

Burnett Stakeholder Reference Group

Powerlink Queensland

23 March 2023





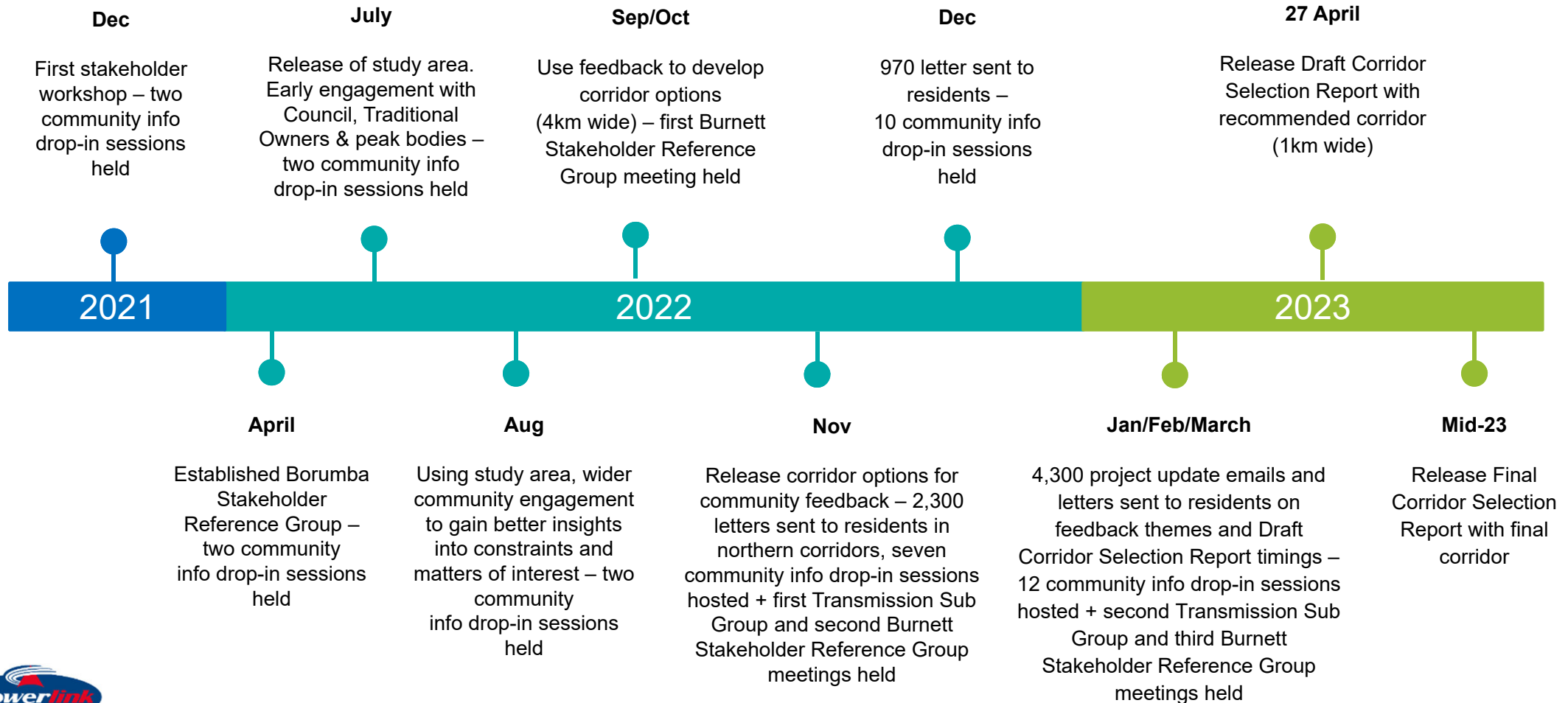
Acknowledgement

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.

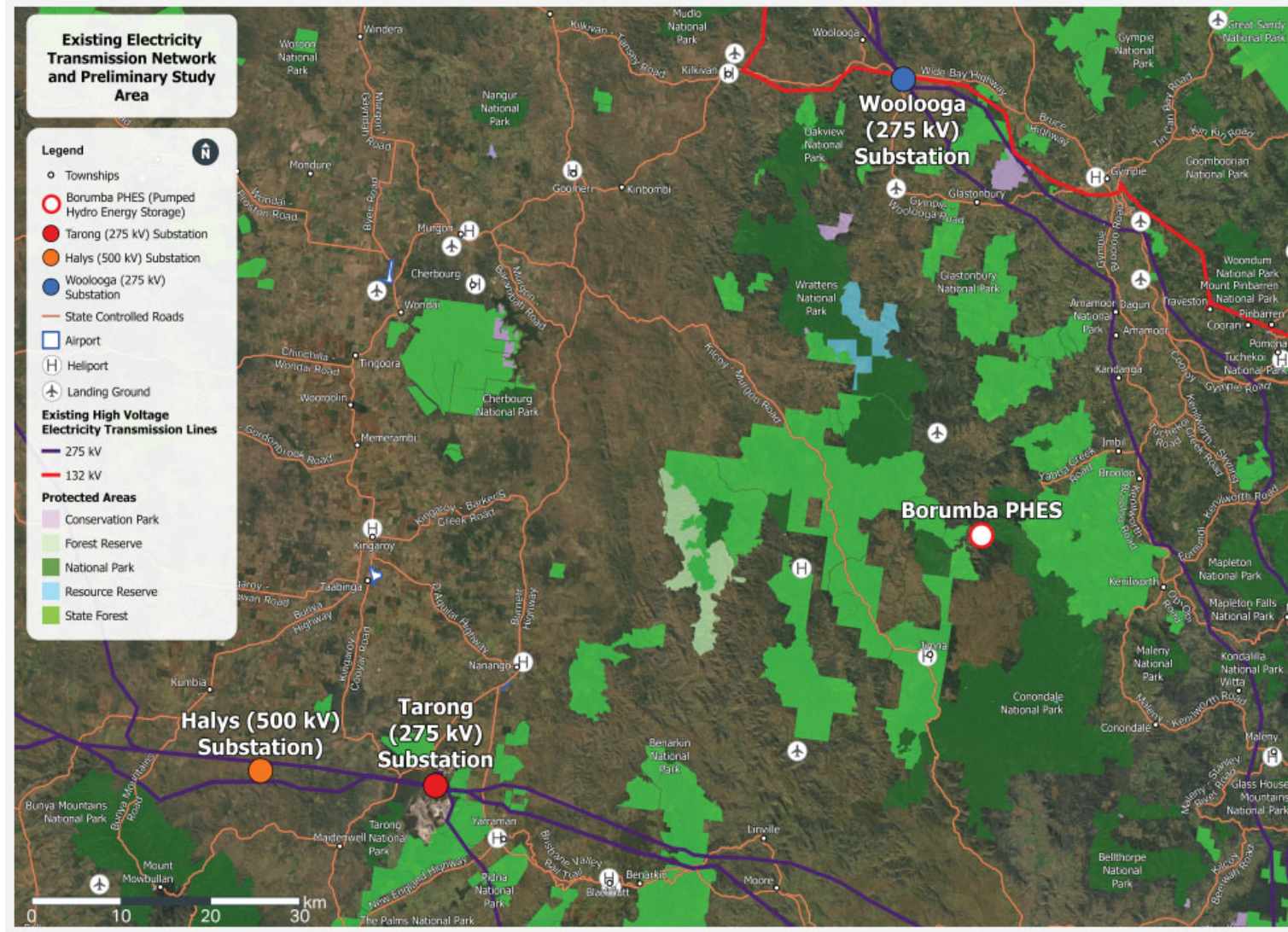
Agenda

- Borumba Pumped Hydro Project – Transmission Connections
 - Engagement timeline and statistics
 - Community consultation key themes
 - Other key stakeholders
 - Assessment framework
 - Multi Criteria Analysis (MCA)
 - Future project milestones
- Other projects in the area

Borumba Pumped Hydro Project – Transmission Connections Engagement timeline



Study area – released for input July 2022



Engagement statistics

As at 10th March 2023

- Established Stakeholder Reference Group and two transmission-focused sub-groups
- 37 community information drop-in sessions held
- More than 2,100 residents have attended the community information sessions
- More than 1,800 individual pieces of feedback received via email, feedback forms, phone calls, meetings and comments on interactive project map



Community consultation key themes

Key theme	Matters raised
Property impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Property impacts throughout planning, construction and operation▪ Compensation and land values▪ Loss of lifestyle and generational ownership▪ Amenity impacts and future use
Lifestyle impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Broader negative impact the project will have on lifestyle▪ Visual amenity impacts▪ Disruption of key recreational activities▪ Changes to lifestyle features that attracts residents and tourists
Biosecurity and agricultural impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Focused on operation and maintenance▪ Management of Giant Rats Tail Grass and Parthenium▪ Contractor compliance with biosecurity regulations▪ Devaluation of land and business operations▪ Broader threats to agricultural industry in the wider region
Wildlife	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Presence of endangered species▪ Damage and destruction of wildlife habitats▪ Wildlife has a significant value to the community▪ Key reason for living in the region and lifestyle issues

Community consultation key themes

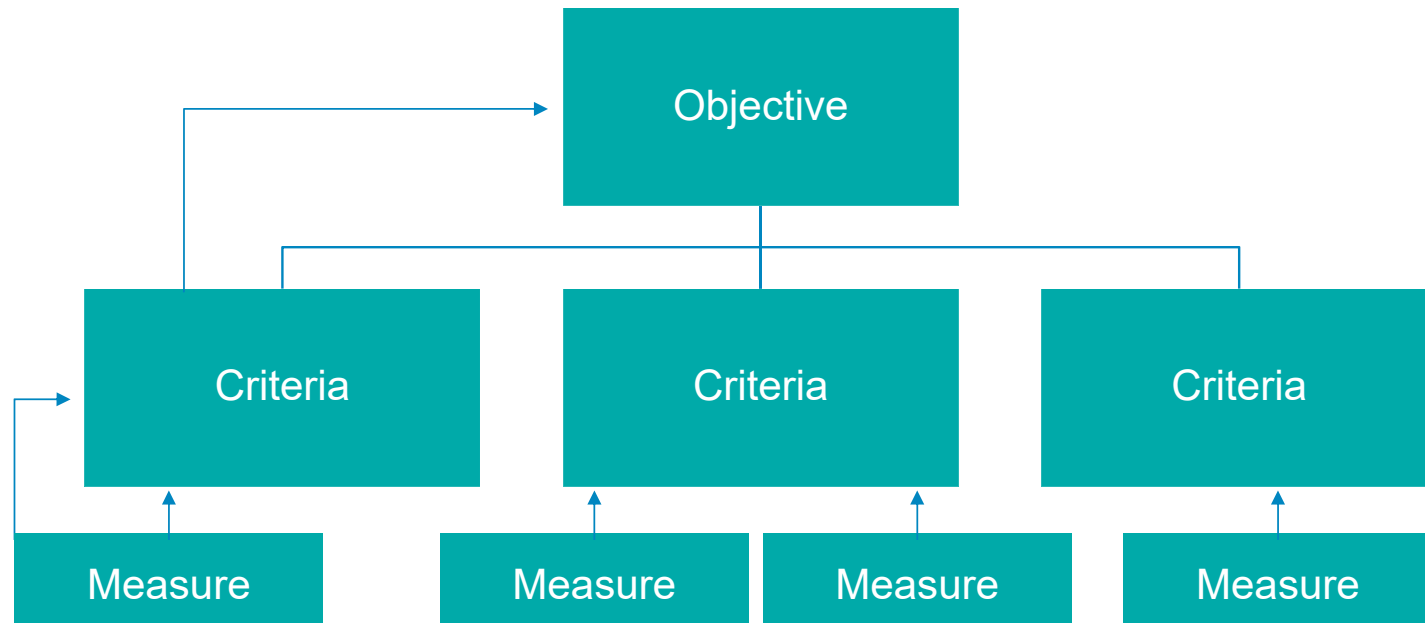
Key theme	Matters raised
State-owned land	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Investigating the use of 'state-owned land' including State Forests and National Parks▪ Areas of cultural significance and connection to country▪ Potential for bushfire mitigation
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Health impacts to residents living near transmission lines▪ Community concerns around electric and magnetic fields (EMF)
Corridor alternatives and preferences	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Potential of undergrounding sections of the transmission lines▪ Building a new substation closer to Lake Borumba▪ Opportunities around the co-location of corridors▪ Avoidance of communities and private properties▪ Minimising impacts to flood areas▪ Overall opposition to project and proposed corridors
Vegetation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Vegetation clearing and acquisition of offsets▪ Impacts to remnant vegetation and management
Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Environmental impacts including biosecurity and conservation management▪ Compliance with environmental legislation

Other key stakeholders

- Engagement with Traditional Owners (Kabi Kabi, Wakka Wakka and Jinibara)
- Department of Environment and Science/Department of Agriculture and Fisheries – Legislation balancing for state-owned land considerations
- Sub Stakeholder Reference Group Transmission – Gympie and Burnett
- Members of Parliament
- Regional Councils

Assessment framework

- Assessment framework for corridor selection was adapted from Infrastructure Australia's multi-criteria analysis framework
- Involves identifying key project **objectives** and the **measures** required to assess each criteria.



Assessment framework

Project objectives

Social

Consider the use of land and the community livelihood within and adjacent to corridor options

Environment

To ensure a balanced approach to corridor selection with the least practicable impact on environment and heritage values

Economic

To ensure construction and operational factors such as cost be considered at a preliminary level, given the scale of project

Where we can't avoid, we will manage, minimise or mitigate our impacts.

Assessment framework

Criteria

Criteria is categorised based on feedback, technical analysis and spatial data.

Measure

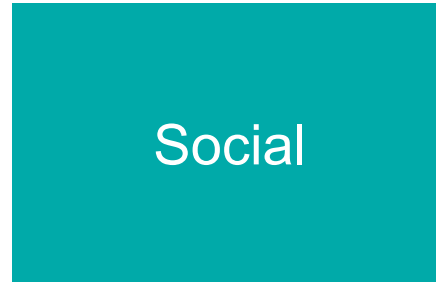
Project specific measures are established to compare each corridor option.



Assessment framework - example

Key theme: Use of state-owned land*

Objective:



Criteria: Optimise use of state-owned land

Measure: Area of state-owned land within a corridor option (Ha) where practicable

* State Land is land that is not freehold and/or owned by state agencies as per "A guide to land tenure under the *Land Act 1994*"



Multi Criteria Analysis (MCA)

Objective and criterion	Rationale
Social (criteria not in order of preference)	
Criterion 1: Agricultural land	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Feedback received through community consultation▪ Analysis derived from spatial data sets
Criterion 2: Residential homes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Understanding land which provide livelihoods for local communities including agriculture, grazing, cropping, intensive land uses, biosecurity matters, tourism, recreational and property usage etc.
Criterion 3: Use of state-owned land	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Consideration for size of land required, lifestyle and visual impacts, farming or other business operations, potential utilisation of state-owned land within investigation area and corridors
Criterion 4: Number of properties	
Criterion 5: Intensive use	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Proximity to homes
Environment (criteria not in order of preference)	
Criterion 1: Endangered	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Environmental criteria under the <i>Vegetation Management Act 1994</i>
Criterion 2: Areas of Concern	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Essential habitat values and preference to minimise impacts to protected areas managed under the <i>Nature Conservation Act 1992</i>
Criterion 3: Areas of Least Concern	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Cultural Heritage and Native Title under the <i>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003</i> and <i>Native Title Act 1993</i> (Cth)
Criterion 4: Essential habitat	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ State and local heritage sites
Criterion 5: National Parks, Conservation Areas and Nature Refuges	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Uphold General Biosecurity Obligation under the <i>Biosecurity Act 2014</i>▪ Multiple uses of National Parks including recreation

Multi Criteria Analysis continued

Objective and criterion	Rationale
Economic (criteria not in order of preference)	
Criterion 1: Corridor length	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Constructability including length of corridors considering terrain and technical construction methodologies and their overall costs implications to project
Criterion 2: Land 30% slope or greater	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Further considerations including topography and contours, soil types and landslide potential, areas of flood inundation of land, crossing of water courses, rail lines, roads and crossing existing infrastructure
Criterion 3: Co-location with existing lines	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Co-location opportunities (putting services together)
Other technical considerations	
Poor ground conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Poor ground conditions can have significant impacts to project cost and constructability
Unexploded Ordnances (UXO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ High-level mapping and geotechnical investigations will confirm ground conditions, potential impacts and mitigation measures
Power supply resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Consider proximity to land used land by Australian Defence Force, potential risk of UXO▪ Specialist advice to be sought including risk assessment and management plan▪ Consider the exposure of the corridor to natural or other disasters, with the aim of ensuring resilience of power supply

Questions

- Based on your understanding of the project and the community and stakeholder feedback received:
 - Are the criteria defined in the Multi Criteria Analysis appropriate?
 - Are there other criteria to consider?

Future project milestones

27 April 2023

- **Release of Draft Corridor Selection Report** identifying the recommended corridors (one north to Woolooga Substation and one west to Tarong/Halys Substation) – each around 1km wide.
- **Comprehensive engagement** process to gather input on the recommended corridors and wider report. Powerlink will endeavour to contact all landholders in the recommended corridors before the document's public release (phone call then letter).

Mid-2023

- **Final Corridor Selection Report** will be released which will identify a 'study corridor'. Then Powerlink will work with landholders, and seek input from the community and other stakeholders, to identify a 70m easement within each study corridor north to Woolooga Substation and west to Tarong/Halys substations.

Mid-2024

- Following comprehensive environmental and technical assessments, and ongoing engagement with landholders, the community and other stakeholders, Powerlink will release the **Environmental Assessment Report (EAR)** for public review and comment. The EAR will identify a preferred alignment for the transmission line.
- Powerlink will also progress other **project approvals** as required, including Federal environmental approvals under the Commonwealth's *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC).

Future project milestones

2025

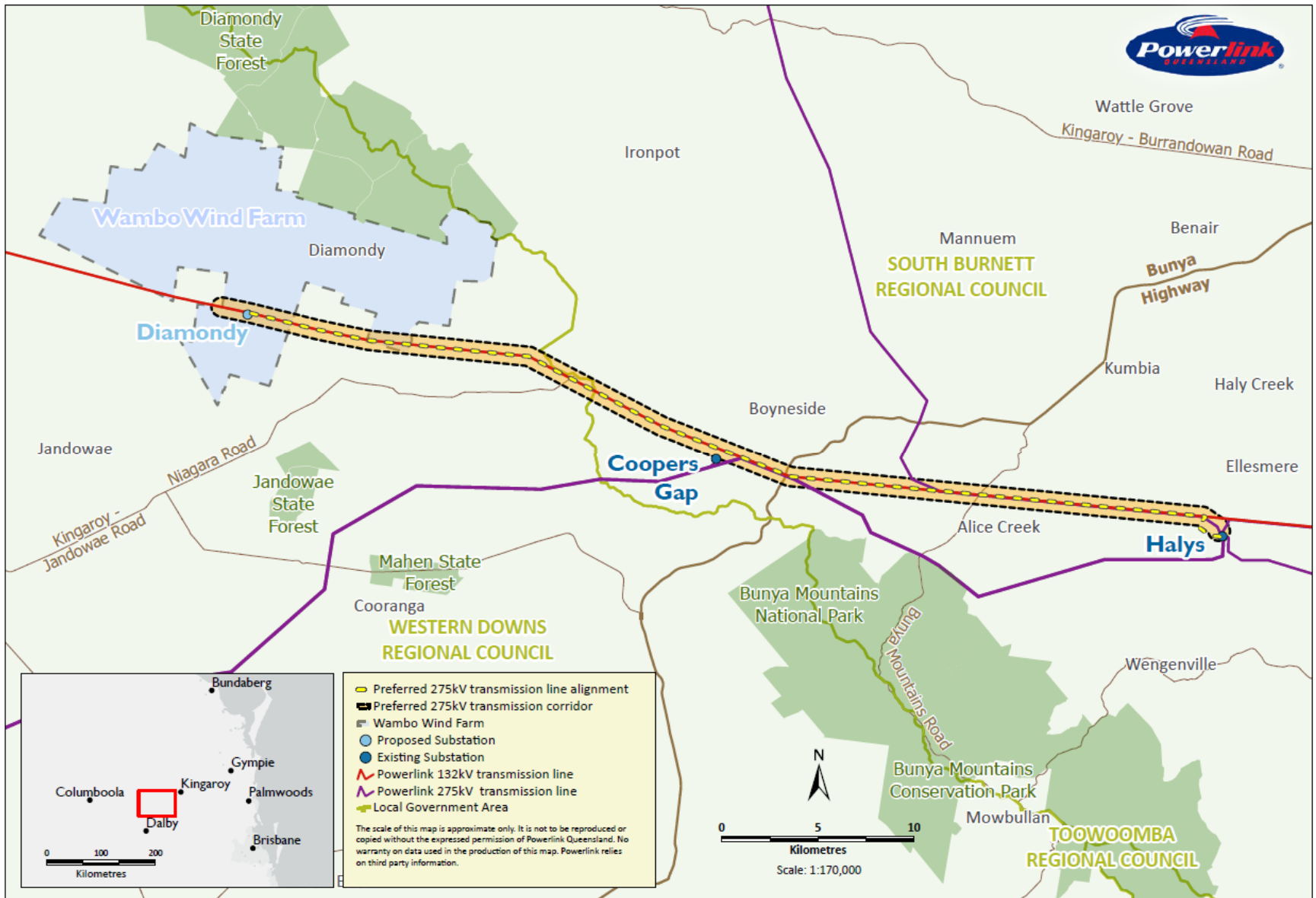
- After around two years of finalising project approvals, transmission line **construction is expected** to commence.

2029

- **Transmission lines are expected to be operational**, enabling the pumped hydro site to connect into the electricity grid, providing energy up to Central Queensland, out to Western Queensland and down to South East Queensland.

Other project work – Wambo Wind Farm Connection Project

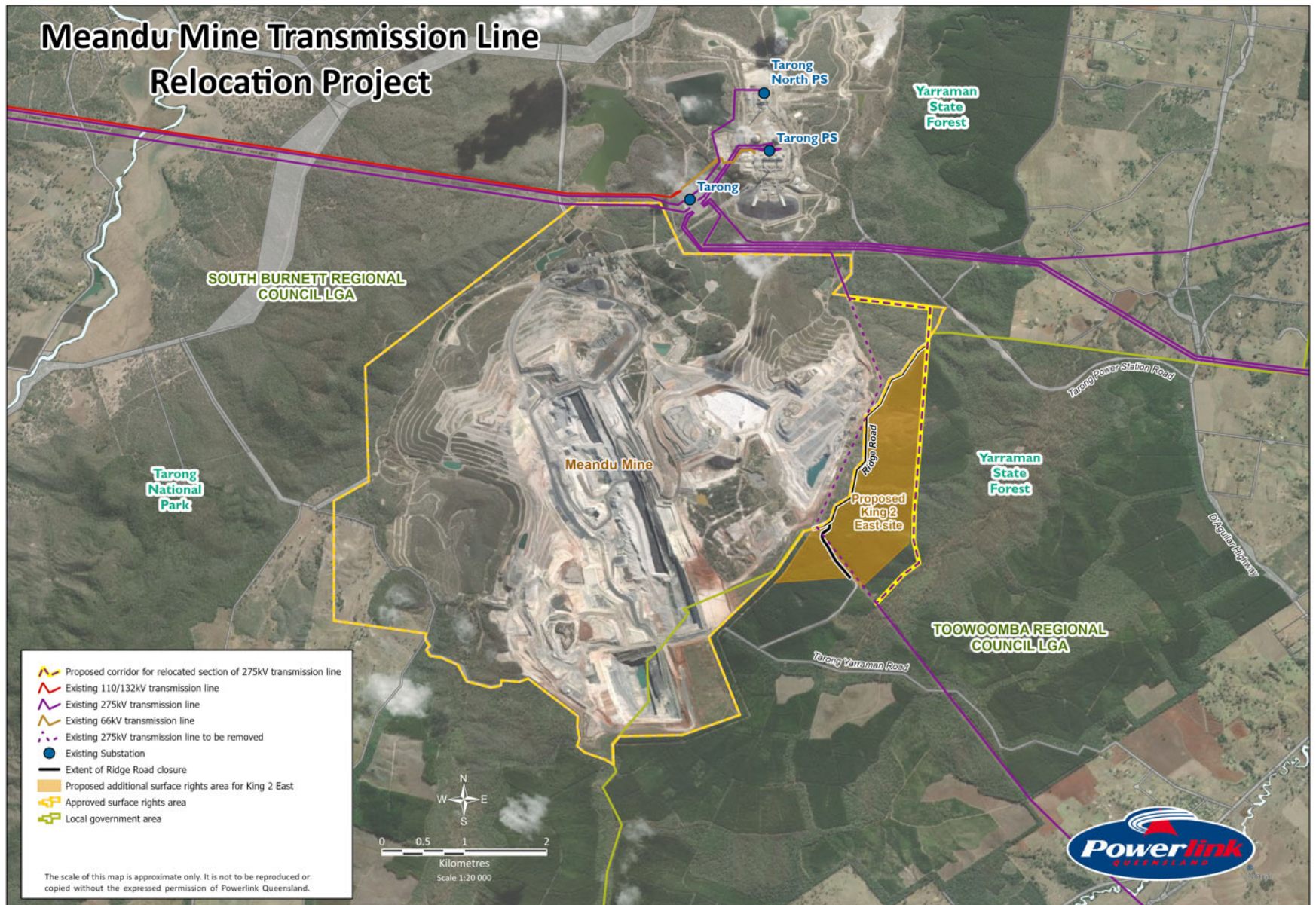
- Proponents – Cubico Sustainable Investments and Stanwell Corporation.
- First stage is 252MW, 42 turbines. Second stage is a further 300MW (contingent on feasibility).
- Foundation project for Queensland’s third Renewable Energy Zone (REZ) – Western Downs REZ.
- Powerlink’s connection project involves building a 47km-long 275kV transmission line from a new substation to be built at the Wambo Wind Farm into the existing Halys Substation. Intend to use the existing 132kV Tarong to Chinchilla transmission line corridor for the majority of the alignment.
- Environmental specialists have prepared an assessment of the environmental, social, technical and economic aspects of the project and identified ways to manage and mitigate potential impacts – this document is the Ministerial Infrastructure Designation (MID) Proposal.
- The MID Proposal has been submitted to the Queensland Government Planning Minister for approval under the *Planning Act 2016*. The Minister is undertaking a formal consultation process and seeking submissions on the MID Proposal.
- Powerlink is concurrently running a public consultation process for landholders, the community and other stakeholders on the MID Proposal. Submissions are due to the Minister on 29 March 2023.



Meandu Mine Transmission Line Relocation Project

- Powerlink has been engaged by Stanwell to relocate a short section of the existing Tarong to Middle Ridge transmission line to safely accommodate future proposed mining activities at the Meandu Mine.
- Involves building a new 275kV transmission line around 4.6km long to replace the current 3.8km section of line.
- Powerlink is following a Ministerial Infrastructure Designation approvals process under the *Planning Act 2016* to finalise the most appropriate location for this relocated section of line.
- Powerlink has been engaging with Stanwell and other key directly affected landholders, in particular HQPlantations and the Department of Environment and Science (Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service), to examine the preferred option to relocate this short line segment.
- Draft Corridor Selection Report was released for public consultation in July 2022. The Final Corridor Selection Report was published in January 2023.
- Environmental Assessment Report will be released in the near future for public consultation. This report will examine in detail the environmental, social, technical and economic aspects of the project and identify ways to manage and mitigate potential impacts.

Meandu Mine Transmission Line Relocation Project



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Thank you 😊



CONTACT

33 Harold Street Virginia
Queensland 4014 Australia

PO Box 1193 Virginia
Queensland 4014 Australia

+61 7 3860 2111
(during business hours)

borumba@powerlink.com.au

www.powerlink.com.au/borumbatransmission

