

Borumba Pumped Hydro Transmission Connections Project

POWERLINK QUEENSLAND

About the project

Queensland Hydro's proposed Borumba Pumped Hydro Energy Storage Facility is a renewable generation project capable of dispatching 2,000MW of stored energy for up to 24 hours.

When fully operational, it will have the capacity to power up to two million Queensland homes.

The project site is located at Lake Borumba near Imbil.

For further information on the project, visit

qldhydro.com.au/borumba.

Overview

This edition covers information on Powerlink's project timeline, an update to planning for the Queensland SuperGrid and community events we have proudly supported during the last few months.

We welcome feedback from the community on what information you would like us to share so if you have any suggestions, please get in touch.

We would also be pleased to answer questions regarding this project and encourage you to reach out via our email address or on the phone numbers provided at the end of the newsletter.

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.



Freecall 1800 635 369

powerlink.com.au/borumbatransmission



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Voltage change for Borumba

Powerlink is delivering the Queensland SuperGrid Infrastructure Blueprint, a plan to develop Queensland's high voltage transmission network to support the transition to renewable energy sources.

As part of our ongoing review of the plan, as well as further analysis and modelling, we will be changing the voltage of the transmission lines that will connect the Borumba Pumped Hydro Energy Storage Facility to the grid from 500kV to 275kV.

For landholders in the final corridor for the Halys to Woolooga transmission connection, the final easement alignment currently being identified will remain at 70 metres wide. The voltage change will enable:

- smaller towers in some areas depending on the terrain and clearance requirements
- reduced clearing in some cases due to smaller tower bases
- less expansion work for substation sites
- the opportunity to reduce construction timeframes and impacts.

The size of towers will be known once the final easement alignment is determined.

The decision to lower the voltage was also influenced by a new western route for the second stage of the SuperGrid plan, which will connect Halys Substation and Gladstone with a 500kV transmission line. This is in place of the previous plan to connect Gladstone via our existing Woolooga Substation.

This new route will enable us to access more renewable energy sources in this area of western Queensland, reduce the overall length of the transmission line and help us deliver the project in a more efficient and cost-effective way.

We are committed to keeping you informed as we progress the project and encourage you to reach out with any questions or feedback.

Project timeline update

We have appreciated the opportunity to hear feedback and gain insights from the local community, in particular during the lead up to the release of the final 1km-wide corridors for the Halys and Woolooga transmission lines in late 2023.

Powerlink is now focusing our efforts on working with landholders within the 1km-wide final corridors to further refine these corridors down to 70m-wide easement alignments. This process involves accessing properties for on-ground environmental, cultural heritage, technical and ecological assessments.

- **December 2021**
Early engagement
- **July 2022 - October 2022**
Introduction to investigation area
- **November 2022 - April 2023**
Engagement on transmission corridor options
- **April 2023**
Release of recommended transmission corridors
- **August - October 2023**
Engagement on recommended transmission corridors
- **September 2023**
Release final corridor for Borumba to Halys transmission corridor and extended engagement on the Borumba to Woolooga corridor
- **November 2023**
Release of final corridor for Borumba to Woolooga transmission corridor
- **December 2023 - March 2025**
Landholder engagement on easement alignment
- **Late 2024**
Consultation to progress Federal Government environmental approvals under the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999*
- **Q1 2025**
Consultation to progress State Government planning approvals as per the Ministerial Infrastructure Designation process under the *Planning Act 2016*
- **2026 - 2029**
Transmission construction

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Community investment

Powerlink understands that supporting regional communities is an important part of providing our electricity transmission services across Queensland.

We are contributing to the local communities we work in by investing in projects and activities that deliver positive outcomes for local organisations, schools and businesses.

We will soon invite applications for our Powerlink community grants to allow local clubs and not-for-profit organisations to deliver activities, events and projects during 2025.

The small grants campaign has been designed for the Borumba project area and will be inviting community members for submissions across the Gympie, South Burnett and Somerset Regional Council areas via the Borumba Transmission Connections Project page.

We invite you to keep a close eye on this page to see when the grants are officially launched.

Community engagement

Powerlink proudly supported the annual Sustainable Futures Festival hosted by Gympie Landcare and the Gympie and District Sustainable Alliance at the Gympie Showgrounds in late June 2024.

The festival has a strong focus on promoting renewable energy, as well as sustainable land, water and waste management practices.

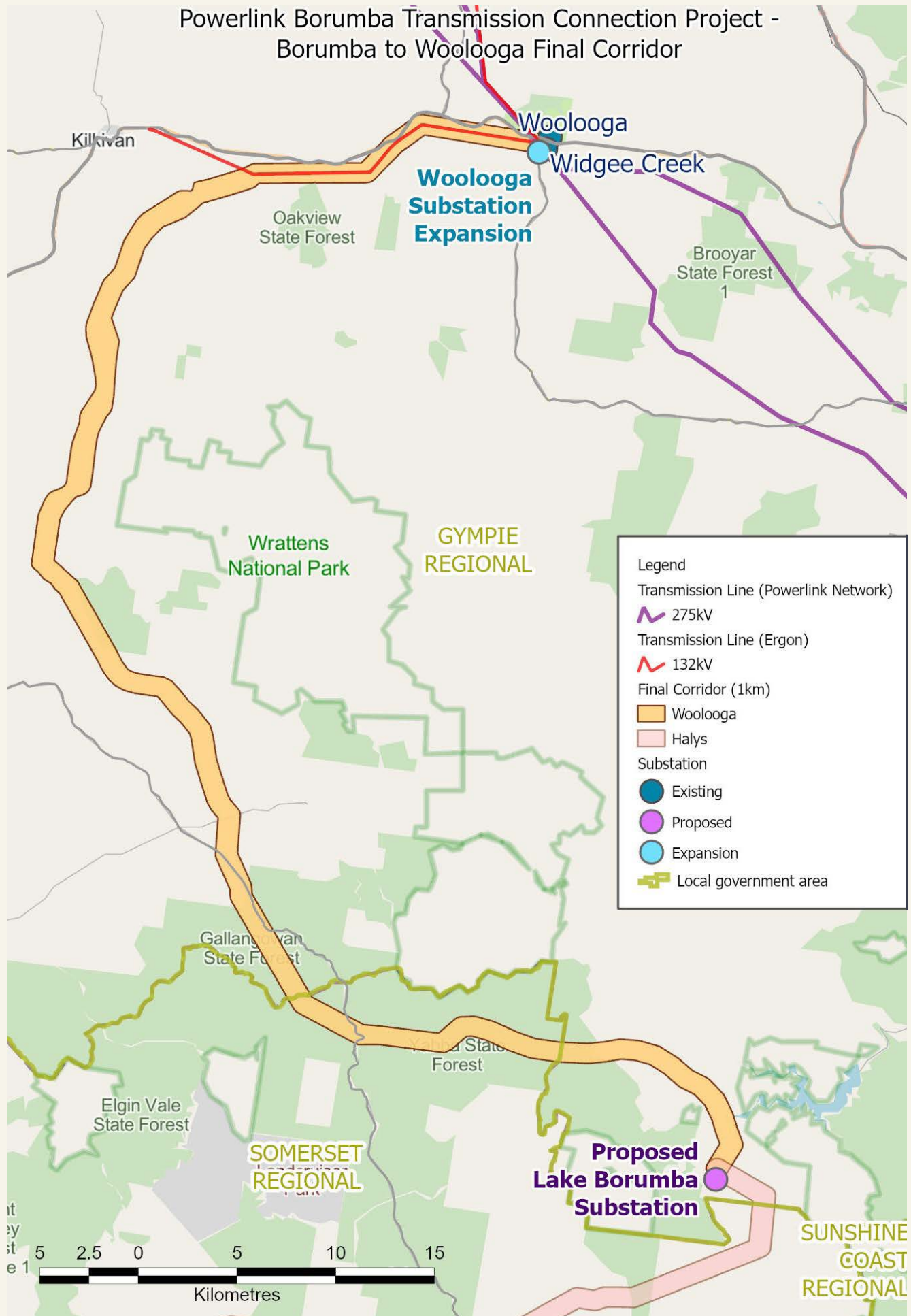
It aims to highlight the impact individual contributions can make towards a sustainable future for the community, businesses and the environment.

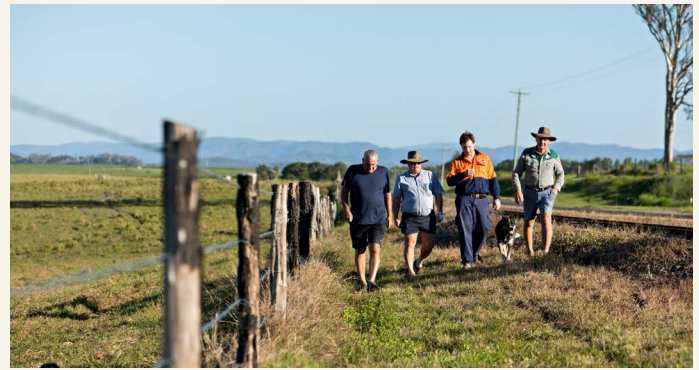
Our Powerlink team members enjoyed meeting and speaking with locals about our projects in the region.

We also shared information about how we are using drone technology to change the way we string the transmission line between towers.

Visitors who dropped by our stand heard about how we are exploring this innovative technology to work more efficiently and sustainably when we are constructing our transmission network.

Borumba to Woolooga Final Corridor





Transmission Talk Podcast

Transmission Talk is a podcast series for all the news and information on the Borumba Pumped Hydro Transmission Connections Project.



Scan the QR code to listen to the latest episode.

Support

Powerlink is offering support to landholders and community members through a professional counselling service (Rural Health Connect).

This is an independent and confidential provider. To access this service, please call 0493 432 144 or visit - ruralhealthconnect.com.au/employee-assistance-program. Select EAP from the services menu, select your psychologist and appointment time and complete the registration entering the EAP Program Code: 'Landholder Assist'.

About Powerlink Queensland

Powerlink is a Government Owned Corporation that owns, develops, operates and maintains the transmission network in Queensland.

We connect Queenslanders to a world-class energy future, providing electricity to more than five million Queenslanders and 253,000 businesses.

We are also responsible for connecting large-scale renewable energy developments, including wind and solar, and providing electricity to large industrial customers in the rail, mining and LNG sectors.

Further information

Scan the QR code to visit our project webpage and subscribe to keep up to date with project activities.



Or contact:

Borumba to Halys project team
07 3898 4911
Borumba to Woorooga project team
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