

UNDERGROUND CONNECTION LINE INFORMATION SHEET

The Mortlake South Wind Farm is located approximately 5kms south of Mortlake and 7kms north of Terang within the Moyne Shire

The project will produce 530Gwh clean energy each year, which is enough to power about 115,000 homes annually.

ACCIONA looks forward to continuing a positive relationship with the local community as construction increases, and we thank you for your interest in the project.



OVERVIEW AND BACKGROUND

Planning approval was originally granted by the Victorian Government in 2010. In April 2017, the Minister for Planning approved an amendment to the planning permit to install 35 wind turbines at 185 metres tall. Construction is expected to be completed by the end of 2020.

After extensive community consultation, ACCIONA will build an underground electrical connection line to connect the Mortlake South Wind Farm to the National Electricity Grid. A 220kV electrical cable will run entirely underground for approximately 15kms, to connect the wind farm substation to the Terang Terminal Station.

ACCIONA investigated a number of different options, including the possibility to connect into the existing overhead lines. We also listened to the concerns raised by the local community about overhead connection lines. Following a range of engineering, commercial and other assessments, we have determined that going underground is the most appropriate solution for this project. It also provides a good outcome for the local community. Our focus will be to continue working with local communities as closely and productively as possible, and doing what's best for that particular location.

The connection line will be designed, constructed, owned, operated and maintained by ACCIONA.

Construction of the underground connection line is expected to start in February 2020 on Tapps Lane within the Mortlake South Wind Farm construction area, with staged works towards the Terang Terminal Station.

UNDERSTANDING THE DESIGN AND ROUTE

There are many physical factors that need to be considered during the planning of an underground connection line. These include: availability of land and access (including both public and private); native vegetation; existing infrastructure; areas of cultural heritage and property boundaries.

Important factors that have been considered before determining the underground electrical cable design and route include:

- **Geotechnical:** investigations have confirmed that the ground conditions along the route are generally clays.
- **Environmental:** isolated pockets of native vegetation have been identified and need to be avoided.
- **Infrastructure:** locations of existing services such as Powercor electricity poles, telephone cables, underground cattle crossings and culverts, have been taken into account.
- **Disused Rail Corridor:** close consultation with VicTrack regarding technical requirements for utilising/constructing within the former Terang-Mortlake rail corridor.
- **Cultural Heritage:** archaeological investigations of areas for aboriginal artefacts, both above and below ground have been undertaken in consultation with the Eastern Maar Aboriginal Corporation and Aboriginal Victoria.

ACCIONA has also investigated the safety and social impacts, including active engagement with local landholders, before deciding on the proposed design and route.

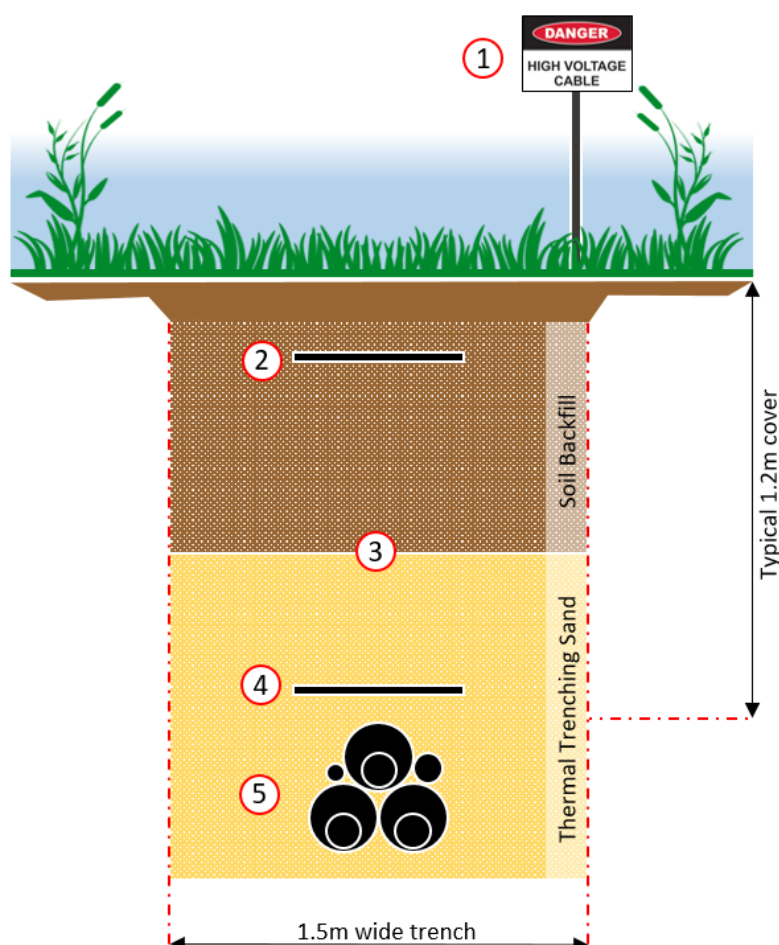
- Landowner assets: consultation to identify underground cattle crossing, water pipes, and any other limiting features.
- Local Council: working closely with Moyne Shire Council and Corangamite Shire Council for work requirements within road reserves.

UNDERSTANDING UNDERGROUND CABLES

Underground high voltage electrical cables are different to those used in overhead connection lines. Underground cables are considered much safer as there is less accidental contact by wildlife, and a reduced impact from falling trees and storms/lightening which typically results in faults. They also do not interfere with the views to the surrounding scenic landscape.

Safety

The design and construction of underground electrical cables is governed by Australian Standards, which define specific requirements in order to protect the operators, public, animals, environment and landowners. The below example of a cable trench outlines how safety measures are in place for protection against any harm.



- 1 The cable will be marked with signage along frequent intervals to ensure people are visually aware of the alignment. The cable will be registered with 'Dial Before You Dig', a national service which must be called before excavating or digging.
- 2 An underground fluorescent warning tape made from plastic mesh located approximately 0.3m underground. The tape provides a warning to those excavating areas of the presence of an asset.
- 3 The cable will be typically buried with at least 1.2m of cover, vertically separating the cable from most other common utility infrastructure.
- 4 A polymeric (solid plastic) protective barrier will be installed above the cable. The barrier is designed to resist penetration from excavators or other mechanical digging equipment.
- 5 Cables and fibre optic cabling are located in plastic conduits. The cables themselves are held inside a PVC cable sheath, providing insulation stops any electricity escaping. In the unlikely event the cable is cut, the electricity is grounded to large scale earthing grids at either substation.

How do you maintain the electrical cables?

An underground electrical cable requires significantly less maintenance than overhead lines. We have clear and non-intrusive methods for maintenance that do not require cables to be dug up or removed. Regular maintenance will be performed primarily at electrical pit locations, which are strategically located access points to the cable. The cable is placed in a conduit, so if it needs to be repaired or replaced, it can be extracted without a large amount of excavation.

What can I expect during construction?

During construction you can expect traffic management measures to be in place where works are occurring in the road reserve. We will trench short sections at a time, install the cable in a conduit, back fill the trench and reinstate the topsoil. The trench sections will be approximately 500m long and will be open for only about one week. Specialist equipment will be used to bore under roads, so we do not expect any road closures. Construction of the approximately 15kms of underground connection line is expected to start in February 2020 at Tapps Lane within the Mortlake South Wind Farm construction area, with staged works towards the Terang Terminal Station.

Is underground more expensive?

An underground connection line is more expensive than an overhead option, however given the location of the line and the distance, it is the most appropriate solution. ACCIONA is a long term asset owner and operator, and social responsibility is one of our core values. ACCIONA has determined that the construction of an underground cable is commercially viable and will result in a better outcome for the community.



Example of an underground cable trench and installation

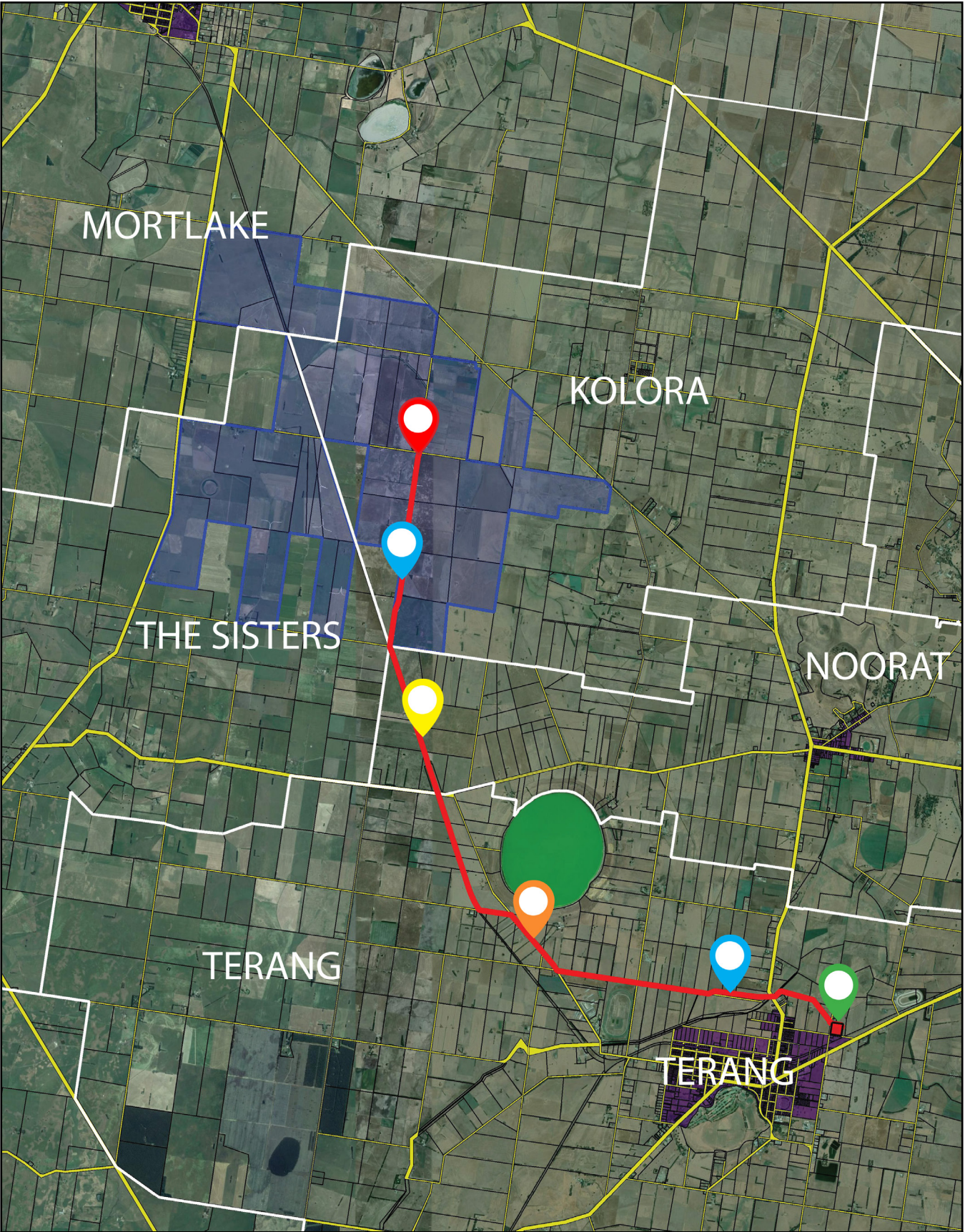
WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

The community have the opportunity to provide feedback on the route and design. We want to hear your local insights and understand what is important to the local community. The information that we gather is used to assess the potential benefits and likely impacts of the design.

Tell us your thoughts via:

- Project Office: 95 Dunlop Street in Mortlake on Friday between 9.00am and 4.00pm.
- Toll Free Community Hotline: **1800 283 550**
- Email: mortlake@acciona.com

Proposed 220kV Underground Cable Alignment



KEY



Mortlake South Wind Farm Substation



Former Terang-Mortlake Rail Corridor



Terang Terminal Station



Private Farmland



Bramich Lane and Keilambete Road Reserve