other significant matters that emerge during EES investigations or through consultation.

Traffic and transport scoping requirements

The EES scoping requirements state that traffic and transport (listed as roads and transport) has been identified for technical investigation. This is due to factors such as the use of local roads for accessing the construction corridor, potential safety issues related to property access and egress, the use of roads that overlap with school bus routes, and the risk of road deterioration from construction traffic.

Matters for investigation

- *Managing traffic disruptions for residents, businesses, and travellers during the construction of the project*
- *Potential damage to local and regional road surfaces along transport routes and increased risk to road safety on transport routes*
- *Evaluation of proposed traffic management and safety principles to address changed traffic conditions during construction of the project*
- *Outline dilapidation assessment and road maintenance/rectification regime to address adverse impacts from project construction*

Assessment overview and study methodology

The traffic and transport assessment objectives are to:

- Conduct an engineering assessment of all roads (major and minor) where construction traffic may travel to access the project easement for construction.
- Identify engineering improvements which may be required to enable access roads to be used by construction vehicles.
- Provide a basis for assessing potential environmental and social considerations associated with the use of roads for construction access in the EES, which would include consideration of issues such as safety, noise, and dust on unsealed roads.

The study will review all roads intersecting the project easement with a view to assessing the following:

- Connectivity with the wider road network
- Road condition
- Safety considerations
- Required upgrades to road surfaces
- Suitability of roads and intersections to accommodate large vehicles
- Engineering upgrades which may be required

The surveys involve traversing relevant public roads and photographing key features, and do not involve access to, or photography of, private land.

Scan this QR code to view the complete list of [scoping requirements](#) for the VNI West project





Local input

Councils have provided input to assist with the road network assessment.

Existing conditions

Initial desktop reviews have identified approximately 150 local roads intersecting the project easement which could potentially be used for construction access. The traffic and transport assessments are still in the data collection phase with no other findings yet available. Surveys will be ongoing on public roads.

Next steps

The traffic and transport specialists will be determining the likely traffic volumes expected during construction of the project and the types of vehicles transporting materials.

Traffic volumes and types will be used to assess the suitability of the road network for use during the construction phase of the project, including roads which may not be suitable for use due to environmental, social, or engineering constraints. Road upgrades will be identified if required. The team will liaise with the environmental specialists when assessing impacts.



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