

Gippsland offshore wind transmission 2 GW project

Environment Effects Statement

Understanding noise and vibration impacts

September 2026

VicGrid is developing a shared transmission line to connect 2 gigawatts (GW) of offshore wind energy off the Gippsland coast to the electricity grid.

An Environment Effects Statement (EES) is being prepared to assess the project's potential environmental, social, economic and cultural impacts, including how those impacts can be avoided, reduced or managed.

Building and operating a transmission line can have noise and vibration impacts for people living nearby. As part of the Environment Effects Statement (EES) being developed for the Gippsland offshore wind 2 GW transmission project, specialists are assessing the potential impacts on nearby homes and communities.

What we're assessing

For the noise and vibration assessment, we are assessing a defined 3 km area around the draft preferred route. The assessment considers construction, operation and decommissioning of the project.

For construction we consider:

- The activities proposed, what equipment will be used and where and when construction activities will be
- Which noise generating activities will happen within normal daytime construction hours, and if any night works are needed
- How close construction activities will be to homes and other buildings
- What noise shielding from the landscape and ground absorption might exist

For operations we consider:

- Existing noise levels along the route
- Where towers will be located, including how close they will be to homes and other buildings
- How wet or dry weather may affect noise from the transmission line
- Noise from the Giffard terminal station, including in an emergency back-up generator scenario
- The altitude, topography and atmospheric conditions along the route, which can all change noise and vibration impacts

How we'll prepare the assessment

We're using a range of methods to assess noise and vibration. Our technical specialists will:

- Identify noise-sensitive receivers within the assessment area (including any homes, schools, aged facilities)
- Measure existing background and ambient noise levels – both through technical specialists collecting noise data on the ground, and through unattended noise monitoring
- Undertake modelling to assess construction noise, vibration and operational noise (including wet weather scenarios)
- Assess predicted noise against guidelines
- Identify mitigation methods

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Managing impacts

Wherever possible, we look at where noise impacts can be avoided. For impacts we can't avoid, mitigation measures will be proposed in the EES to reduce and manage impacts.

Mitigation measures could include establishing a Construction Noise and Vibration Management Plan, careful planning of work activities and timings, using quieter equipment, adapting equipment to control noise at the source and looking at site layout and work practices.

Noise and vibration findings and mitigation measures will be presented in a technical report for the EES. Once the EES has been completed, the development partner will do additional works to inform their detailed design and construction planning.

Feedback

We'll continue preparing assessments to inform the EES over the coming months, including undertaking site surveys and engaging with landholders.

The noise and vibration assessment will be publicly exhibited as part of the EES in 2027. Everyone will have the chance to review the reports, provide feedback and make a submission.

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