Media Release

Date: Thursday February 7 2024



Community meetings to be rescheduled

Last week AEMO and TCV accepted an invitation to join two round table meetings with landholders in Tragowel and St Arnaud on 7 March 2024.

The proposed meetings were initiated by the federal member for Mallee, and were to provide an opportunity for landholders to discuss concerns with the VNI-West transmission project, focusing on TCV's community and landholder engagement.

The two meetings were to be hosted by the federal member, with up to 20 invitees at each meeting, so that everyone had an opportunity to speak and about their concerns and experiences.

Executives from TCV and AEMO, along with the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner were scheduled to attend – with the meetings providing an opportunity to directly discuss landholder concerns in a round table format and agree on actions to resolve matters.

On Tuesday, 5 March 2024, the federal member for Mallee issued a media release, advertising the times and locations of the meetings, describing the proposed meetings as 'Town Hall Meetings', instead of the agreed round table format.

The Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner suggested that a townhall format would not be effective for the agreed agenda and discussion and would likely be unproductive for the participants.

In consultation with the Commissioner, AEMO and TCV have decided to postpone the two proposed meetings. TCV will make arrangements to meet landholders and local community members in coming weeks, consistent with our ongoing community consultation program.

For more information please visit <u>www.transmissionvictoria.com.au</u> or call TCV on 1800 824 221.

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