Power Supply Upgrade Program
Surry Hills to Central Station Feeder Upgrade
Have your say

Upgrading power supply for the new air-conditioned trains.

A new power supply cable is proposed to be installed between the Ausgrid Substation at Surry Hills and the new Chalmers Street Substation at Central Station.

Transport for NSW is upgrading electrical infrastructure as part of the Power Supply Upgrade Program, which is designed to meet expected power requirements for Sydney’s future rail network.

By rolling out world class technology to transform the rail network, we are providing customers with more reliable, frequent services. This project will support future network requirements associated with the integration of Sydney Metro and the introduction of a new fleet of trains including the New Intercity Fleet.

The work will involve the excavation and installation of a new 1.2 kilometre underground cable route from the Ausgrid Substation at Surry Hills, entering the rail corridor alongside the Airport Line (Platform 23) at Central Station, and connecting to the Chalmers Street Substation (see map inside).

Transport for NSW is seeking feedback on the Surry Hills to Central Station Feeder Upgrade. See details inside on where to view the plans and how to have your say.

For more information call 1800 684 490.
Email projects@transport.nsw.gov.au or visit transport.nsw.gov.au/projects
Key features of the proposed upgrade:

- Trenching (mostly in the road corridor to avoid trees and existing services) and installation of pipes to house the new cables
- Boring under Eddy Avenue to minimise traffic, pedestrian and light rail impacts
- Temporary parking and lane closures along Ann Street, Commonwealth Street, Albion Street and Elizabeth Street to allow the work to be completed safely.

Power supply to residences and businesses along the proposed route are not expected to be affected by the project. The project team and electricity provider will keep the community informed prior to any outages if they are required.

Subject to planning approval, early works are due to commence in May 2019 with construction on the roads in Surry Hills completed by early 2020. The overall project, including works in the rail corridor, is due for completion in late 2020.

View the plans

A Review of Environmental Factors (REF) has been prepared and is on public display until 5pm Friday 19 April 2019. You can view the REF at:


Haymarket Library
744 George Street, Sydney NSW 2000

Surry Hills Library
405 Crown Street, Surry Hills NSW 2010

Transport for NSW Office, Chatswood
Level 5, Tower A, Zenith Centre, 821 Pacific Highway, Chatswood NSW 2067

Visit our community information session and talk to the project team:

From 5pm to 7pm Wednesday 17 April 2019 at the Bradfield Room, Central Station (Grand Concourse, opposite Platform 1).
How will the project be delivered?

To deliver the majority of the new cable route, a 1.5 metre deep trench will be excavated, with piping laid before cables are inserted along the route. The depth will vary according to local conditions.

The most difficult section involves crossing the busy Elizabeth Street, Eddy Avenue and light rail route. A pit up to five metres wide will be dug on both sides of Elizabeth Street to enable a boring machine to tunnel under Eddy Avenue. The boring machine will excavate a route approximately 80 metres long under the roadway and pipes will be installed to carry the power cables. This construction technique will ensure Light Rail, traffic and pedestrians are able to move around the area during construction. The power cables will then be installed through the piping and into the rail corridor. Additional cable trays will be installed along the retaining wall within the rail corridor, opposite Platform 23, until it reaches the Chalmers Street Substation.

Why do we need to upgrade the rail power supply?

Upgrading the power supply cable will support the introduction of the new fleet of trains including the New Intercity Fleet and Sydney Growth Trains. Upgrading the power supply also future-proofs the connection to the Sydney Trains network, allowing more trains and more services to be available to customers.

Minimising impacts on trees

The cable route has been designed to minimise impacts on trees. The majority of the cable route will be constructed in the roadway or under footpaths.

An assessment was undertaken as part of the REF to identify any impacts on trees along the route.

A total of 63 trees were assessed and amendments to the design and construction process have been made to protect the majority of the trees.

The assessment identified three trees (olive trees) on the corner of Eddy Avenue and Elizabeth Street that will need to be removed as they are in the construction zone. A further three trees located close to this area will also be assessed during construction by an independent arborist. Any trees that are removed will be offset.
How the energy network powers our trains and systems

- General power source provided from an established location (e.g., substation)
- Power cable connects substation to rail substation via underground pipes or power poles
- Rail substation provides power supply via cable into the rail corridor
- Safe and reliable power distributed to stations, signals and other rail infrastructure
- Power supply is converted and transferred to overhead wiring to power trains

Coordinating works within the Central Station precinct

These power upgrade works are being coordinated with Sydney Light Rail and Sydney Metro projects to minimise disruption to the community in the Central precinct and surrounding streets.

To minimise noise impacts we switch off equipment when it is not being used, place equipment as far away from properties as possible and monitor work to make sure noise levels are being managed effectively. Standard construction hours are between 7am and 6pm Monday to Friday and 8am and 1pm on Saturday. For the safety of our workers and to reduce traffic and customer impacts some night works will be required on busier roads and within the rail corridor. We will inform the community before any night works occur.

Feedback

Feedback received during the public display will assist Transport for NSW in preparing plans and managing any impacts during the construction of the project. Subject to planning approval, works are expected to start mid-2019.

You can provide feedback by:
- projects@transport.nsw.gov.au
- Surry Hills to Central Station Feeder Upgrade, Associate Director, Environmental Impact Assessment, Locked Bag 6501, St Leonards NSW 2065
- In person at our community information session.

Feedback must be received by 5pm Friday 19 April 2019.

Contact Us

If you would like to meet with the project team or to learn more about this project, please call 1800 684 490 or email us at projects@transport.nsw.gov.au. We will keep the community informed through updates at www.transport.nsw.gov.au/projects

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