

Borumba Pumped Hydro Transmission Connections Project

POWERLINK QUEENSLAND

Welcome to our latest project newsletter

This edition looks at:

- Current project activity
- Powerlink's community grants program
- Local sponsorship and events

Our newsletter aims to keep you informed about our project updates and highlight the events and activities we support in the region. We appreciate any feedback you may have on this update, so please reach out if you have any questions or suggestions, or if we can assist you in any way. You can contact the Borumba Transmission Connections Project Team via email at borumba@powerlink.com.au or by calling the project numbers:

Halys to Borumba:

07 3898 4911

Borumba to Woolooga:

07 3898 4988.

Project update

Work continues within the 1km-wide final corridors with the focus being on-ground, cultural heritage, technical and ecological assessments. This critical work helps identify and catalogue flora and fauna, and associated habitat areas, and map areas of cultural significance and terrain that will inform transmission tower placements and spans. Given the challenging landscape in some locations, our team are making use of small all-terrain vehicles to minimise impact and improve access. Our next round of ecological surveys is due to commence mid-January 2025.

One of the key components of our environmental assessments involves night-time fauna surveys. These surveys utilise movement detection video equipment and spotlighting to capture and document nocturnal wildlife activities. Additionally, environmental specialists, equipped with the necessary permissions from landholders and government permits, meticulously walk through approved areas to ensure comprehensive data collection and assessment.

Our Landholder Relations Advisors are actively collaborating with landholders and contractors to coordinate these activities. Investigations will continue into early 2025 to determine easement alignments and will inform our State and Federal government planning and environmental approvals.

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



SAFE FOR LIFE
Everyone. Everywhere. Everyday.

Project timeline update

- **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 - June 2025**
Landholder engagement on easement alignment
- **Q1 2025**
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 (MID) process under the *Planning Act 2016*
- **2027 - 2030**
Transmission construction



Outstanding response to community grants

Our new Community Grants program, launched in August 2024, has garnered a significant amount of interest from communities throughout the state. The program provides grants of up to \$5,000 for initiatives aimed at enhancing resilience, safety, wellbeing and economic outcomes in 14 local government areas across regional Queensland.

We have received applications, including many from the Gympie, Somerset, South Burnett and Toowoomba areas. Our Community Relations team is in the process of reviewing these applications and will work with assessment panels to evaluate each one carefully.

We extend our thanks to all the communities for their participation and for submitting their applications. Your efforts and commitment to improving your local areas are greatly appreciated.

We will be in touch with all applicants over the coming weeks. We look forward to seeing the positive impact these grants will have across our diverse and vibrant communities.



Powerlink team member being thanked by Nananango camp draft representative.

Powerlink support ensured first aid on duty at camp draft

Powerlink was pleased to support the need for appropriate first aid to be on-site for the Nananango camp draft event from Friday 8 to Sunday 10 November 2024. Our support secured paramedical services for the entire three days, including two health care professionals (Registered Nurses/Paramedics) and an ambulance. During the event, when riders came off their horses, it was reassuring to have trained medics on-site to provide immediate assistance.

This initiative highlights Powerlink's commitment to community safety and wellbeing. Our team members were also pleased to be involved in a volunteer capacity across this three-day community event.



Powerlink team member and daughter join the Gympie Gold Mining and Historical Society

Manumbar Hall celebrates centenary

The Manumbar centenary celebration marked 100 years since the first school opened and the local mill and forestry developments began, which have greatly influenced Manumbar's history. The event attracted many people, including descendants of early settlers, former workers, and visitors from nearby areas.

Powerlink supported the event by providing mobile generators to power essential equipment, such as cold rooms, ensuring safe food and beverage handling. Our assistance also extended to providing mobile lighting to support the evening events.

We are also pleased to support the historical restoration and living history works project. This project aims to catalogue videos, photos, and other artefacts for future generations, and will assist with the development of video presentations, historical workshops, and commemorative works.

The celebration was lively, with community members and visitors dressed in period clothing, demonstrating old equipment and tools, and enjoying food stalls and storytelling.

We look forward to continuing our support for preserving historical buildings, which are important community hubs that foster a sense of history and connectedness.

Mobile weed washdown works well

Powerlink is dedicated to collaborating with landholders on biosecurity management, valuing open discussions to safeguard our environment. We ensure our vehicles are inspected and clean, completing a biosecurity declaration for every entry. When landholders are present during our visits, we encourage them to inspect our vehicles before we enter their property.



Undertaking proper washdowns can sometimes be challenging due to the distance to the nearest permanent facilities. To address this, we have been trialling the use of a new mobile wash down unit whenever there is a proper pad to collect any weed seeds. This flexibility allows the cleaning process to be completed closer to work sites, such as survey areas.

The mobile wash down unit is an improvement that helps us work collaboratively with landholders to reduce the spread of weeds, reinforcing our commitment to the Powerlink Land Access Protocol.

Happy Christmas and New Year

From all of us at the Powerlink Borumba Transmission Connections Project Team, we wish you a safe and joyous festive season and a prosperous New Year! We will be working over the Christmas period so if you need to speak with us, please reach out during business hours to the project email or telephone numbers listed below.



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 – <https://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 Woolooga project team
07 3898 4988

Freecall 1800 635 369
powerlink.com.au/borumbatransmission



SAFE FOR LIFE
Everyone. Everywhere. Everyday.