Meandu Mine Transmission Line Relocation Project Construction Update



DECEMBER 2023

About Powerlink

Powerlink is a Government Owned Corporation that owns, develops, operates and maintains the electricity transmission network in Queensland. We connect Queenslanders to a world-class energy future, providing electricity to more than five million Queenslanders and 253,000 businesses.

We are also responsible for connecting large-scale renewable energy developments, including wind and solar, and providing electricity to large industrial customers in the rail, mining and LNG sectors.

About the King 2 East (K2E Project)

Meandu Mine is an open-cut coal mine in the South Burnett, owned by Stanwell and operated by BUMA Australia, under strict safety and environmental conditions. Located in the South Burnett, the mine supplies black thermal coal to the adjacent Tarong power stations.

Powerlink has been engaged by Stanwell Corporation Limited to relocate a short section of our existing Tarong to Middle Ridge transmission line to safely accommodate future proposed mining activities at the Meandu Mine.

Stanwell intends to conduct mining within the current surface rights area located underneath the existing transmission line and is also seeking approval to increase the surface rights area of the mine, known as the King 2 East (K2E) project. Visit https://www.stanwell.com/meandumine-king-2-east-project/ for more

The Tarong power stations, which are among the youngest and most reliable generators in the National Electricity Market, will continue to provide a secure supply of electricity as the market transitions towards a lower carbon future. The proposed K2E project will extend the current Meandu Mine by approximately 187 hectares (a seven per cent increase), within the existing mining lease.

Project milestones

- Ministerial Infrastructure Designation Approval granted in July 2023
- Site preparation works are underway
- Assembly of transmission towers has commenced.

Construction progress

Following completion of planning approvals, site preparation works have commenced for the transmission line relocation at Meandu Mine.

Initial construction activities include vegetation management and preparation of access tracks to facilitate the safe and efficient delivery of construction activities. Once preliminary works are complete, foundation works for the transmission towers in the relocated section of transmission line can commence, followed by tower assembly and stringing activities. Following completion of construction for the new line, the existing line will be decommissioned.

Construction works are expected to conclude in early March 2024, subject to weather and site conditions.

We thank all directly affected landholders, including the Traditional Owners, for their ongoing assistance and involvement in meetings to progress this project. We will continue to engage and provide regular updates during the construction phase of the project.

Transmission Line

Site clearing and access:

90% complete

Foundation works:

95% complete

Tower assembly and installation:

40% complete

Conductor stringing:

0% complete





Transmission tower assembly

Assembling and installing transmission towers is currently underway. Steel for the towers is supplied to each location in bundles and assembled into tower sections on-site. These sections are lifted by an all-terrain crane to form the completed tower. The stringing of transmission line wires commences following the tower assembly. A helicopter is used for this process to minimise the impact on land use, the environment and traffic. The helicopter strings a draw wire through rollers attached to the tower arms. Winches then pull the aluminium conductors (wires) through the rollers. Once the conductors are drawn through, work crews use fittings and hardware to clamp the conductors onto each tower.

Respecting agreed traffic management plans

We are mindful of the potential impact vehicles involved with our project can have on the local community. We have a Registered Professional Engineers Queensland (RPEQ) approved Traffic Management Plan (TMP) agreed to by Powerlink, our principal contractor Downer and also shared with South Burnett Regional Council. Our aim is always to mitigate or minimise the impacts of our project work on surrounding communities. As outlined in the TMP, this includes avoiding Nanango - Neumgna Road and only using the Power Station Road end of Ridge Road for heavy vehicle and other movements.

Please contact our project team if you have any questions or feedback regarding our traffic management planning.

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.



Further information

For more information on the Meandu Mine Transmission Line Relocation Project, please contact:

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