



MASTER
ELECTRICIANS
AUSTRALIA

Lead.**Connect.**

Developing the first Victorian Transmission Plan

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January 2024



We have published this document for our members to read.

MEA has responded through an online survey. Our responses can be seen below.



VicGrid

Please rate your agreement with the following statements:

If you have a neutral opinion or you 'do not know', you can select the neutral option in the middle of the scale.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree
New renewable generation projects and transmission infrastructure are necessary to make energy affordable in the future	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
New transmission infrastructure is necessary to support the development of renewable generation projects in my region	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
New renewable generation projects and transmission infrastructure are necessary to tackle climate change	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
I do not want new transmission infrastructure built in my area	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I don't know a lot about what is involved in developing new renewable generation projects and transmission infrastructure	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
New renewable generation projects and transmission infrastructure are necessary to make energy reliable in the future	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
I do not want new renewable generation projects built in my area (e.g. solar farm, wind farm)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

	Not at all important	Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	Extremely important
Loss of farm land availability is minimised	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Negative impacts on the natural environment (e.g. removing native vegetation) are minimised	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Local community members, landholders and Traditional Owners have influence on the planning of new infrastructure	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Landholders financially benefit from development on their property	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
	Not at all important	Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	Extremely important
Negative impacts on land values are minimised	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Positive climate change impacts by reducing emissions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Negative impacts on local biodiversity (e.g. flora and fauna) are minimised	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Negative impacts on visual amenity (e.g. landscape views affected by new infrastructure) are minimised	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	Not at all important	Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	Extremely important
Local small businesses, including retailers and service providers, benefit during construction and operation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Negative impacts on commercial uses of land and local businesses are minimised	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Local jobs are created during the construction and operation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

How do you view the following sources of renewable energy?

If you have a neutral opinion or you 'do not know', you can select the neutral option in the middle of the scale.

	Very unfavourable	Unfavourable	Neutral	Favourable	Very favourable
Onshore wind	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Offshore wind	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Solar	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Hydropower	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Geothermal	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hydrogen	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Bioenergy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Battery storage	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

How **important** are the following issues to you when considering which areas of Victoria are appropriate for hosting renewable energy and transmission infrastructure?

	Not at all important	Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	Extremely important
Minimising impacts to local communities, including impacts to residential areas, visual amenity, and important community sites	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Choosing areas that minimise conflicts with existing land uses (e.g. agriculture)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Choosing areas that minimise electricity costs and best meet electricity system needs (e.g. areas with the best renewable resources and existing infrastructure)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Choosing areas that protect Victoria's natural environment and ecosystems	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



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This question considers factors that are important in how land across Victoria is assessed for renewable generation and transmission infrastructure development. Please rank the following items in order of priority from highest priority (1) to lowest priority (10).

Simply click and drag the choices into the box in the order you prefer.

- Items
- 3 Locate in areas with existing commercial and industrial uses
 - 2 Protect our power system from potential climate change impacts, such as floods, sea-level rise and bushfires
 - 7 Protect Victoria's natural environment, including national parks and wetlands
 - 8 Minimise impacts on water systems, such as water supply areas, lakes and rivers
 - 9 Avoid towns and residential areas
 - 10 Minimise impacts to scenic landscapes and tourism areas
 - 5 Minimise impacts on mining and resource extraction
 - 6 Minimise impacts on agricultural land
 - 1 Keep power bills as low as possible
 - 4 Protect identified areas of valuable biodiversity

Click and drag each item to this box to create your prioritised list



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Please describe the areas or landscapes in your region/community you value the most:

N/A

Please explain why you value these areas or landscapes:

N/A

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Thinking about the benefits and potential impacts of Renewable Energy Zones, how **suitable** do you consider *your* region for hosting renewable generation projects and transmission infrastructure?

N/A.

Not at all
suitable



Slightly
suitable



Moderately
suitable



Very
suitable



Extremely
suitable



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VicGrid
NA

How often have you had contact with VicGrid in the last 12 months?

Never Rarely Occasionally Frequently Very frequently



VicGrid

How often have you had contact with renewable generation and transmission infrastructure developers in the last 12 months? N/A

Never Rarely Occasionally Frequently Very frequently



VicGrid

If you needed to raise an issue or concern about a renewable generation project or transmission infrastructure in your local area, would you know how to do so?

- Yes
- No



VicGrid

Have you ever reported an issue about a renewable generation project or transmission infrastructure?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure



VicGrid

How would you like to receive information about renewable generation projects and transmission infrastructure in Victoria? (choose as many as you like - this does not represent consent to send you information)

Email

Direct mail to my letterbox

Newsletters

Signs and posters in public places

Social media (e.g. Facebook)

Face to face meetings (individual or small group)

Newspaper advertising

Radio

VicGrid website

I would not like to receive any information about renewable generation projects and transmission infrastructure

VicGrid established Community Reference Group

Other, please specify

Community events



VicGrid

Social Investment

The following questions will give VicGrid a better understanding of the social investment needs and aspirations of communities across the state.

How important are the following measures for sharing benefits with landholders, neighbours and communities impacted by new renewable generation projects and transmission infrastructure?

	Not at all important	Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	Extremely important
Improving energy reliability for local communities (e.g. distribution network upgrades)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Increasing payments to private landholders	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Building new infrastructure for communities (e.g. sports grounds, community centres)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Payments to neighbours	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community funds to support local infrastructure and programs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
	Not at all important	Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	Extremely important
Financial support to minimise impacts (e.g. landscaping to reduce visual impacts)	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Increasing educational and training opportunities for local communities (e.g. scholarships)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Region-wide funds to support infrastructure and programs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Providing more local solar and battery storage projects	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>



VicGrid

Please rate your agreement with the following statements:

If you have a neutral opinion or you 'do not know', you can select the neutral option in the middle of the scale.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree
Renewable generation and transmission infrastructure developers work to protect the local environment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
The activities of renewable generation and transmission infrastructure developers have a negative impact on the environment in my community.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Renewable generation and transmission infrastructure developers do a good job of managing the environmental impacts of its activities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>



VicGrid

Please rate your agreement with the following statements.

If you have a neutral opinion or you 'do not know', you can select the neutral option in the middle of the scale.

The activities of the renewable generation and transmission infrastructure developers:

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree
Increase the risk of bushfires in my community	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Increase the amount of dust in my community	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Have a negative impact on local biodiversity (e.g. flora and fauna)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Have a negative impact on visual amenity (e.g. landscape views affected by new infrastructure)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree
Can successfully co-exist with agricultural production	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Make fighting bushfires more challenging	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Expose my community to increased noise	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



VicGrid

Please rate your agreement with the following statements:

If you have a neutral opinion or you 'do not know', you can select the neutral option in the middle of the scale.

The activities of renewable generation and transmission infrastructure developers:

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree
Help landholders to diversify their income	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Support the region's future prosperity	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Provide jobs for local people	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Put pressure on local community infrastructure and services (e.g. roads/traffic)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Will have a positive impact on my electricity bills	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>



VicGrid

Please rate your agreement with the following statement:

If you have a neutral opinion or you 'do not know', you can select the neutral option in the middle of the scale.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree
The social investment activities by renewable generation and transmission infrastructure developers have a positive impact on my community	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>



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Please list any additional impacts or benefits you would like to raise as a community member. Otherwise, please click the right arrow to continue:

N/A



VicGrid

Thinking about renewable generation and transmission infrastructure developers, please rate the extent to which you agree with the following statements:

If you have a neutral opinion or you 'do not know', you can select the neutral option in the middle of the scale.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree
External regulations ensure these organisations do the right thing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Internal policies and guidelines ensure these organisations do the right thing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



VicGrid

Please rate the extent to which you agree with the following statements:

If you have a neutral opinion or you 'do not know', you can select the neutral option in the middle of the scale.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree
People in my community have an opportunity to participate in decisions about community issues made by VicGrid	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
People in my community have an opportunity to participate in decisions about community issues made by renewable generation and transmission infrastructure developers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>



VicGrid

Please rate the extent to which you agree with the following statements about VicGrid.

If you have a neutral opinion or you 'do not know', you can select the neutral option in the middle of the scale.

VicGrid:

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree
Is prepared to change its practices in response to community concerns	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Always try to address concerns raised by the community	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Follows through on its commitments to my community	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Listen to and respect community opinions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



VicGrid

Please rate the extent to which you agree with the following statements about renewable generation and transmission infrastructure developers.

If you have a neutral opinion or you 'do not know', you can select the neutral option in the middle of the scale.

Renewable generation and transmission infrastructure developers:

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree
Follow through on their commitments to my community	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Are prepared to change their practices in response to community concerns	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Always try to address concerns raised by the community	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Listen to and respect community opinions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



VicGrid

Please rate the extent to which you agree with the following statements:

If you have a neutral opinion or you 'do not know', you can select the neutral option in the middle of the scale.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree
My community receives a fair share of the benefits from the activities of renewable generation and transmission infrastructure developers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
People in cities will benefit more from the activities of renewable generation and transmission infrastructure developers than people in regional and rural areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
People like me receive a fair share of the benefits from the activities of renewable generation and transmission infrastructure developers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>



VicGrid

Please rate how much you trust the following institutions, organisations or groups.

N/A.

	Not at all	Slightly	Moderately	Very much	Extremely
VicGrid	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Medical professionals	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Transmission infrastructure developers (e.g. AusNet)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The national market and system operator (AEMO)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Electricity retailers (e.g. Ist Energy, AGL)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

N/A.

	Not at all	Slightly	Moderately	Very much	Extremely
Federal government	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
State government	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Local traders and small business people	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Local government	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Regulators of energy markets (e.g. Australian Energy Regulator)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

N/A.

	Not at all	Slightly	Moderately	Very much	Extremely
Energy consumer groups (e.g. Energy Users Association of Australia)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Religious practitioners	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Renewable energy industry as a whole	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Renewable generation project developers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



VicGrid

Thinking about VicGrid, please rate how much you:

N/A

	Not at all	Slightly	Moderately	Very much	Extremely
Trust VicGrid to be the best at what they do	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Trust VicGrid to act responsibly	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Trust VicGrid to act in the best interests of my local community	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Trust VicGrid to value your community's needs and desires	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Trust VicGrid to act in the best interests of the state of Victoria	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



VicGrid

Thinking about renewable generation and transmission infrastructure developers, please rate how much you:

N/A

	Not at all	Slightly	Moderately	Very much	Extremely
Trust these organisations to act in the best interests of the state of Victoria	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Trust these organisations to act in the best interests of my local community	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Trust these organisations to value your community's needs and desires	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Trust these organisations to be the best at what they do	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Trust these organisations to act responsibly	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



VicGrid

How much do you accept VicGrid's coordination of the overarching planning and development of Victorian Renewable Energy Zones? *N/A.*

Not at all Slightly Moderately Very much Extremely



VicGrid

How much do you accept the activities of renewable generation and transmission infrastructure developers in your community?

Not at all Slightly Moderately Very much Extremely



VicGrid

Please use the space below to note any additional comments. Otherwise, please click the 'arrow'.

N/A.



VicGrid

We would now like to invite you to complete an online mapping exercise, but before we do, would you like the results of this survey and invitations to participate in future surveys for VicGrid to be sent to you via email?

- Yes to both
- Yes. survey results only
- Yes. invitations to future surveys only
- No