

# Community newsletter 1 - May 2011

## Olympic Park substation project



Architect's impression of the proposed substation (before landscaping by SOPA)

### Investing in the future

Ausgrid plans to build a new zone substation at the corner of Australia Avenue and Bennelong Parkway in Bicentennial Park, Sydney Olympic Park.

The substation will facilitate future development at Sydney Olympic Park, as proposed under Sydney Olympic Park's Master Plan 2030. It will allow Ausgrid to meet the increasing electricity demand for the area's growing business and residential community.

The substation will convert electricity from 132,000 volts to 11,000 volts for distribution into the local electricity network.

It will not be necessary to interrupt the local power supply to carry out the project.

The project, worth approximately \$46 million, is planned to start in August 2011 and be completed by mid 2013.

### Modern substation design

Ausgrid has made a significant investment in the architectural design of the substation building to fit in with its surroundings, while also meeting all the relevant safety, health and environmental standards.

The Sydney Olympic Park Authority has been extensively involved in the design process with Ausgrid including the selection of the location at the edge of Bicentennial Park. The substation's surrounds will be extensively landscaped by the Authority.

An architectural firm has prepared several impressions of the proposed design including different views with landscaping at various stages of growth (see view above, and on the inside and back pages) over ten years.

A feature of the design is the use of berms or mounds for planting to maximise the landscaped area around the substation.

The substation will be an indoor/enclosed facility, with all new cables in and out of the substation installed underground. This means that little, if any, of the electrical equipment will be visible to the community.

Modern equipment in the substation will include low noise transformers to ensure the new facility will be a good neighbour in the area.

The substation will be monitored remotely, with staff attending the site periodically for maintenance.

### Protecting our environment

Bicentennial Park provides habitat and foraging for migratory birds, includes an important fish way, and also supports habitat for the Green and Golden Bell Frog. A comprehensive environmental assessment is being undertaken to investigate the impacts of the proposal at the site. Studies include; ecological, noise, contamination, flood and traffic investigations.

The completed environmental assessment will include extensive measures to mitigate any potential environmental impacts during construction and operation. From time to time you may notice Ausgrid staff and our contractors carrying out a range of investigations in and around the proposed substation site.



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## Project timing

Subject to approval of the project for construction, work is expected to take place between August 2011 and mid 2013, depending on weather and construction conditions. The substation building is expected to take approximately one year to complete. It will then take a further year to install electrical equipment, connect the substation to the electricity network and test equipment before final commissioning.

Work on the substation site is proposed to take place between 7.00am to 6.00pm on weekdays and 8.00am to 1.00pm on Saturdays.

## New underground cables

The project will require a range of underground cables to be laid in the neighbourhood around the substation. This will include new 132,000 volt cables that will supply power to the substation and 11,000 volt cables to distribute electricity to the local network.

## Next steps

There are a range of activities coming up that will assist Ausgrid to prepare the final plans. These activities include formal notification to the Sydney Olympic Park Authority, Auburn Council and adjoining landowners, community information displays and completion of the environmental assessment for the project.

Impressions produced by the architectural firm and a site plan will be on show at community information displays (see details across page). Feedback from the community will be considered when completing our plans and our environmental assessment.

Currently there is an outdoor exercise equipment on part of the proposed site. The Authority will relocate the equipment prior to the start of the project.

## Electric and magnetic fields

Electric and magnetic fields (EMF) are present wherever electricity is used, from the electricity network to appliances found in the home or work place.

Ausgrid designs its new electricity infrastructure, such as the Olympic Park substation, to minimise any change to the EMF that is already present in the neighbourhood and to ensure the development complies with the relevant EMF health standards or guidelines.

Further information about EMF is available by contacting Ausgrid, or going to [www.ausgrid.com.au/emf](http://www.ausgrid.com.au/emf).



Architect's impression of the proposed substation (ten years after completion and landscaping by SOPA)

## Project approval

NSW planning laws include the State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007.

This provides for Ausgrid to be the determining authority for developments such as the new substation building, under Part 5 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

Ausgrid is required to notify the Sydney Olympic Park Authority, Auburn Council and adjoining land occupiers and consider submissions received from them within 21 days prior to the project being assessed for planning approval. Ausgrid has consulted extensively with the Sydney Olympic Park Authority from the early planning stages to ensure the new substation is in line with the Authority's urban development plans.

## Community information displays

As well as the statutory notifications required for the project, Ausgrid has a more extensive process of consultation with the community. This process is now underway and is designed to encourage wider community awareness of the project and allow Ausgrid to understand all potential issues before the plans are finalised.

We are holding two community displays to allow interested members of the community to view our plans and discuss them with the project team.

The displays will be held at the Waterview Convention Centre in Bicentennial Park (not far from the proposed substation site). The entrance is off Australia Avenue.

No appointment is necessary, just drop in.

### Display one

Date: Wednesday 11th May 2011  
Time: Any time between 4pm and 8pm

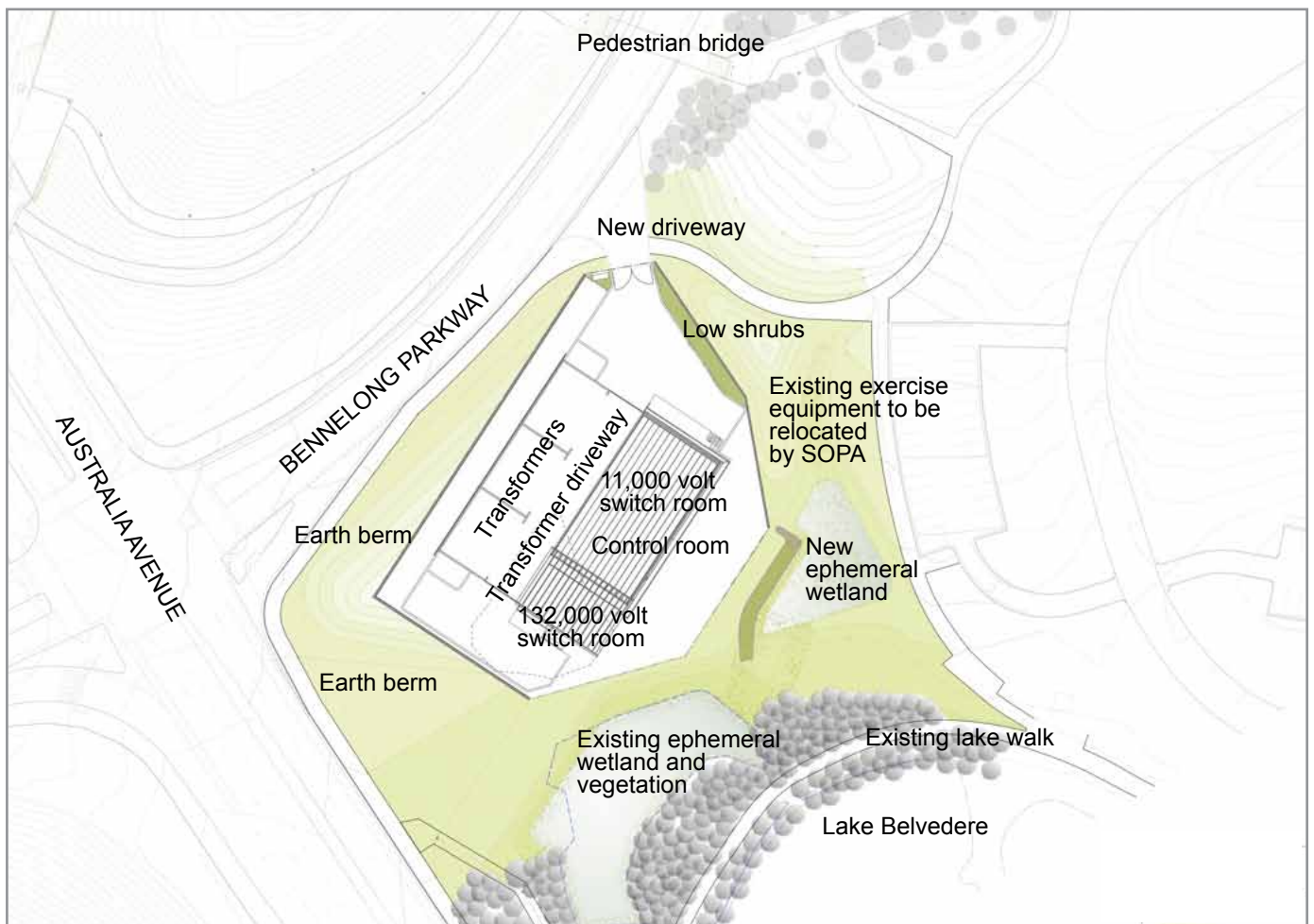
### Display two

Date: Friday 13th May 2011  
Time: Any time between 10am and 1pm

If you are unable to attend one of the community displays, we would be happy to arrange an appointment to outline our plans at another time.



Architect's impression of the proposed substation (ten years after completion and landscaping by SOPA)



Site plan (before landscaping by SOPA)

## Contacting us

You are welcome to contact Ausgrid's major project team with any inquiries. T 1800 214 193 (free call from a fixed phone) E [majorprojects@ausgrid.com.au](mailto:majorprojects@ausgrid.com.au)

