

7 May 2026

Update on AusNet infrastructure for Victoria Energy Terminal

Victoria Energy Terminal is a low impact solution to ensure Victorians have energy for their homes and businesses while gas is still needed.

A Floating Storage Regasification Unit (FSRU) will be moored at an existing anchorage site in Port Phillip Bay, located 20km offshore from Avalon. The FSRU will receive liquefied natural gas from import tankers, re-gasify it onboard and connect to an underwater gas pipeline.

The FSRU will be powered by a new underwater and underground transmission cable.

It will operate for a minimum of 10 years, however long it is needed, to secure Victoria's gas supply as we transition to a renewable energy future.

Victoria Energy Terminal is proposed by Vopak, an international company that provides storage and infrastructure solutions for liquids and gases that provide energy.

More information about the project is available at: victoriaenergyterminal.com.au

AusNet is working with Vopak to plan and deliver the transmission infrastructure to support the Victoria Energy Terminal.

AusNet will deliver a new:

- 220kV terminal station in the Lara area to connect into the existing Geelong to Keilor transmission line
- Underground transmission cable from the proposed Lara Terminal Station
- 220kV substation

There are two location options being considered for the new substation, one is near Avalon Airport and the other is adjacent to the proposed gas receiving station near the Princes Freeway on Melbourne Water owned land.

Understanding ground conditions

Site investigations through 2025 and 2026 have helped AusNet to understand the viability of the land, environmental considerations and progress the underground transmission infrastructure design. Site investigations will continue through 2026 to further inform the transmission infrastructure design.

Peak School Road and Calvert Road- preferred alignment

Site investigations and community feedback to date have confirmed that the most viable route to build the underground transmission infrastructure is along Calvert Road, Little River and Peak School Road, Lara. This preferred route has been selected as it has the least impact to the environment, traffic and residential dwellings compared with other options considered. This preferred route is subject to project planning approvals and further investigations.

AusNet is engaging directly with a small number of landowners and tenants whose properties may be directly impacted by the proposed Lara Terminal Station. Vopak and AusNet are working closely with Melbourne Water as the landowner of the Western Treatment Plant where an additional substation and underground transmission cables are proposed to be built.



How engagement informed the transmission solution to date

As the transmission infrastructure will be AusNet's assets to own, build and operate, it is AusNet's role to engage with the community and stakeholders who may be impacted by the transmission infrastructure associated with this project. Ongoing landowner engagement and community feedback has helped inform the most viable route for the underground transmission cable alignment and transmission design.

2022 - 2023	Vopak identified a potential transmission cable route and engaged with nearby landowners. Feedback informed a decision to reassess the transmission solution.
2024	Vopak undertook further technical work to identify two options for a shorter transmission cable route along either Windermere Road or Peak School Road. Landowner feedback informed a decision to plan to build the transmission cables underground instead of overhead.
2025	AusNet engaged with landowners along both transmission cable routes to update them on the project and seek feedback. Potential locations were identified for a new 220kV terminal station to connect into the existing Geelong to Keilor transmission line. Initial engagement commenced with these properties in March 2025, and subsequent environmental and geotechnical studies have continued with the properties that have expressed interest in hosting the transmission infrastructure.

2026	Peak School Road and Calvert Road were selected as the preferred underground transmission cable route in early 2026. An updated, more refined transmission study area for the Lara Terminal Station, the Environment Effects Statement and other approvals documentation will be publicly available from mid-2026. Landowner engagement, environmental studies and technical work will continue and inform a future decision about the Lara Terminal Station location.
Late 2026	Expected timing for a decision from the Minister for Planning on whether the environmental and community impacts of the project are acceptable.
2027	Construction expected to commence.

Managing construction impacts

AusNet recognises that along the preferred route alignment, there will be some construction activities that may create impacts to the local community and environment. These impacts will be mitigated during construction while we continue to work with and inform the community.

Victoria Energy Terminal planning approvals

The potential environmental effects of the Victoria Energy Terminal are being assessed by the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments through an Environment Effects Statement (EES) process. The EES is expected to be publicly exhibited in mid-2026.

The EES public exhibition will provide the public the opportunity to learn more about the project's potential impacts, proposed mitigation measures and make a written submission.

More information about the dates and where you can find information about community information sessions will be available on: victoriaenergyterminal.com.au

Contact us

If you have any questions about AusNet's transmission infrastructure, please call **0491 801 932** or email **DFN_majorprojects@ausnetservices.com.au**

For more information about the Victoria Energy Terminal and the EES Exhibition, please visit: victoriaenergyterminal.com.au