



About Powerlink

Powerlink is a leading Australian provider of high voltage electricity transmission network services, combining innovation with insight to deliver safe, cost effective and reliable solutions. Our transmission network extends 1,700 kilometres from north of Cairns to the New South Wales border, and comprises 15,500 circuit kilometres of transmission lines and 141 substations.

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 project

Powerlink has been engaged by Genex Power (Genex) to prepare a Corridor Selection Report (CSR) for a potential high voltage electricity transmission line connection and substation for Genex's proposed renewable energy generation project at Kidston.

The proposed Genex project includes solar and pumped storage (hydro) and will have the capacity to generate approximately 400MW. For further information on the project please visit www.genexpower.com.au.

Powerlink's role is to define a preferred study corridor and preliminary alignment for the proposed transmission line from a broad study area between the Kidston Gold Mine site and Mount Fox near Ingham.

The study area assessment for the potential high voltage connection will focus on:

- gaining local community input and knowledge by engaging early with stakeholders and landholders
- identifying any environmental and social factors and/or constraints in the area
- mapping constraints and identifying potential corridor options with the above information taken into consideration.

Process for CSR delivery

Powerlink plans to undertake engagement with stakeholders and landholders on the study area between November 2016 and January 2017 (excluding the Christmas and New Year period). This will be completed in two stages:

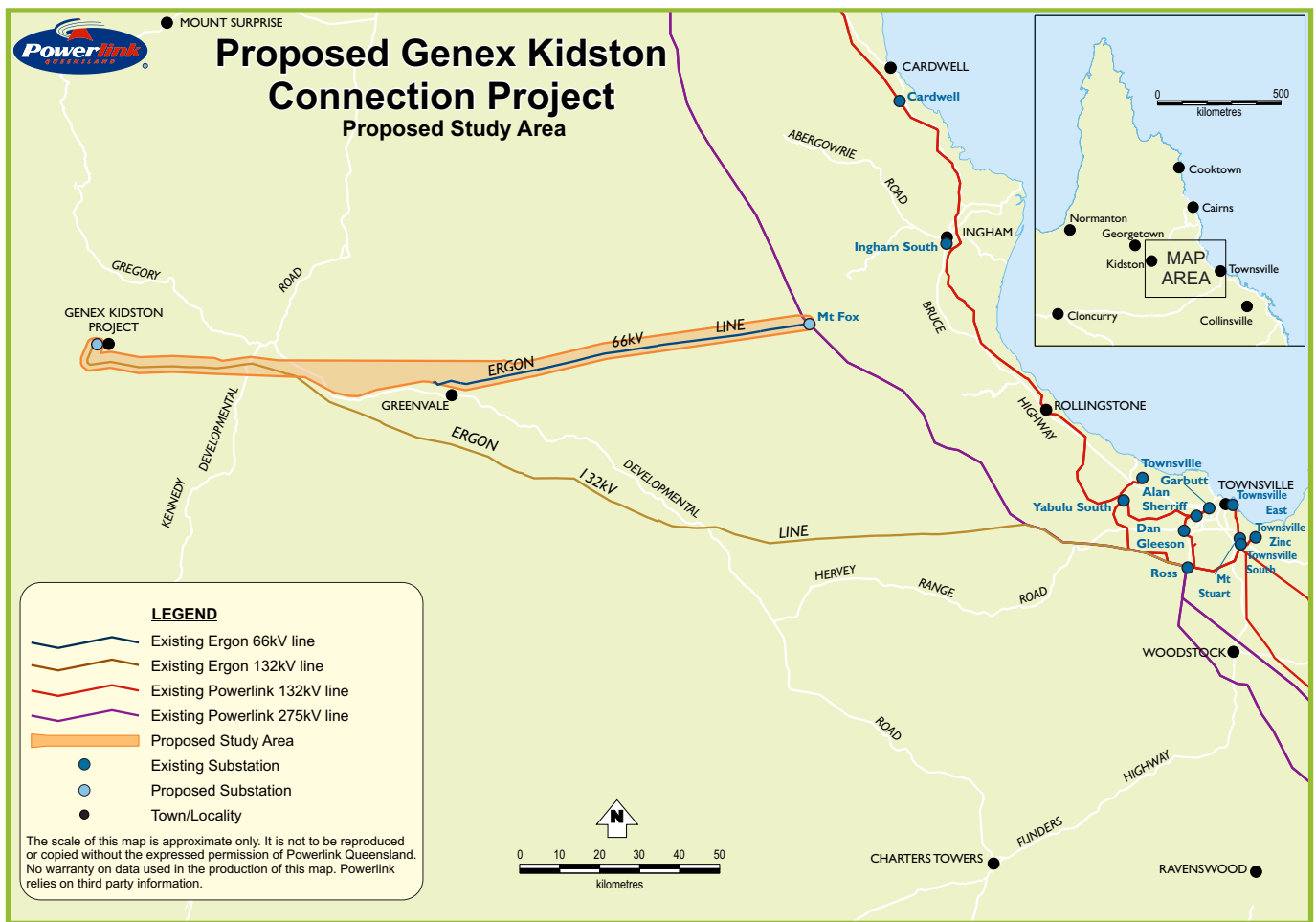
- **Stage 1** – engagement with peak bodies, government departments and local elected representatives to gain input about strategic land tenure matters, environmental and social constraints, and relevant legislative requirements.
- **Stage 2** – engagement with landholders along the study area to further assess land, environmental and social factors and/or constraints and to establish strong and collaborative working relationships.

These two stages of engagement will help refine the study area into a preferred study corridor, which will be approximately 60 metres wide, to accommodate a potential 275kV electricity transmission line.

This early engagement will ensure we gain meaningful and important local input prior to determining the preferred study corridor.



Proposed study area



Refining the study area

The study area identified in the above map is the area of general investigation for the project and forms the basis for Powerlink's engagement activities. The goal of the CSR is to identify a preferred study corridor within the study area that on balance offers the most appropriate location for the proposed 275kV transmission line. This process seeks to minimise and mitigate potential community, social and environmental impacts. The preferred study corridor will identify a preliminary alignment for the potential line to guide further investigation and consultation in later project stages.

Timing

Powerlink's CSR is expected to be submitted to Genex for consideration in the first quarter of 2017.

This report is an important early step in the transmission network development process. Further stages of development such as planning approval, acquisition and construction - whether undertaken by Powerlink or another provider - will include additional consultation and engagement opportunities for stakeholders and landholders.



Further Information

For further information on the Proposed Genex Kidston Connection Project, or to provide feedback, please contact:

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