

Purpose and Outcome

The purpose of the meeting was to engage with key stakeholders to discuss the 1km-wide recommended corridor for the Borumba to Woolooga transmission line project.

Attendees

Gerard Reilly (Chair) (Powerlink) (GR), Harminder Bhar (Powerlink) (HB), Dana Boxall (Powerlink) (DB), Narelle Titman (Powerlink) (NT), Joshua McDonald (Gympie Patrol Group) (JM), Ian Stehbens (IS), Brian Kaddatz (Gympie District Beef Liaison Group) (BK), Shea Rule (Say No To The Lines) (SR), Dan O'Regan (HQ Plantations) (DR) and Rebecca Powlett (Queensland Hydro) (RP).

Apologies

David Arthur (Wide Bay Burnett Environment Council), Petra Van Beek (Gympie Chamber of Commerce), Stuart Traill (Electrical Trades Union) and Simon Kinchington (Gympie Regional Council).

Date & Time: 27 April 2023, 2.30-3.30pm

Location: Microsoft Teams meeting (online)

Minutes

Agenda Item	Minutes and Actions
1.0	Acknowledgement of country Welcome and housekeeping
1.1	Welcome
1.2	GR spoke to acknowledgement of country
2.0	Transmission engagement timeline and activities
2.1	Engagement timeline (GR) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dec 2021 - Powerlink commenced engagement across the community • Apr 2022 - Powerlink established the Borumba stakeholder reference group • Jul 2022 - Early engagement with Council, Traditional Owners and peak bodies (two community information sessions held), released study area • Aug 2022 - Wider community engagement held (two community information sessions) • Sep – Oct 2022 - First Burnett Stakeholder Reference Group meeting held and feedback was used to develop corridor options • Nov 2022 – Corridor options for community feedback released. 2,300 letters sent to residents, seven community information sessions hosted and first Transmission Sub-Group and third Burnett Stakeholder Reference Group meeting held

Agenda Item	Minutes and Actions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jan – Mar 2023 – Project update emails and letters sent to residents on feedback themes and Draft Corridor Selection Report timings. Second Transmission Sub-Group and fourth Burnett Stakeholder Reference Group meetings held • 27th April 2023 – Release of the Draft Corridor Selection Report with recommended corridor (1km wide) • Sep 2023 – Release of the Final Corridor Selection Report with study corridor.
2.2	<p>Engagement approach (GR)</p> <p>Since Dec 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 37 community drop in sessions • 2,060 project update emails sent • 7,200 letters sent • More than 500 digital/hardcopy feedback forms received • 1,000 comments received/responded to on the online interactive map • More than 13,000 visits to the project website
3.0	Feedback themes received
3.1	<p>Feedback themes received (DB)</p> <p>Key themes from feedback include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of property value and compensation framework • Visual impacts of the transmission line and impacts to key recreation and tourism areas • Impacts to farming operations and biosecurity threats • Preference for infrastructure to be located through State Forest and other state-owned land • Importance of preserving local wildlife • Perceived health effects from Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMF) • Vegetation management and impacts to remnant vegetation in the region • Biodiversity and compliance with environmental legislation • Preference for infrastructure to co-locate with existing transmission lines.
3.2	<p>Transmission line corridor options (DB)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Released in Nov 2022 • Three potential corridor options for the Woolooga-end <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Western ○ Central – with sub-options A & B ○ Eastern - with sub-options A & B • Three potential corridor options for the Halys-end <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Northern - with sub-options A & B ○ Central - with sub-options A & B ○ Southern - with sub-options A & B

Agenda Item	Minutes and Actions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corridor options were 4km wide, final selected alignment is 70m (500kV).
4.0	Assessment framework
4.1	<p>Assessment framework (DB)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Balancing three key project objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Social ○ Environment ○ Economic • Where we can't avoid, we will manage, minimise or mitigate our impacts • Key is to understand to develop criteria to help measure against objectives and gain a balance across them to get the least overall impact in the selected corridor • Criteria has been run-through in a draft format and feedback received was that they were appropriate to use.
5.0	Transmission line recommended corridors
5.1	<p>Recommended corridors (DB)</p> <p>Visual of location of selected and recommended corridors</p>
5.2	<p>Woolooga West Corridor details (DB)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4km-wide option <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Least overall impact ○ Highest percentage of state-owned land ○ Least impact to number of properties ○ Least impact on National Parks ○ Least impact on strategic cropping and agricultural land ○ Least impact on intensive land use • 1km-wide option <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 27% state-owned land ○ Zero impacts on National Parks ○ 5 – Number of small properties impacted ○ 382ha impact on strategic cropping and agricultural land ○ 89ha impact on intensive land use
5.3	NT spoke to mapping of the Woolooga West corridor alignment
5.4	<p>Questions</p> <p>IS: <i>Before we talk about this one, we need to make sure that we realise that the other options have been discarded. The other options and the ones around Gympie have been taken away, they're not in the equation any longer?</i></p> <p>GR: Yes, this is correct.</p>

Agenda Item	Minutes and Actions
	<p>IS: <i>This afternoon you're intending to let landowners in those areas who thought they were affected, but are no longer affected know? Or is there a longer timeline for that?</i></p> <p>GR:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letters are being sent to all landholders in corridors • Priority was to get to the landholders within the recommended 1km, so there will be a series of letters going out over coming days • People are trying to make personal contact with the people who are within the 1km • Letters will also be sent out to people who are still within the West Corridor but within the 4km, not 1km • There are some landholders in the other corridors who are no longer under investigation • An email will be sent out notifying everyone that the report is being released. <p>IS: <i>Can I suggest that when you do whatever press releases there are - where these people are no longer needed to be concerned about their particular area - there's some explanation given as to why they were considered? Background needs to be included so that people understand why they've had that concern, that this was because of community feedback.</i></p> <p>GR: This will be taken on board.</p> <p>B: <i>I haven't been notified yet, so I was wondering how do we get a closer look at where that 1km is? There are quite a few people in the dark.</i></p> <p>DB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We don't have the specific information on us, but we can follow up with you.. <p>GR:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There have been issues with contacting landholders for people who have not provided phone numbers • Emails, phone calls and letters are being sent out to all landholders to cover all bases • Yes, there is a likelihood that you would not yet have received any communication from us at this stage if you are outside of the 1km with the 4km • We are working on a map to be released next week <p>B: <i>What is the compensation for the lines going through people's properties?</i></p> <p>DB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We've been reviewing our compensation framework • Currently, we're looking to uplift our compensation framework and look to the new framework being applied to this project.

Agenda Item	Minutes and Actions
	<p>GR:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We probably don't get to a stage where we talk actual compensation amounts with landholders until we have a much better idea of where the actual 70m easement is going
5.4	<p>How we listened (DB)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key feedback received has been reviewed and included in options assessment • Outcomes for each key feedback theme have been accounted for • Dedicated team are contacting landholders • Briefings with councils have been undertaken.
5.5	<p>Halys Central (Option A) Corridor details (DB)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4km-wide Corridor Option <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Impacts on a lower number of properties, strategic cropping and intensive land use ○ Least overall impact on environmental criteria ○ Shortest corridor length, with opportunity to co-locate with existing transmission lines • 1km-wide Recommended Corridor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 12% state-owned land ○ 18 – number of small properties affected ○ Zero impact on National Parks ○ 858ha – impact on strategic cropping and agricultural land ○ 25ha – impact on intensive land use.
5.6	<p>NT spoke to mapping of the Halys Central (Option A) corridor alignment.</p>
5.7	<p>Questions</p> <p>IS: <i>That comment in the area of North Jimna, is that route impacting on your plantations anywhere there?</i></p> <p>NTGR:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It's just hard to tell exactly on that scale, but it's close to plantations where it's going through just to the northwest of Jimna. • There is a little bit in the 1km around the Tarong State Forest • A key part of having the 1km corridor near is to go out and do much more detailed on the ground surveys and environmental studies.
5.8	<p>How we listened (DB)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key feedback received has been reviewed and included in options assessment • Outcomes for each key feedback theme have been accounted for • Dedicated team are contacting landholders • Briefings with councils have been undertaken.

Agenda Item	Minutes and Actions
6.0	Next steps
6.1	<p>DB spoke to next steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 26 and 27 Apr 2023 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Powerlink contacts landholders within the recommended corridors ○ Briefings with local government, environmental groups, stakeholder reference groups. • 27 Apr 2023 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Draft Corridor Selection Report (CSR) publicly released • Late May/early June <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Community information drop-in sessions to provide opportunity for comment on recommended corridors. • 3 Jul 2023 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Submissions to Draft CSR closes. • Sep 2023 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Final CSR publicly released.
7.0	Questions
7.1	<p>Questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slide deck to be emailed to all meeting participants. <p>JM: <i>Are there any ideas for timeframes for construction at this stage and how long it will take to complete the works?</i></p> <p>GR:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a document to be released which goes through some of the longer-term time frames • The understanding is that construction will be looked at towards the end of 2025 • That will be for a target period of having the transmission lines ready to go by 2029. <p>JM: <i>There's going to be quite a lot of materials and equipment to get this built. Any ideas with getting that in, whether these small communities are going to be affected?</i></p> <p>DB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic Management Plans are a key part of our project management • In terms of the specifics of this project itself and those exact timings, we cannot identify and give clarity on that yet, but we can communicate on that when information is received. <p>IS: <i>When you build the transmission lines along these routes, say through State Forest, does that would mean then there'd be four wheel drive vehicle access?</i></p>

Agenda Item	Minutes and Actions
	<p>NT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• These discussions about actual locations and access tracks needs to be had with landholders• We do have to ensure that we've got access tracks to the network because we had and do need regular maintenance of the lines• We will be working with departments to understand how we can best align some of that access so that it actually delivers other benefits as well.
8.0	Closing of meeting