

20 February 2025

Renewable Energy Zone 101 webinar



Acknowledgement

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.



Disclaimer

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Introductions



Gerard Reilly
GM Communications,
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Powerlink



Warwick Squire
Chief Executive Officer
Coexistence Queensland



Mahesh Narotam
REZ Delivery Body
Manager
Powerlink



Rebecca Powlett
Community Engagement
Strategist
Powerlink

Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Who is Powerlink?
3. What is a REZ?
4. What are the benefits of a REZ?
5. Who is involved in declaring a REZ?
6. Coexistence Queensland's role
7. The REZ declaration process
8. Approach to a REZ boundary
9. Involving the community in the REZ development
10. Questions



Who is Powerlink?

Queensland Government owned – one of Australia's leading transmission network companies.

We own, develop, operate and maintain the **high voltage transmission network**.

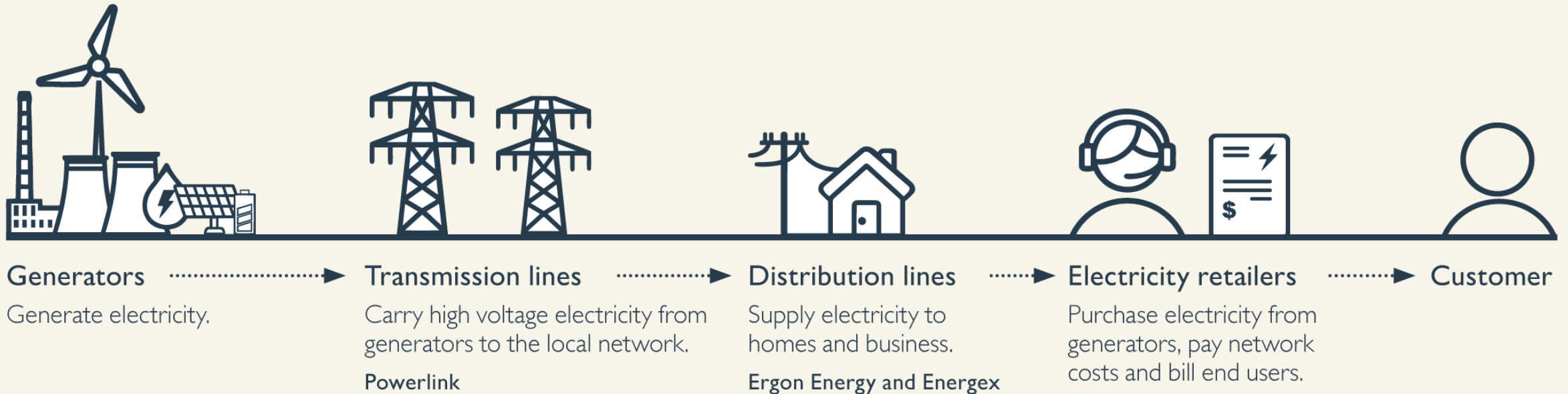
We provide electricity to more than **five million Queenslanders** and **241,000 businesses**.

Our network runs **1,700km** from north of Cairns to the New South Wales border.

Comprises **15,449** circuit kilometers of transmission lines and **152** substations.

Where does Powerlink fit in the electricity supply chain?

Electricity supply chain

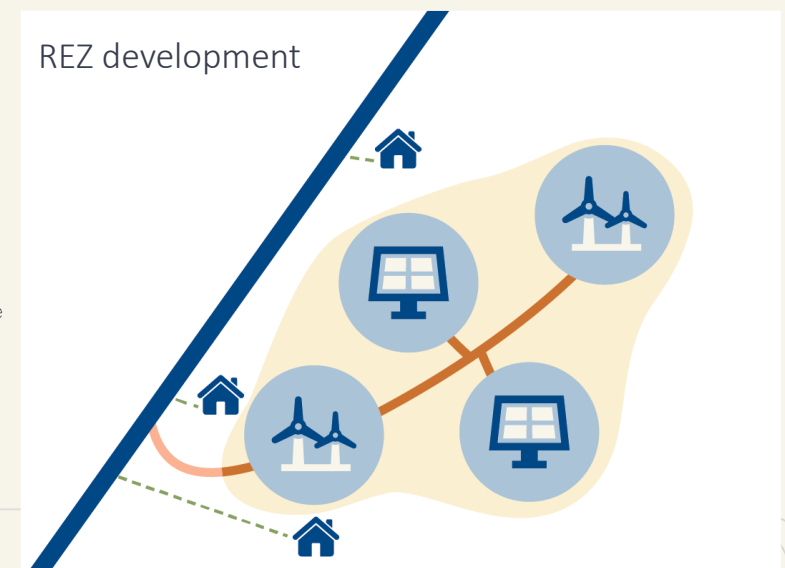
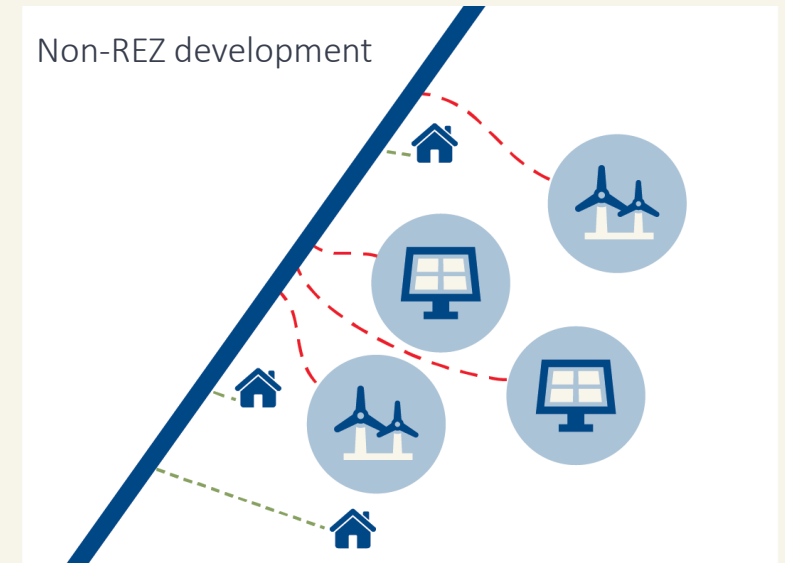


What is a Renewable Energy Zone (REZ)?

- » Geographic area with high quality renewable resources
- » Enables scale efficient and economic connection of more than one proponent
- » Connection uses REZ specific transmission infrastructure
- » May be supplemented by energy storage assets and other system support devices

Legend

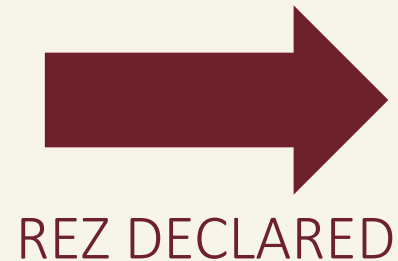
- Renewable Energy Zone (REZ)
- Powerlink transmission infrastructure (the transmission highway)
- - - Powerlink generator connections
- - - Energy Queensland electricity distribution infrastructure (connections to houses and small industry)
- REZ transmission network
- REZ controlled asset
- ⚡ Renewable energy projects (solar, wind and battery)
- 🏠 Homes and small industry



What are the benefits of a REZ?

Current connection and access

- » National Electricity Rules apply
- » Connection and access is open to all generators that meet technical requirements
- » Can result in ad-hoc development of transmission lines and energy mix



Connection and access under a declared REZ

- » Coordinated approach between community, government and developers
- » Right development in the right locations
- » Seek to minimise impacts on landholders
- » Scale-efficient infrastructure
- » Rules for connection and access per REZ management plan

Powerlink's role in REZs

The Queensland Government appointed Powerlink as the REZ Delivery Body on 30 August 2024.

As the REZ Delivery Body, Powerlink will carry out new functions as part of the REZ declaration process.



Who is involved in declaring a REZ

Landholders,
community &
Traditional Owners



- » Have a say on local issues and priorities
- » Speak with renewable energy companies and Powerlink

Powerlink



- » Engage with landholders, community & Traditional Owner groups
- » Develop REZ management plans for endorsement by government
- » Connection & access to REZ transmission network

Government



- » Engage with landholders, community & Traditional Owner groups to inform REZ assessments
- » Provide approvals for renewable energy projects
- » Formally declare a REZ

Renewable energy
companies



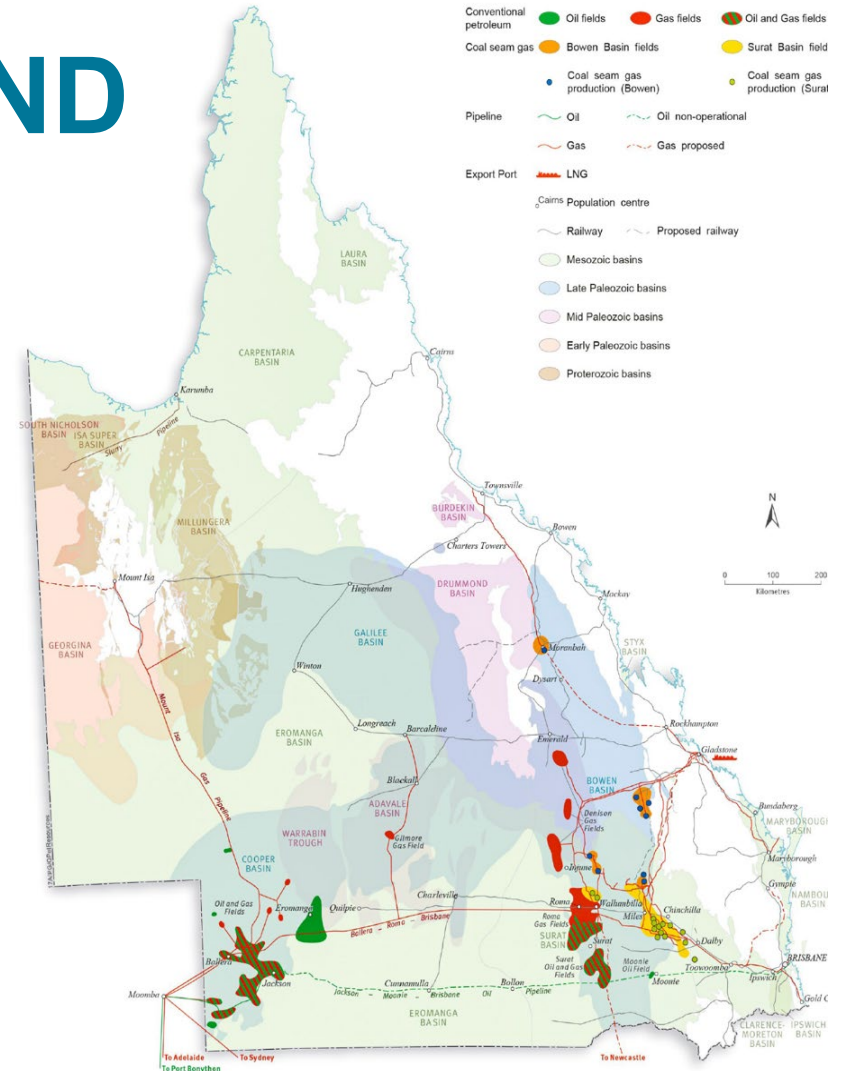
- » Engage with landholders, community & Traditional Owner groups
- » Construct & operate renewable energy projects



Warwick Squire – CEO, Coexistence Queensland

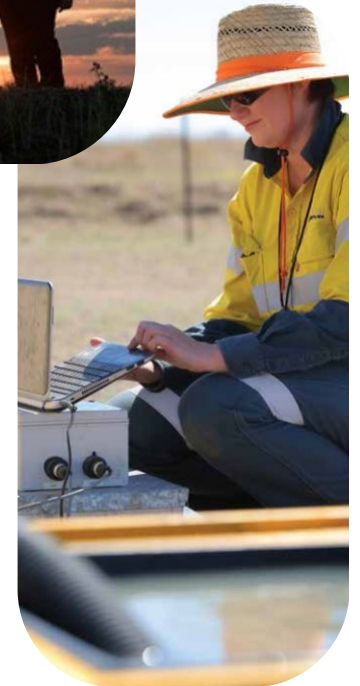
COEXISTENCE QUEENSLAND

- We were established as GasFields Commission Queensland in 2013
- Our remit was expanded mid 2024 and we rebranded as Coexistence Queensland
- We support regional communities and industry stakeholders by:
 - Providing information and education resources
 - Acting as a single point of contact
 - Promote leading engagement practices in the renewable energy and resource industries
 - Provide advice to government and other stakeholders on sustainable coexistence matters
 - Lead the dialogue and action on coexistence



KEY LESSONS

- **Respect** – people’s homes, property and businesses
- **Early and regular ongoing engagement** – build and maintain relationships
- **Connected communities** – stakeholders, industry, community working together
- **Availability of information** – accessible and easily understood
- **Regulatory framework** – fair, robust and contemporary
- **Mutually beneficial outcomes** – coexistence is about all industries growing together

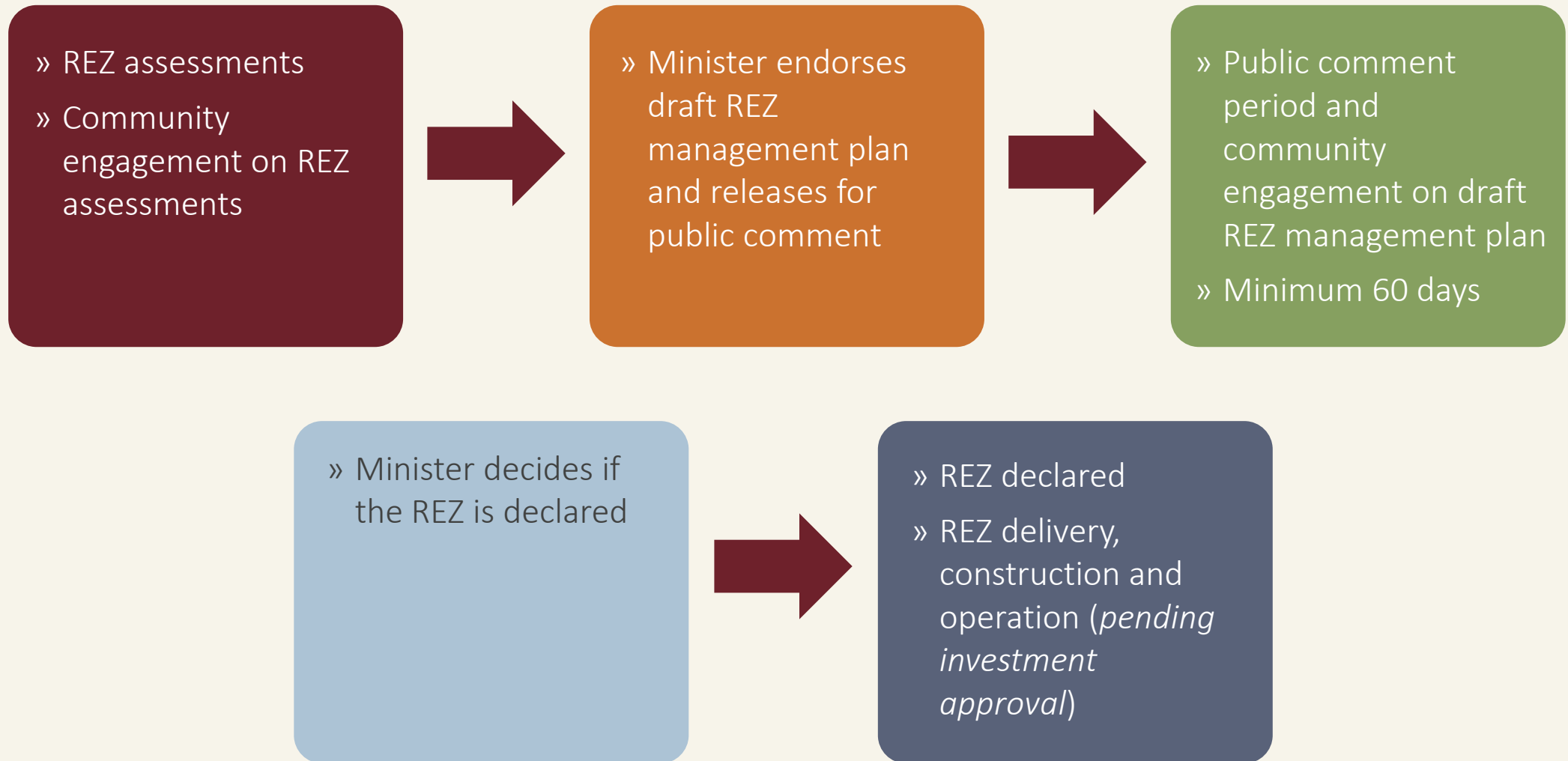


INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- **Information resources**
 - **Landholder Guide: Negotiating onshore gas activity** – guide to provide landholders to assist negotiation process with a gas company.
 - **The Gas Guide** – information landholders need to know about gas development in one concise, easy to read document.
 - **QFF Toolkit** – provides landholders with support to make informed decision when considering hosting renewable energy infrastructure.
 - **Qld Solar Guidelines** – practical guidance for communities, landholders and developers
- **Website (cqld.org.au/resources)** – the ‘Resources’ section of our website is a one stop shop where you’ll find useful information relating to coexistence resources for landholders, communities and industry.
- **Contact us for more information**
1300 548 021 | enquiries@cqld.org.au | cqld.org.au

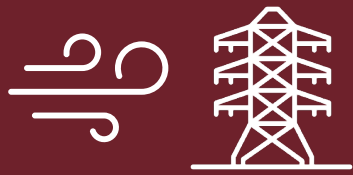


REZ declaration process



Approach to the REZ boundary

Technical



- » Renewable resources
- » Transmission network

Agriculture



- » Strategic cropping land
- » Priority agricultural areas
- » Agricultural overlays

Environment



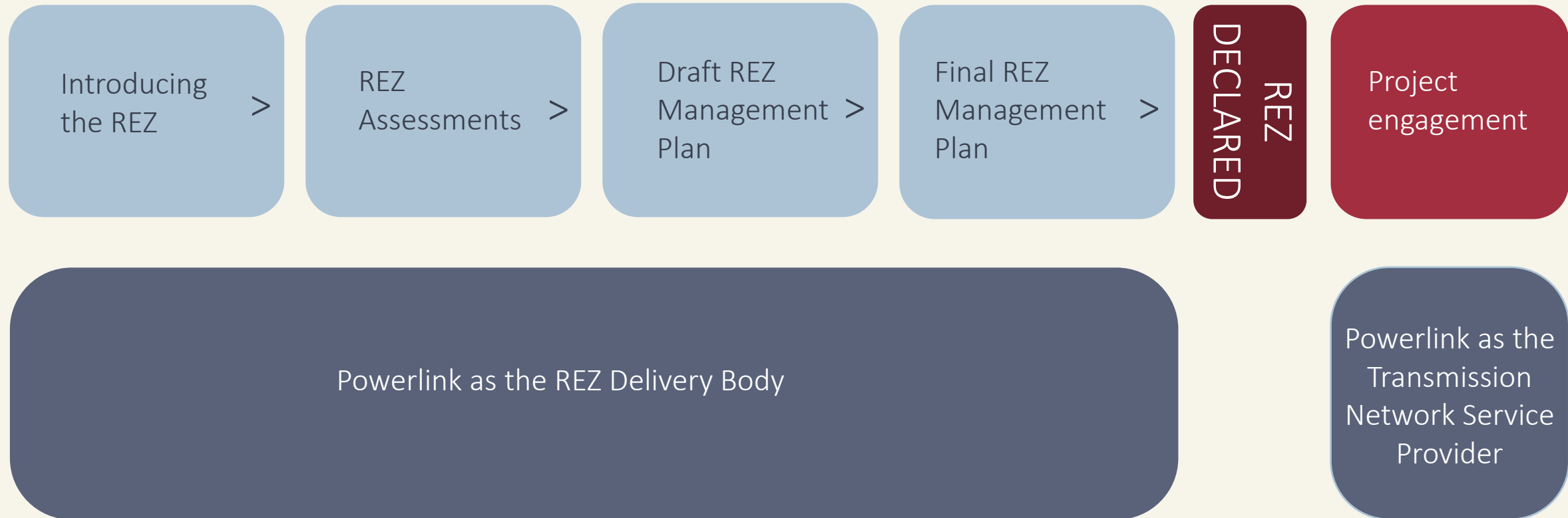
- » Ecologically significant areas, biodiversity values
- » Matters of national, state, and local environmental significance
- » Regulated vegetation

Economic and social



- » Cultural heritage
- » Priority development and living areas
- » Resource interests

Involving the community in REZ development



Questions

Sign up for updates



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powerlink.com.au/rez

