

Proposed Genex Kidston Connection Project

Project investigations commencing



OCTOBER 2017

About Powerlink

Powerlink is a leading Australian provider of high voltage electricity transmission network services, delivering safe, cost effective and reliable solutions. Our transmission network extends 1,700 kilometres from north of Cairns to the New South Wales border.

Enabling a renewable energy economy is a key focus for Powerlink. Transmission networks will play a vital role in facilitating new, large-scale renewable and low emissions generation. Powerlink is well placed to support the development of renewable energy sources and deliver efficient connections for large-scale renewable generators to the National Electricity Market.

About the Kidston Hydro-Solar Project

Genex Power's proposed Kidston Hydro-Solar Project is a renewable energy generation project comprising pumped hydro and solar, with the capacity to generate around 520 megawatts of energy. The project site is located near the former Kidston Gold Mine, about 270 kilometres north-west of Townsville.

For more information on the project, visit www.genexpower.com.au.

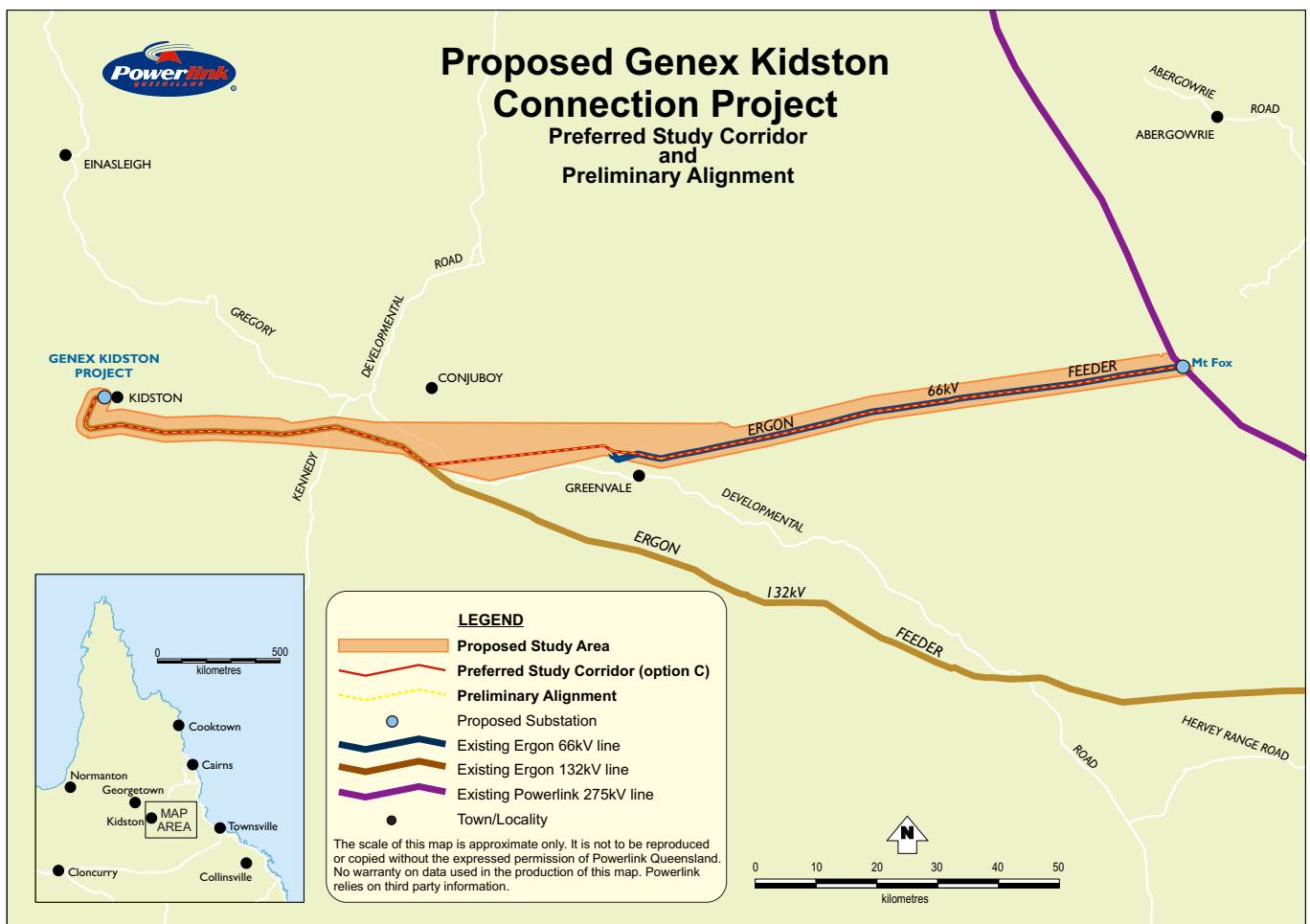


Key points

- Powerlink has been engaged by Genex Power (Genex) to undertake a range of activities to develop a 275kV high voltage electricity transmission line connection and associated substations to support Genex's renewable energy generation project at Kidston.
- These activities include engaging comprehensively with landholders and stakeholders about the project, and completing environmental and technical assessments.
- Powerlink is further developing the preliminary alignment for the transmission line as identified in the project's Corridor Selection Report in early 2017.
- Landholder input is important. We are meeting with landholders to share information about the project, seek their input, and better understand the potential impacts from the project and how they can be minimised and mitigated.
- We are asking landholders for permission to access their properties for on-ground environmental, cultural heritage and technical assessments.
- Future stages of the project will involve more opportunities for landholder and stakeholder engagement, as well as formal consultation.
- Genex will confirm in mid-2018 that the transmission line project is required.



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About the Proposed Genex Kidston Connection Project

Powerlink has been engaged by Genex to undertake a range of activities to develop a 275kV high voltage electricity transmission line connection and associated substations to support Genex's proposed renewable energy generation project at Kidston. These activities will continue into the first half of 2018.

In February 2017, Powerlink finalised a Corridor Selection Report (CSR) for the proposed transmission line, following a range of desktop assessments, initial landholder engagement and consultation with other stakeholders.

The CSR identified the preferred study corridor and preliminary alignment for the proposed transmission line project having considered a range of social, economic and environmental factors. It also identified an area of interest for the substation proposed to be located in the vicinity of Mt Fox.

The CSR recommended the proposed transmission line be generally located alongside existing Ergon Energy powerlines where possible to minimise potential impacts.

For a copy of the CSR:

- visit www.powerlink.com.au and search for 'Genex Kidston'. The CSR is available under the 'Environmental documents' tab
- if you would prefer a hard copy or electronic version on CD, please email pqenquiries@powerlink.com.au or phone FREECALL: 1800 635 369 (business hours).

Meeting with landholders

Powerlink is contacting all landholders on the preliminary alignment to commence face-to-face meetings.

We are seeking landholder input so we can better understand how landholders operate their properties, potential impacts from the proposed project on their properties, and how potential impacts could be minimised.

We will also provide landholders with information about Powerlink and the processes and protocols we follow in our work.

We appreciate the cooperation of landholders and try to schedule meeting times and locations to meet landholders' needs.

Land access

Powerlink will need to access properties along the preliminary alignment for on-ground environmental, cultural heritage and technical investigations.

We respect and value our relationship with landholders and will always seek the landholder's permission before entering any property, and will provide information about the activities to be undertaken.

We understand that some landholders might have concerns about allowing access to their property or the activities that might be undertaken. We will provide as much notice as possible if we require access and will provide detailed information about who requires access and for what purpose.

We also respect any reasonable requests that landholders may have in relation to access. Some of the matters we discuss before entering a property are biosecurity, access points, use of roads and access tracks, managing fences and gates, security, fire risk, use of land, safety and confidentiality.

Our Land Access Protocol outlines the standards and commitments we will adhere to when accessing properties. You are welcome to access our Land Access Protocol at www.powerlink.com.au (search 'Land Access Protocol') or you can ask for a printed copy when speaking with a Powerlink representative or by contacting us.

Managing biosecurity and weeds

We recognise that preventing the spread of identified weeds, pathogens and pests is a very high priority for landholders. This is highlighted in our Land Access Protocol and is a key focus for us when undertaking our activities.

Before we access a property, we discuss biosecurity and weed management with the landholder to establish and agree on biosecurity commitments.

We take practical steps to minimise the spread of weeds and other pathogens, such as:

- including biosecurity and weed management in induction procedures for any Powerlink employees or representatives that will access the property
- performing vehicle clean downs before entering the property
- keeping records of vehicle movements and clean downs.

If you have any specific queries regarding biosecurity we invite you to discuss these with your Powerlink representative.

Privacy and confidentiality

We value the importance of privacy and discretion with respect to the information gathered during our activities. Our practices are designed to comply with privacy-related obligations contained in legislation.

We provide landholders and stakeholders with a record of their discussions with Powerlink, as this is part of our normal engagement and record keeping processes.

Please ask us for more information about our privacy guidelines if you have any specific queries regarding privacy.

Engaging with stakeholders

Powerlink is engaging with stakeholders including key government, industry and peak bodies to share information and seek their input to the project. We appreciate the insights from stakeholders and invite feedback through our Project Team.

Next steps


- Powerlink is seeking to meet with all landholders on the preliminary alignment to understand their property operations and matters of importance, and seek their input to refine the preliminary alignment.
- Powerlink is contacting relevant stakeholders to seek their feedback on the proposed transmission line.
- With landholder permission, targeted technical, cultural heritage and environmental investigations will take place on some properties.
- If the project proceeds, other activities such as planning approval, easement acquisition and construction will include additional engagement and consultation opportunities for landholders and stakeholders.
- There will not be a decision made about the final route for the proposed transmission line until a comprehensive impact assessment process and further consultation with landholders and stakeholders is undertaken.



Further Information

For more information on the Proposed Genex Kidston Connection Project, please contact:

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