

CopperString 2032

POWERLINK QUEENSLAND

Message from our Project Director

Things are powering ahead for North and North West Queensland's largest economic development project.

I've spent the last few months meeting and briefing the new Mayors and Councillors along the corridor. There's no doubt that CopperString 2032 has and always will be a community project and we value the unwavering support from all councils along the corridor.

In July, copper shovels will break ground in Hughenden with the construction of the first workforce accommodation facility. Hughenden's workforce accommodation site will be the largest for the project, accommodating the workers who will build the transmission line and Flinders Substation. Workforce accommodation will also be built at other strategic locations along the corridor including Richmond, Julia Creek, Cloncurry, Pentland, and Charters Towers.

Community partnerships remain a priority for CopperString 2032 and we were thrilled to support the Hughenden Festival of the Outback Skies and the Hughenden Show

in May. I had the opportunity to attend the Festival and enjoy everything Hughenden has to offer locals and visitors. We are working hard behind the scenes on our CopperString 2032 Community Grants Program, and we look forward to launching this soon.

I am also excited to share with you the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with James Cook University. This partnership is a first of its kind for Powerlink and it will provide opportunities for students as part of the delivery of the CopperString 2032 project.

Construction has also started on the CopperString Experience Centre in Townsville. Located just a short stroll from the Queensland Country Bank Stadium, the Centre will officially open late August.

Thank you again for your continued support and please enjoy the latest on CopperString 2032.

Tom Dockray
**CopperString 2032
Project Director**



Powerlink acknowledges the Traditional Owners and their custodianship of the lands and waters of Queensland and in particular, the lands on which we operate. We pay our respect to their Ancestors, Elders and knowledge holders and recognise their deep history and ongoing connection to Country.

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Hughenden workforce accommodation engagement

Hughenden is the centre of the CopperString 2032 corridor, and the Flinders Shire will play an important role in the renewable energy transition. The team spent time in Hughenden in March talking to residents and community members about the workforce accommodation and supplier opportunities.

We held a breakfast with the Hughenden Chamber of Commerce and more than 30 local business representatives attended. We also held two community information drop-in sessions at the Diggers Entertainment Centre and more than 30 residents and community members attended to learn more about the project and to meet the team. Thank you to everyone for your valuable feedback.

We were also proud to support the Hughenden Festival of Outback Skies in May. This annual three-day festival embraces the essence of the outback. CopperString 2032 had a stand at the event and more than 200 people dropped by to speak with the team.



Hughenden workforce accommodation

The Hughenden workforce accommodation and facilities is the largest along the corridor and will remain throughout the entire construction phase.

- Early works to start mid-2024
- Approximately eight months to complete
- It will accommodate up to 450 people (with a periodic peak of 550)
- Will include the workforce required to build the Flinders Substation and transmission line
- A temporary facility for 30 to 50 people will be built first

Workforce accommodation will also be built at Richmond, Julia Creek, Cloncurry, Pentland and Charters Towers.

Scan the QR code to watch the Hughenden workforce accommodation visualisation.





 Hughenden Festival of the Outback Skies

NQ Future Leaders learn about CopperString 2032

Our Project Construction Director, Vik Dhiman presented to the North Queensland Future Leaders Program in April.

The Future Leaders Program, led by Townsville Enterprise, aims to educate the next generation of regional leaders on the issues, opportunities, and challenges impacting the Townsville North Queensland region.

Vik enjoyed meeting the Future Leaders, providing an update on CopperString 2032 and answering all their questions about the largest economic development project for North and North West Queensland.

Thank you to Claudia, Karen and the team at Townsville Enterprise for this opportunity.



Richmond workforce accommodation

The Richmond workforce accommodation is the second of six strategic workforce accommodation sites that will be built along the corridor.

- Early civil works to start late-2024 and will take approximately eight months to complete
- It will accommodate up to 250 people
- Will include the workforce required to build the transmission line
- A temporary facility for 30 to 50 people will be built first

The CopperString 2032 project team will be at the Richmond Field Days to talk to residents and community members about the the workforce accommodation. Scan the QR code to watch the visualisation.



James Cook University partnership

Powerlink is thrilled to announce it has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with James Cook University to work collaboratively in providing opportunities for students as part of the delivery of the CopperString 2032 project.

The partnership will provide work integrated learning, internships, professional development opportunities, as well as collaborative research in areas of power systems (including renewables), materials testing, environmental and biodiversity impact and mitigation, rare and threatened species. The research undertaken will not only benefit the local communities and delivery of CopperString, but it may also influence decision making for transmission projects across Australia.

This is the first time Powerlink has signed an agreement with a university and is excited to see how the work of the next generation of students can influence the energy transformation for the future.



Building supplier capability in regional Queensland

The Supplier Capability Development Program will be delivered to support supplier capability development and engagement for CopperString 2032 and other regional projects/supply chains in the Flinders Shire, Richmond Shire, Cloncurry Shire, McKinlay Shire and Charters Towers Region.

The nine-month program is tailored to regional Queensland suppliers who are targeting a wide range of supply chain opportunities including supplying to:

- Regional Councils
- CopperString 2032
- Renewable energy projects
- New road construction and road maintenance upgrades
- Agriculture projects
- Regional growth and economic development opportunities

The Program will be launched late 2024.





North West MPX - Mount Isa

CopperString 2032 Experience Centre

Construction has commenced on the state-of-the-art CopperString Experience Centre in Townsville.

The Centre is located just near the Queensland Country Bank Stadium on Stanley Street and will feature eight immersive and educational zones.

It will provide an engaging hub for visitors of all ages and will showcase the CopperString 2032 project, the history of energy in Queensland and the importance of the North West Minerals Province and Renewable Energy Zones to Australia's energy transition.

The Centre will officially open late August this year.



Delivering for the community and industry

Community has always been at the core of CopperString 2032. We are proud members of all the Chambers of Commerce along the corridor and value our partnerships with councils and stakeholders.

Where we've been recently

- Meet the Buyer – North Queensland Supply Chain – Townsville
- North West MPX – Mount Isa
- Festival of the Outback Skies – Hughenden
- Townsville Enterprise Green Energy Forum – Townsville
- Townsville Enterprise Future Leaders Module Day – Townsville
- Hughenden Show – Hughenden
- Mayoral and council briefings along the corridor
- North West Queensland Regional Organisation of Councils Board Meeting – Cloncurry
- James Cook University Decarbonisation Forum – Townsville

We're looking forward to attending the Richmond Field Days in June to talk to residents and the community about the workforce accommodation that will start construction later this year.

Project approvals and construction sequencing

Our delivery timeline aligns with our regulatory approvals and construction access.

The below map shows the staging and timeframes for each section of the alignment.

Workforce accommodation and facilities will be built ahead of transmission line and substation construction to make sure our workforce can travel safely to and from site each day.



 Hughenden Festival of the Outback Skies

Further information

Powerlink is committed to ongoing genuine and timely engagement to ensure we deliver positive outcomes for landholders, stakeholders, the environment and local communities where our transmission infrastructure is located.

To learn more about CopperString 2032, contact the project team on 1800 635 369 or email copperstring2032@powerlink.com.au.



Use the QR code to access our project webpage or visit powerlink.com.au/copperstring2032