

Transgrid apprentice case study – Joannah McDougall



Transgrid is already providing employment and training opportunities for Riverina residents as part of its Apprenticeships Program.

Joannah McDougall joined the company as a first-year apprentice substation technician in January.

She was proud to follow in the footsteps of her father in an electrical career.

“I first became interested in the electrical industry from working with my dad when I was younger. He was really proud when I told him I got an apprenticeship,” she said.

The Ladysmith resident saw Transgrid’s Apprenticeships Program advertised on Seek and was quick to apply.

“I knew about the challenges of working in a traditionally male-dominated trade, but with researching the company (Transgrid) there were stories on previous women apprentices, indicating an inclusive and supportive female environment,” she said.

The 20-year-old nominated variety, travel, team bonding and learning more about the energy ‘big picture’ as the best parts of her job.

She also enjoys studying a Certificate III in Electrotechnology at TAFE Wagga.

“Being a substation apprentice we go out in the field with a qualified tradesman, with the majority of our work consisting of performing maintenance checks on the equipment. The work changes week to week creating lots of variety,” Joannah said.

“I enjoy the travel aspect of the job, getting to see lots of countryside and the different substations.

“Working at Transgrid has been a really eye-opening experience as I’ve gotten to witness the bigger picture of the electrical world.”