**220kV power relocation works**

**High level overarching Q&As**

**What are these works and where will they be taking place?**

As part of works to widen the West Gate Freeway, some electricity towers along the freeway will be moved or replaced with slimmer poles and some power lines moved underground to make space for the widened freeway.

The works include:

* **West Gate Golf Club:** replacement of an existing lattice tower to the east of the Williamstown railway line with a new lattice tower
* **Fogarty Avenue:** replacement of two lattice towers with monopoles – completed
* **Brooklyn Terminal Station:**
	+ The installation of two monopoles in Brooklyn Terminal Station
	+ Removal of a lattice tower
* **DELWP depot and Italian Social Club:**
	+ Removal of the lattice tower on the north-eastern edge of the DELWP depot and replacement with a monopole.
	+ Replacement of the existing lattice tower in the field of the Italian Social Club with a new tower and two new monopoles.
* **Houston Court**: replacement of the lattice tower at the eastern edge of the reserve behind Houston Court with a monopole.

What improvements are you making?

The replacement of some of the lattice towers with monopoles will reduce the physical and visual impact of the high voltage cables. The monopole footings are much smaller than the lattice towers, approximately 4 metres.

**What is the difference between a lattice tower and a monopole?**

Lattice tower structures support high-voltage power lines that transmit power around Australia’s network. Monopoles are an alternative structure that have a smaller footprint, and a more modern, slimmer design.

How high are the monopoles?

The new monopoles range from 40 metres to 58 metres high. The current lattice towers range between 27m and 49m.

The monopole that will be installed at Houston Court is 55metres high.

How do you plan these works?

These works are part of Australia’s critical national infrastructure. They form part of the Western Metro Ring Transmission Grid. As such, any work on high voltage transmission lines are undertaken with the permission of AusNet Services who own and operate this network.

To ensure these works are undertaken by the appropriate expertise, and works are consistent across the nation, the scope of work and timing is determined by CPBJH JV via significant consultation with the owner and operator (AusNet Services). They then issue permits for the work to take place during specific periods of lower demand during the year.

**When is work starting?**

Work is due to start near Houston Court on Tuesday 13 August 2019, and is expected to be completed on Sunday 8 September 2019.

**What are your working hours?**

The assets being worked on are very important to Victoria’s electricity network, so we are required to complete each phase of works as quickly as possible.

Works will be undertaken between 6am – 8pm, 7 days a week. Weekend work is required, including Sundays, as part of this program. The vast majority of these works need to be completed during the day for safety reasons.

Works may be required at night to restring the powerlines. If this is required, we will provide more information to impacted residents.

**Will there be power outages during this work?**

There will be no power outages that affect residents. There will be an outage of the high voltage power lines allow the AusNet Services teams to safely work on the lines but this won’t affect power supplies to residential properties.

**How do you plan on minimising noise impacts?**

Majority of the works are planned to be undertaken during the day to minimise night time noise impacts. If however, we find that some works need to be done at night, the project team will be in touch with residents so they are aware of this in advance.

**What type of work can we expect to see?**

The replacement of lattice towers with monopoles involves installing the monopole foundations and piles. Concrete is poured and then cured for 28 days. These works have already been completed near Houston Court.

After the concrete has cured, the tops of the poles will be installed. This will require a crane to lift the new poles in to place. Then powerlines will be progressively transferred from the existing lattice tower to the new monopole. Once this has been completed, the existing lattice tower will be dismantled and removed.

What if my property is damaged during these works? Will you inspect my property?

Property condition reports have been carried out across the project alignment. We continue to encourage residents who live within 50m of the works area to take up the offer of having a property condition report completed on their homes if they have not already done so.

**I’m concerned about dust, what steps will you take to reduce dust?**

A water truck (or similar) will be present when required on site and used to spray down any work areas in order to suppress dust. Work sites are constantly monitored and if any dust is identified, trucks are covered and are wetted down immediately.

**What disruption can we expect?**

Residents can expect some construction noise and an increase in construction vehicles in some locations. Cranes and elevated work platforms will be required to lift the monopole into place.

**How will you keep me informed about these works? What happens if things change?**

We will be conducting 1:1 meetings with highly impacted residents and other stakeholders to explain the works and ensure the community understands the 220kV relocation activity.

In addition, we will be issuing notifications to advise of any localised impacts to residents and businesses surrounding the works area and installing onsite signage. Details will also be published on the project website and on our social media channels.

**Who can I talk to about these works?**

Please contact one of the project team via one of the following channels:

Project call centre 1800 105 105

Interpreter services 13 14 15

Hearing or speech impaired, contact us through the National Relay Service: [www.relayservices.gov.au](http://www.relayservices.gov.au)

For more information about the project:

Website: westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au

Email: info@wgta.vic.gov.au

Facebook: facebook.com/westgatetunnelproject / Twitter: @westgatetunnel

**Q&A – 220kV power relocation works**

**Houston Court**

**What works are being undertaken at Houston Court and why?**

To make way for the widening of the West Gate Freeway, we need to safely relocate high voltage power lines to a new monopole. Once these power lines have been relocated, we will remove the existing lattice tower adjacent to Houston Court, within the West Gate Tunnel Project construction area.

To undertake this work, we will be progressively transferring overhead cables from the lattice tower to the monopole.

**What disruptions will there be?**

To get these works done as safely and quickly as possible, we need to temporarily close the pedestrian overpass that connects Rosala Avenue and Richards Court.

The overpass will be closed daily between 6am - 8pm, reopening at night between 8pm – 6am, from Friday 16 August until Sunday 8 September.

We will also need to close the inbound exit ramp at Millers Road overnight when we are working on the overhead power lines. Please visit our website for more information on traffic disruptions.

**Why are you closing the Rosala Avenue pedestrian overpass?**

These works are taking place directly above the footpath from Richards Court to the pedestrian overpass. For the safety of pedestrians and cyclists, we must close the footpath during the daytime while we are working on the power cables overhead.

The pedestrian overpass will be closed during the daytime only, from 6am – 8pm. It will re-open at night between 8pm -6am.

**When will this closure be in place?**

The Rosala Avenue pedestrian overpass will be closed during the day from 6am – 8pm, reopening each night from 8pm – 6am. The closure will be in place from Friday 16 August until Sunday 8 September.

**Why are you not putting on buses like you did when you closed the Muir Street pedestrian overpass?**

As part of planning for the closure of the Muir Street pedestrian overpass, we identified that the majority of users were primary school children. This is because of the direct link the overpass provided to Wembley Primary School. The only available detour for that closure was deemed unsuitable for school children as it was over 1.2kilometres long, so extra mitigation measures (such as a school bus) were implemented.

As part of our planning for the closure of the Rosala Avenue pedestrian overpass, we have identified that a much smaller number of pedestrians use this bridge, and the detour we’re recommending will add very little distance and travel time to their journeys.

**How long is the detour?**

This really depends on where you want to go. The key destination point in this area is the Altona Gate Shopping Centre, which is the same distance to get to whether you take the detour or the overpass.

While there is a school in the area also, access to this school is via Millers Road – therefore the impact of the detour is minimal to students.

**You said you would maintain access over the overpass at all times – why has this changed?**

These works involve transferring high voltage power cables from the existing lattice towers to the new monopoles and stringing high voltage power cables between the two monopoles directly above the overpass.

To ensure the safety of pedestrians and cyclists, the overpass is required to be temporarily closed while we are working on the power cables overhead.

We know it’s inconvenient, and while small, there is a risk of the cables falling from the works area. The size and weight of these cables are considerable and therefore we must establish a safe ‘exclusion zone’.

**Is this to do with building the new walking and cycling bridge over the freeway?**

No, not at this time. These works are associated with replacing the lattice tower near Houston Court with a new monopole. The new walking and cycling bridge over the freeway will be built in late 2019.

**Will there be signage to show me where the detour is?**

Yes, we will be installing temporary signage to illustrate the detour while the pedestrian overpass is closed. This information will also be available on the website.

**Is there sufficient lighting the entire way of the detour?**

The diversion is using existing Council and VicRoads pathways and roads.

**What are you doing to make sure the detour is safe and accessible for all users (cyclists, vulnerable / disabled etc.)?**

Before we can implement a detour route, we conduct a Road Safety Audit which is approved by all relevant road authorities. It is a requirement of our traffic management plans that detour routes are safe and accessible.