

Transmission Connection Strategy



The Challenge

Twelve (12) feasibility licences have been issued for the Gippsland offshore wind zone with an assumed capacity of circa 25GW. Ten licences have been awarded east of Wilsons Prom and two licences to the west.

The location of FLA will require 10 different export cable routes to shore with the same number of landfall sites and onshore transmission routes to the connection hub. There remains challenges in each licence holder getting to Giffard.

There are known marine, landfall and terrestrial constraints for proponents seeking to get to the nominated Point of Connection. There are also a range of tenure, cultural heritage and landholder constraints and challenges which will influence feasibility of export cable and onshore transmission routes.

The OEI Regulations require that a Transmission Infrastructure Licence (TIL) is required for geophysical and geotechnical survey work outside the Licence Area within commonwealth waters.

Transmission infrastructure, together with the OSWF infrastructure within Licence Areas, may require referral under EPBC (1999) and EE Act (1978).

Preliminary investigations within State waters may require Marine and Coastal Act (2018) and a licence to access State land under proposed legislation¹.

Offshore wind development in Victoria will be aligned with the Victorian Transmission Infrastructure Framework (VTIF) Victorian Access Framework.

¹ https://www.energy.vic.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0026/691181/Offshore-Wind-Energy-Implementation-Statement-3.pdf

Why Energise?

Can lead and navigate issue resolution through targeted constraints analysis and stakeholder engagement including:

Documenting known marine, landfall and terrestrial constraints to establish transmission corridors to proposed connection point.

Engaging with key State (VicGrid, OWEV, DoT) and Commonwealth (OIR, DCCEEW) to confirm approval pathway and grid connection process within context of broader project.

Engaging with Traditional Owners, the Gunaikurnai (GLaWAC) to understand key tangible and intangible values within the study area to inform export cable route and onshore transmission.

OUTCOMES

Stage 1 – based on the engagement and desktop assessment, prepare an Export cable Options Assessment (State Waters) and Onshore Corridor Assessment to PoC. Following selection of optimal route(s), develop a stakeholder and landowner access plan.

Stage 2 – support project referrals, land access and land acquisition (landfall, substation and infrastructure hosting), as required.

Convene support for broader industry collaboration and a coordinated process for all licence holders to minimise duplication of survey effort and regulator engagement.

