# Genex Kidston Connection Project

#### POWERLINK QUEENSLAND

#### Construction and project highlights

- Multiple work fronts are progressing with transmission line access and vegetation management activities along the 186km stretch of line, with expected completion to occur in Q3 2024.
- More than 230 of the 348 transmission tower foundations have now been completed along the transmission line alignment, with 16 towers erected and more than 50 towers assembled since tower assembly and installation works commenced from the Kidston end of the project.
- Practical completion of construction works for the switching station at Mount Fox has been achieved, with site acceptance testing now underway. Final testing and commissioning works will commence in early 2024.
- Construction progress on the Aurumfield Switching Station is going well with an estimated construction completion date of Q2 2024.
- Construction of the Mount Fox Cricket Ground wash down facility was completed in October 2023, and is currently utilised by construction vehicles and the Mount Fox Fire Brigade.
- Project work crews will break from 21 December and return to site from 8 January 2024.



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.

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# Construction activity update

Construction crews have been on-site for the past nine months and have reached a major milestone with the installation of the first of 348 transmission towers built for the project.



Newly completed switching station at Mount Fox.

#### **Mount Fox Switching Station**

Switching station works were completed in December 2023. Powerlink is now working to connect the site to the existing 275kV transmission line between Ross and Chalumbin.

#### Aurumfield Switching Station, Kidston

New control buildings arrived in Brisbane to complete factory acceptance testing before being deployed to the Aurumfield Switching Station in February 2024.

These buildings will feature leading technology and are a critical part in maintaining the security and reliability of electricity out of the Kidston Pumped Storage Hydro facility to North Queensland.



Works underway at the Aurumfield Switching Station.



Transmission tower assembly in progress.

#### Transmission line progress

Access and vegetation management works along the 186km alignment are progressing well, with the final clearing works expected to be completed by Q2 2024.

Just over 230 of the 348 transmission tower foundations have been completed and 16 towers have now been erected at the Kidston end of the alignment.

# Local supplier event in Etheridge

Powerlink's Senior Project Manager, Bruce Malan presented at the Procurement and Industry Networking event hosted by the Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning (DSDILGP) and Etheridge Shire Council in Georgetown in September 2023.

The event provided local businesses an opportunity to learn about projects occurring in the region and seek information about how to tender for potential work. Powerlink provided an update on the Genex Kidston Connection Project, local procurement to-date on the project and tips for local providers wanting to tender for work on projects.

It was a great turnout and opportunity to head out to Georgetown to speak with local businesses and community representatives.



### Community investment update

Powerlink's community investment activities are aimed at supporting initiatives and projects that focus on creating sustainable communities and assisting economic development. By enhancing community and social capacity, we aim to build resilience and create positive legacies.

More than \$115,000 in community investment funding has been committed so far by the Genex Kidston Connection Project across the Charters Towers, Etheridge and Hinchinbrook local government areas including:

- Sponsoring the Ingham Maraka Festival, one of the biggest community events in Hinchinbrook
- Greenvale Country Club renovations
- Sponsoring the 'Open Award' at the 8th Hinchinbrook Birdlife Art Awards which was won by Helen Thrift Brooks with her piece "All About the Bling"
- Refurbishment of the Greenvale Seniors Club which began in late November and involves suppliers from Charters Towers and Townsville
- Working with Etheridge Shire Council to install smart lighting in community parks. Scoping for the works has been completed with Atherton-based Fox Electrics, with works expected to commence in early 2024, weather dependent. Sponsoring the 'Open Award' at the 8th Hinchinbrook Birdlife Art Awards which was won by Helen Thrift Brooks with her piece "All About the Bling"
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Email <u>community@powerlink.com.au</u> or visit <u>www.powerlink.com.au/community-investment</u> for more information about Powerlink's community investment activities.





New Greenvale Country Club extension

Powerlink's Lucas Bell with Helen Thrift Brooks and her winning entry "All About the Bling"

#### Construction progress

#### **Transmission Line**

Site clearing and access:

80% complete

Foundation works:

70% complete

Tower assembly:

15% complete

Conductor stringing:

0% complete

#### Mount Fox Switching Station

Site clearing and earthworks:

100% complete

Civil works:

100% complete

Plant delivery:

100% complete

Assembly works:

100% complete

Electrical works:

100% complete

Testing and commissioning:

5% complete

#### Aurumfield Switching Station

Site clearing and earthworks:

100% complete

Civil works:

95% complete

Plant delivery:

100% complete

Assembly works:

100% complete

Electrical works:

70% complete

Testing and commissioning:

5% complete





# About the Kidston Clean Energy Hub

Genex Power Limited is developing the Kidston Clean Energy Hub, which comprises the Kidston Pumped Storage Hydro Project in combination with wind and solar, approximately 270 kilometres northwest of Townsville.

This facility will connect to the Queensland grid via a new 275kV electricity transmission line and switching stations, collectively referred to as the Genex Kidston Connection Project (for more information please visit www.genexpower.com.au). Powerlink has been engaged by Genex to deliver this project.

#### **About Powerlink Queensland**

Powerlink is a Government Owned Corporation that owns, develops, operates and maintains the 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.

#### **Further information**

For more information on the Genex Kidston Connection Project, please contact:

**Murray Abel Manager Landholder Relations** 07 3860 2377 murray.abel@powerlink.com.au



Use the QR code to access our project webpage or visit powerlink.com.au/genex

# Happy Holidays

The Genex Kidston Connection team would like to thank the community for their support as we deliver this project.

We wish you all a safe and relaxing holiday and a very happy new year.

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