Electricity cable installation

As part of the construction of the site compounds and tunnels for NorthConnex, the project team will be installing electricity cable to four compound sites.

The installation will provide power to the site compound and tunnelling equipment, resulting in less emissions and noise in comparison to using diesel powered generators.

Four electricity cable routes will be installed:

- Hornsby substation to the Northern Interchange Compound on Eastbourne Avenue, Wahroonga
- Pennant Hills substation running to the Trelawney Street Compound on Trelawney Street and Loch Maree Avenue, Thornleigh
- Pennant Hills substation running to the Wilson Road Compound, Pennant Hills
- Pennant Hills substation running to the Southern Interchange Compound on Pennant Hills Road, between Hills M2 Motorway and Eaton Road, West Pennant Hills.

Electricity cable installation will be progressively constructed at around 25 metres per day. This will include:

- Searching for locations of utility services which involves breaking up the road, footpath or verge to locate the service
- Marking up located services and utilities in several different colours
- Non-destructive excavation to locate the services
- Excavating and trenching lengths of the road, footpath or verge
- Conduit installation (plastic pipes)
- Cable pulling and joint bay connections
- Backfilling and restoration of the road surface, footpath or verge at the completion of the work.

Some of your questions answered

Where will workers at the sites park their cars?

Most of the site compounds have sufficient parking within the site boundary for workers and visitors. A shuttle bus will also operate from the main compounds to get workers to smaller sites.

What impacts can I expect during construction?

During construction, impacts will include night work, closure of lanes on Pennant Hills Road, Hills M2 and M1 Pacific Motorways. To reduce disruptions to motorists, work will sometimes be required to be done at night when traffic volumes are lower. We will provide information on what to expect and what is being done to reduce impacts.

When will we notice actual work happening?

Site compounds will be designed to minimise impacts on surrounding communities however, the sites will be working 24 hours seven days a week during tunnelling work. Compounds will be fenced by hoarding and acoustic sheds which will reduce noise and dust.

More questions?

The NorthConnex project team is committed to working closely with you to inform you of upcoming work over the course of the project and to minimise impacts from our construction activities.

For further information on NorthConnex please don’t hesitate to contact members of the project team by:

phone: 1800 997 057
email: enquiries@northconnex.com.au

Meet the team

You are invited to visit the NorthConnex Community Information Centre, at 354 - 356 Pennant Hills Road, Pennant Hills, and meet the members of our team.

We are open every Tuesday from 9am to 12pm and Thursday from 9am to 4pm. We will also be open on Saturday 25 July, Saturday 29 August, Saturday 26 September and Saturday 3 October 9am to 12pm.

Traffic changes

During construction it will be necessary to put in place a number of traffic changes. With the majority of construction happening close to major arterial roads, night work will be required to minimise impact on motorists. In the next three months, night work will be ongoing on the M1 Pacific Motorway in Wahroonga, sections of Pennant Hills Road between Wahroonga and West Pennant Hills and the Hills M2 Motorway in between West Pennant Hills and Windsor Road. Media alerts and electronic road side signs will advertise the changes to motorists.

What’s coming up?

- Electricity cable installation
- Project features
- What’s happening?
- What’s opening?
- Meet the team

In this issue

- What is NorthConnex?
- Traffic changes
- Project features
- What’s happening?
- What’s opening?
- Meet the team

What is NorthConnex?

NorthConnex is a nine kilometre tunnel that will link the M1 Pacific Motorway at Wahroonga to the Hills M2 Motorway at West Pennant Hills, removing around 5,000 trucks daily off Pennant Hills Road.

- Approval for the construction and operation of NorthConnex was granted by the NSW Minister for Planning on 13 January 2015.
- Transurban and its partners in Westlink M7 have awarded the Design and Construction contract for NorthConnex to the Lendlease Bouygues Joint Venture (LLBJV).

Early work activities started on site 5 February with major construction starting in July 2015.
NorthConnex what will be built

Project features
1. Twin motorway tunnels, each with two lanes and an additional breakdown lane, built wide enough for a three lane capacity for future traffic growth
2. A Northern interchange at the intersection of Pennant Hills Road with the M1 Pacific Motorway
3. A northern ventilation outlet and support facilities located within and immediately next to the existing M1 Pacific Motorway corridor
4. A Southern interchange at the intersection of Pennant Hills Road with the Hills M2 Motorway
5. A motorway control centre, ventilation outlet and support facilities located near the Southern interchange
6. Integration work on the Hills M2 Motorway to provide an extra westbound 3.5km lane, as well as on and off-rams, and bridge widening works from Pennant Hills Road to the Windsor Road interchange
7. On and off-rams linking the tunnel and the existing M1 Pacific Motorway, north of Edgeworth David Avenue, and the Hills M2 Motorway at Pennant Hills Road
8. Staff transfer facility at Pioneer Avenue

What’s happening?
In recent months you may have noticed NorthConnex sub-contractors in your area undertaking investigations, monitoring and property condition surveys. This work provides essential data and information for the detailed design of the tunnels and other civil work as well as environmental management. Some existing buildings and structures which were purchased to allow construction to proceed have been removed in preparation for site set up.

What’s coming up?
One of the construction activities which will happen in the next three months is the establishment of construction compounds. This includes delivery of machinery and materials to construction compounds, site clearing including vegetation removal, fencing, erection of site facilities, environmental controls and access and services to locations as listed below.