

Appendix J

Project Consultation Activities

June-2022

Genex Kidston Connection Project - Preliminary Documentation (2021/9060)

Community and Stakeholder Consultation

Engagement Framework

Powerlink is committed to effective and genuine engagement practices with landholders and other stakeholders. Powerlink's activities are guided by our Stakeholder Engagement Framework which is underpinned by the key principles of integrity, openness, responsiveness, accountability and inclusiveness. Our Community Engagement Strategy also underpins our engagement planning approach and commitments to ensure we remain focused on undertaking respectful and transparent engagement across all stages of our infrastructure lifecycle. These documents are available online¹.

The aim of Powerlink's engagement process with landholders and other stakeholders is to:

- collaborate and partner with a range of key stakeholders to incorporate their advice and feedback during key stages of decision-making
- gather information to identify the proposed land acquisition approach and associated timeframes for delivery
- facilitate discussions with landholders to gain access to properties to complete the required environmental and technical studies which support information analysis and decision-making
- provide timely, relevant and meaningful information about the project, reflective of the scale and complexity of project activities
- ensure landholders and other stakeholders are aware of key project activities and how they can genuinely provide input within the scope of consultation processes to contribute to decision-making
- listen to and understand what landholders, other stakeholders and the broader local community value and actively consider how this can be taken into account when analysing alternatives and determining solutions
- provide feedback on and demonstrate where input from landholders, other stakeholders and the wider community has informed decision-making
- promote the project need and benefits to secure broad support for the Project
- monitor, understand and consider landholder sentiment towards the project, working alongside landholders to address potential concerns and aspirations they may have
- identify potential risks and management strategies which acknowledge feedback from landholders and other stakeholders.

Landholders and other stakeholders

Powerlink has undertaken early and targeted consultation with relevant Federal, State and Local Governments stakeholders, elected representatives, industry groups and landholders as part of the Project. Engagement activity has been undertaken to help gain meaningful input into social, environmental and technical matters to be considered during the Project as it has evolved throughout the easement acquisition phase. These learnings will be used to inform the subsequent construction phase of the Project.

For the purposes of this document, 'landholders' refers to the leaseholders and owners of the property titles traversed by the preferred alignment. 'Stakeholders' refers to all other interested parties, including government bodies, industry groups, cultural heritage and native title parties. The identified key stakeholder categories are provided in Table 1.

¹ <https://www.powerlink.com.au/community> and <https://www.powerlink.com.au/engagement-framework>

Table 1 Key current stakeholders

Group	Engaged Party
Stakeholders	
Federal Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Federal Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (DAWE) Department of Defence (Australia-Singapore Military Training Initiative)
State Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State Members of Parliament - Electorates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Traeger Hinchinbrook² Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries Queensland Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships Queensland Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning (DSDILGP) (formerly Department of Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning) Office of the Coordinator-General Queensland Department of Environment and Science (formerly the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection and the Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing) Queensland Department of Energy and Public Works (formerly Department of Energy and Water Supply and the Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy) Queensland Treasury
Local Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hinchinbrook Shire Council Charters Towers Regional Council Etheridge Shire Council Townsville City Council
Peak bodies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Queensland Farmers' Federation Townsville Enterprise Mt Isa to Townsville Economic Development Zone (MITEZ) AgForce North Queensland Conservation Council Dalrymple Landcare Committee Incorporated
Industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ergon Energy
Cultural Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Native Title holders: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gugu Badham People #3 Ewamian People #2 Ewamian People #3
Landholders	
Landholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Directly affected:

² In 2017 the Queensland state electoral boundaries were re-drawn to accommodate Queensland's growing population. Under the former electoral boundaries, Powerlink engaged with elected representatives for the predecessor electorates of Mt Isa, Dalrymple and Hinchinbrook.

Group	Engaged Party
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Leasehold: 30 landholders - Freehold: 8 landholders - Unallocated State Land: 1 landholder • Adjacent landholders (within 1km of alignment) • Resource tenement holders

Engagement Activities

A summary of engagement activities (undertaken to date and upcoming) for landholders and other stakeholders is provided in Table 2. Specific engagement activities are discussed in Section 0 (general stakeholders) and Section 0 (landholders).

Table 2 Summary of engagement activities for landholders and other stakeholders

Timing	Milestone Engagement Activity	Target Stakeholders	Purpose	Engagement Method
Completed engagement activities				
March - May 2016	Preliminary engagement to inform Draft Corridor Selection Report (CSR)	Key Federal, State and Local Government stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raise targeted awareness of the proposed project Gain initial insights to guide development of the Draft CSR, including potential consultation considerations, land tenure, environmental constraints and legislative requirements. 	For target stakeholders: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meetings Phone briefings Emails/letters Preliminary mapping
November 2016 – February 2017	Engagement on the Draft CSR to inform Final CSR <u>Included:</u> Stakeholder Workshop (Held in Townsville during November 2016, the workshop was attended by representatives from six key stakeholder organisations) Activation of landholder engagement Ongoing consultation with key government departments and elected representatives	Landholders Key Federal, State and Local Government stakeholders Key peak bodies, industry groups and Aboriginal parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raise broad awareness of the proposed project Obtain feedback on the Draft CSR to support the completion of the Final CSR, with a focus on understanding opportunities, constraints and key issues Appropriately incorporate community feedback to ensure effective project outcomes Identify a preferred study corridor and preliminary alignment. 	For target stakeholders: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholder Workshop Meetings Phone calls Emails/letters Mapping For target stakeholders and accessible to general public: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project newsletter Powerlink website update
March 2017	Release Final CSR	Landholders Key Federal, State and Local Government stakeholders Key peak bodies, industry groups and Aboriginal parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to generate broad awareness of the proposed project Thank landholders and other stakeholders for their feedback on the Draft CSR. Publish the Final CSR. 	For target stakeholders: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meetings Phone calls Emails/letters Mapping

Timing	Milestone Engagement Activity	Target Stakeholders	Purpose	Engagement Method
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicate the preferred study corridor and preliminary alignment. 	For target stakeholders and accessible to general public: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project newsletter Powerlink website update
August 2017	Further investigations	Landholders Key Federal, State and Local Government stakeholders Key peak bodies, industry groups and Aboriginal parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Obtain further information about the study corridor and preliminary alignment Seek input from landholders and other stakeholders to better understand the potential impacts and how they can be minimised and mitigated Seek access to landholders' properties for on-ground environmental and technical assessments, and initial Cultural Heritage input. 	For target stakeholders: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meetings Phone briefings Emails/letters Mapping For target stakeholders and accessible to general public: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project newsletter Powerlink website update
May 2018	Release Draft Terms of Reference (ToR) for the Environmental Assessment Report (EAR)	Landholders Key State and Local Government stakeholders Key peak bodies, industry groups and Aboriginal parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal consultation period for Draft ToR. Seek input from landholders and other stakeholders to inform development of the Final ToR. Set expectations for information to be covered in the Draft EAR. 	For target stakeholders: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meetings Phone briefings Emails/letters For target stakeholders and accessible to general public: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project newsletter Powerlink website update

Timing	Milestone Engagement Activity	Target Stakeholders	Purpose	Engagement Method
June 2018	Release Final ToR for the EAR	Landholders Key State and Local Government stakeholders Key peak bodies, industry groups and Aboriginal parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Powerlink to respond to submissions received on the Draft ToR. • Advise stakeholders and landholders the ToR has been finalised. • Provide information on components of the Draft EAR. 	<p>For target stakeholders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phone briefings • Emails <p>For target stakeholders and accessible to general public:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Powerlink website update
September 2018	Release Draft EAR	Landholders Key State and Local Government stakeholders Key peak bodies, industry groups and Aboriginal parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Powerlink release of the Draft EAR for public comment. Information on how to make a submission to the Planning Minister via the Infrastructure Designation website. • Formal consultation period for the document. Submissions were invited within the statutory minimum 20 business day period. • Seek submissions (to be lodged to the Planning Department) from stakeholders and landholders on the document. • Widespread notification of the Draft EAR's release via public communication channels. 	<p>For target stakeholders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetings • Phone briefings • Emails • Provide a copy of the Draft EAR on USB to directly affected landholders and key stakeholders • Mapping <p>For target stakeholders and accessible to general public:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Powerlink and Planning Department's Infrastructure Designation website updates – included an electronic copy of the Draft EAR and information on how to make a submission. • Copies available at local Council offices and local library • Newsletter • Newspaper advertising

Timing	Milestone Engagement Activity	Target Stakeholders	Purpose	Engagement Method
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Media release on Community Information Drop-In Sessions (a hard copy of the Draft EAR available at the sessions).
September-November 2018	Receive and respond to Draft EAR submissions	Any individuals/organisations who lodged a submission on the Draft EAR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning Department acknowledged receipt of submissions and provided copies to Powerlink for review. Powerlink provided a written response to each submitter following receipt of the Minister's State Interest Review Outcome and Draft Requirements explaining how their issues have been considered. 	<p>For target stakeholders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phone briefings Emails/letters <p>For target stakeholders and accessible to general public:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Powerlink newsletter Powerlink website update
May-October 2021	Reactivate engagement following Connection and Access Agreement exchange and Notice to Proceed from Genex	Landholders Key State and Local Government stakeholders Key peak bodies, industry groups and Aboriginal parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advise landholders and other stakeholders of reactivation of project engagement following Genex's finalisation of project approvals. Explain next steps on remaining project approvals under the refreshed Ministerial Infrastructure Designation process and opportunities for formal consultation. 	<p>For target stakeholders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meetings Phone briefings Emails/letters <p>For target stakeholders and accessible to general public:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Powerlink newsletters Powerlink website update Media releases Virtual workshop and in-person drop-in information sessions in conjunction with principal contractor UGL for local North Queensland-based businesses on

Timing	Milestone Engagement Activity	Target Stakeholders	Purpose	Engagement Method
				employment and procurement opportunities
October 2021	Release Powerlink's referral documentation for <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999</i> assessment	Landholders Key State and Local Government stakeholders Key peak bodies, industry groups and Aboriginal parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following DAWE approval, DAWE release of Powerlink's referral documentation for 10 business day public consultation period. Seek submissions (to be lodged to DAWE) from landholders and other stakeholders on the referral. 	<p>For target stakeholders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emails <p>For target stakeholders and accessible to general public:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DAWE website update – include an electronic copy of the referral and information on how to make a submission to DAWE Mentions of process in Powerlink newsletters
November 2021	Release Ministerial Infrastructure Designation Assessment Report (MIDAR)	Landholders Key State and Local Government stakeholders Key peak bodies, industry groups and Aboriginal parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following Planning Minister approval, DSDILGP and Powerlink release the MIDAR for public comment and provide information on how to make a submission to the Minister. Formal consultation period for the document. Submissions invited within the statutory minimum 20 business days. Seek submissions (to be lodged to DSDILGP) from landholders and other stakeholders on the document. Widespread notification of the MIDAR's release via public communication channels. 	<p>For target stakeholders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meetings Phone briefings Emails and letters Provide a copy of the MIDAR on USB to directly affected landholders and key stakeholders Mapping <p>For target stakeholders and accessible to general public:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Powerlink and DSDILGP's website updates – include an electronic copy of the MIDAR and information on how to make a submission.

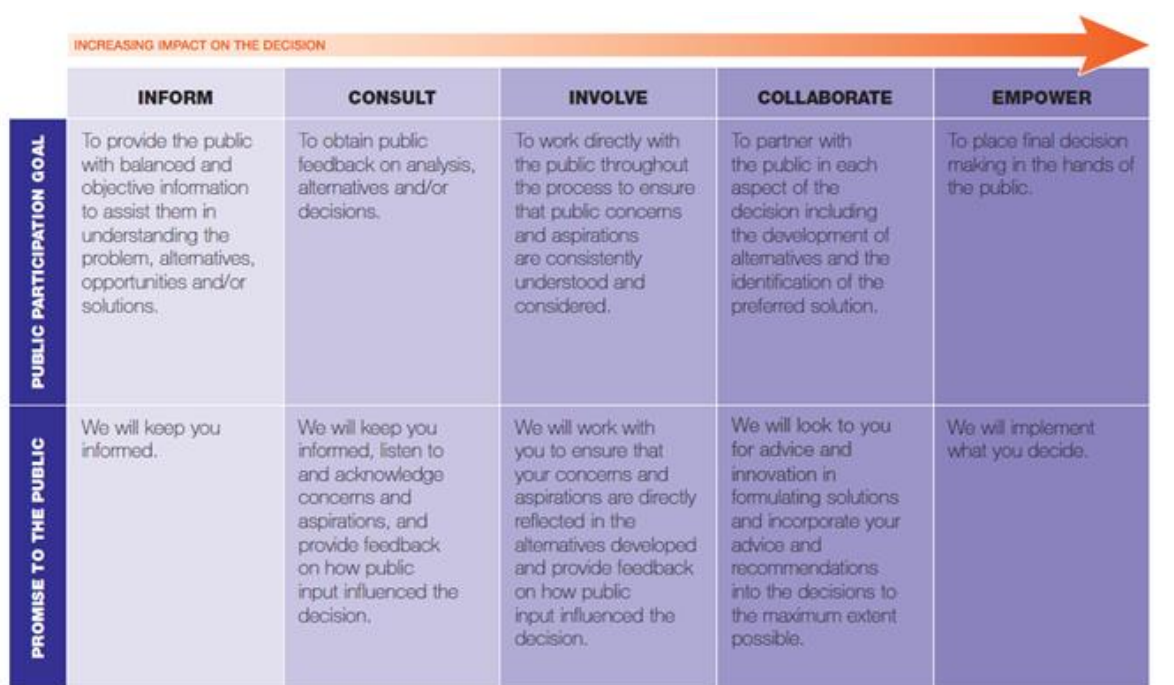
Timing	Milestone Engagement Activity	Target Stakeholders	Purpose	Engagement Method
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MIDAR copies available at local Council offices and local library Powerlink newsletter Newspaper advertising Media release Community Information Drop-In Sessions (a hard copy of the MIDAR available at the sessions) Posters to promote Community Information Drop-In Sessions and MIDAR release placed at local sites Social media promotion of Community Information Drop-In Sessions and MIDAR release
Future engagement activities				
Late April/May 2022 (TBC)	Release 'Preliminary Documentation' for continuation of EPBC approval processes	Landholders Key State and Local Government stakeholders Key peak bodies, industry groups and Aboriginal parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following DAWE approval, release of Preliminary Documentation for public review. Formal consultation period for the document. Submissions invited within the statutory requirement of 10 business days. Seek submissions (to be lodged to DAWE) from landholders and other stakeholders on the document. 	For target stakeholders: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emails with link to 'Preliminary Documentation' for review to directly affected landholders and other stakeholders For target stakeholders and accessible to general public: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Powerlink and DAWE's website updates – include an electronic copy of the

Timing	Milestone Engagement Activity	Target Stakeholders	Purpose	Engagement Method
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notification of the document's release via public communication channels. 	<p>'Preliminary Documentation' and information on how to make a submission.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Copies of 'Preliminary Documentation' available at prescribed locations by DAWE. Newspaper advertising (state-wide and local newspapers)
May/June 2022 TBC	Public notification on outcome of 'Preliminary Documentation' submission period for EPBC approvals	Landholders Key State and Local Government stakeholders Key peak bodies, industry groups and Aboriginal parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following conclusion of public consultation period on 'Preliminary Documentation', provide notification on outcomes from submissions (i.e. none received or release updated documentation in response to feedback) via public communication channels. 	<p>For target stakeholders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emails to directly affected landholders and other stakeholders to advise of outcomes from submission period and provide link to 'Preliminary Documentation' (original or updated) <p>For target stakeholders and accessible to general public:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Powerlink and DAWE's website updates – include an electronic copy of the 'Preliminary Documentation' (original or updated) Copies of 'Preliminary Documentation' (original or updated) available at prescribed locations by DAWE.

Timing	Milestone Engagement Activity	Target Stakeholders	Purpose	Engagement Method
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newspaper advertising (state-wide and local newspapers)
Mid 2022 (TBC)	Notify landholders and stakeholders that full project approvals have been achieved and commencement of construction is upcoming	Landholders Key State and Local Government stakeholders Key peak bodies, industry groups and Aboriginal parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Powerlink will broadly advise landholders and other stakeholders of full project approvals being reached and next steps regarding the commencement of construction. Support the transition to future project stages. Close-out any outstanding enquiries from landholders and other stakeholders. Seek feedback from landholders and other stakeholders on Powerlink's engagement approach. Identify key learnings. 	For target stakeholders: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meetings Phone briefings Emails/letters For target stakeholders and accessible to general public: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Powerlink website update Project newsletter Media release

General stakeholders

Powerlink has identified and categorised general stakeholders in accordance with an engagement framework from the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2), taking into account their role in decision-making processes (Figure 29-1). Powerlink has used this spectrum to guide the frequency, nature and scope of engagement carried out for the project. Table 29-3 provides an overview of the key stakeholders engaged and the associated type of engagement activities Powerlink has conducted with them for the Project to date.



The diagram illustrates the IAP2 Engagement Spectrum as a horizontal progression from left to right, indicated by an orange arrow at the top labeled 'INCREASING IMPACT ON THE DECISION'. The spectrum is divided into five stages: INFORM, CONSULT, INVOLVE, COLLABORATE, and EMPOWER. Each stage is represented by a column in a table. The first column, labeled 'PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GOAL', describes the objective for each stage. The second column, labeled 'PROMISE TO THE PUBLIC', describes the commitment made to the public at each stage.

	INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GOAL	To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.	To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions.	To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.	To place final decision making in the hands of the public.
PROMISE TO THE PUBLIC	We will keep you informed.	We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will look to you for advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.	We will implement what you decide.

Figure 29-1 IAP2 Engagement Spectrum

Cultural heritage

Powerlink is committed to establishing and maintaining respectful and cooperative engagement of Traditional Owners (Native Title holders) and providing effective recognition, protection and conservation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage. During the engagement processes, Powerlink has sought input from the relevant Native Title holder groups. Subsequent face-to-face meetings have also been held with each group to provide them with further information about the Project, seek early advice about any known constraints and understand each group's preferred engagement approach.

At the Project's outset, advice was also sought from the Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships Cultural Heritage Unit on any known local matters of interest. Powerlink will meet its Duty of Care under the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003* through conducting works in accordance with formal agreements or Cultural Heritage Management Agreements (CHMAs) that have been developed with the relevant Aboriginal Parties. The CHMAs outline processes for parties to work together to minimise harm to any identified Aboriginal cultural heritage and include detailed cultural heritage surveys.

Through development of the CHMAs, Powerlink has established relationships with relevant Native Title parties and is discussing its approach to address Native Title over the impacted land directly with these respective parties. Powerlink are negotiating voluntary Indigenous Land Use Agreements with the Native Title holders for the area and their legal advisors.

Table 29-3 Key stakeholders and scope of engagement

Stakeholder Group	Stakeholder	Engagement Focus			
		Inform	Consult	Involve	Collaborate
Federal Government	Federal Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment			✓	
State Government	State MPs - Electorates: Traeger Hinchinbrook ³	✓			
	Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries	✓			
	Queensland Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships		✓		
	Queensland Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning (formerly Department of Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning)				✓
	Office of the Coordinator-General			✓	
	Queensland Department of Environment and Science (formerly the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection and the Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing)			✓	
	Queensland Department of Energy and Public Works (formerly Department of Energy and Water Supply and the Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy)				✓
	Queensland Treasury				✓
Local Government	Local Councils: Hinchinbrook Charters Towers Etheridge Townsville			✓	
Peak Bodies	Queensland Farmers' Federation	✓			
	Townsville Enterprise	✓			

³ In 2017 the Queensland state electoral boundaries were re-drawn to accommodate Queensland's growing population. Under the former electoral boundaries, Powerlink engaged with elected representatives for the predecessor electorates of Mt Isa, Dalrymple and Hinchinbrook.

Stakeholder Group	Stakeholder	Engagement Focus			
		Inform	Consult	Involve	Collaborate
	Mt Isa to Townsville Economic Development Zone (MITEZ)	✓			
	AgForce			✓	
	North Queensland Conservation Council			✓	
Industry	Ergon Energy			✓	
Cultural Heritage	Native Title holders: Gugu Badham People #3 Ewamian People #2 Ewamian People #3			✓	

The key topics raised during stakeholder interactions to date are provided in Table 29-4.

Table 29-4 Key topics raised by stakeholders

Focus Area	Key Topics Raised
Social	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> effectively identifying relevant stakeholders and engagement preferences land use and tenure, prominence of family-owned properties, geographic connectivity, fencing, farming activities (e.g. aerial mustering) Indigenous and European Cultural Heritage, Native Title tenure community development projects.
Environmental	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> biosecurity vegetation management flora and fauna water flow erosion and catchment impacts irrigation enhanced bushfire management from vegetation management.
Economic and Technical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> local industry and workforce opportunities workforce access, retention and accommodation access to raw materials and natural resources (e.g. water) road and traffic impacts during construction, management of stock during construction and maintenance landholder compensation.
Political and Legislative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> implementation of the <i>Planning Act 2016</i> and other regulatory approval processes.

Landholders

Powerlink has a dedicated Landholder Relations team to engage with landholders on a regular and comprehensive basis. Two Landholder Relations representatives have been assigned by Powerlink to lead landholder engagement and be the primary contact for landholder interactions.

Central to landholder engagement activities is Powerlink's Land Access Protocol (LAP)⁴. This document outlines the guiding principles for land access which underpin Powerlink's relationship with landholders and access to, and use of, their land. The LAP supports open and transparent communication between Powerlink and landholders, prompts discussion and collaboration during the engagement processes, and fairly safeguards the interests of landholders while providing Powerlink with the access to land needed to meet its business requirements.

Methods of engagement have been tailored to meet landholder preferences. Direct phone conversations and face-to-face meetings were generally preferred for key engagement activities. Email and phone contact were landholders' preferred methods for receiving information and follow-ups in response to their requests for further information.

Throughout ongoing engagement, the top five topics most frequently raised have been:

- potential impacts on property operations
- biosecurity
- compensation
- potential impacts on existing infrastructure/topography
- co-location with Ergon Energy powerlines.

⁴ www.powerlink.com.au/land-access