

Refit of high voltage electricity transmission towers in your area

July 2016

Dear resident,

I write to provide you with information regarding Powerlink Queensland's Gladstone to Boyne Island Transmission Line Refit Project, which will involve specialist maintenance works on the existing high voltage electricity transmission towers between the Gladstone PS and Boyne Island substations (see attached map).

The first stage of the project will commence in August 2016. Powerlink will require access to the transmission line easement on your property using existing easements to undertake these works. The project will not result in any planned electricity outages in the Gladstone region.

Project need

This transmission line is a key part of our transmission network in Central Queensland supplying a major industrial customer and underpinning the region's economic sustainability and growth. It transports high voltage electricity generated at the Gladstone Power Station to Boyne Smelter Limited's aluminum smelter.

The towers were built in 1981 and require this maintenance to ensure the safe, reliable and cost effective supply of high voltage electricity to the smelter into the future.

Overview of work

A refit project extends the life of existing towers, avoiding or delaying the need for new infrastructure. Refitting towers is a cost-effective solution to ensure the network continues to operate safely and reliably.

The **first stage** of the project involves completing visual inspections of the transmission towers along the line to determine the specific refit works required at each tower. Inspections will involve up to two or three separate visits on your property by Powerlink employees to inspect the condition of the towers, both at ground level and also by climbing the towers.

The project team will work in various locations along the transmission line between **August and September 2016**, weather permitting. Our crews will be travelling in light commercial vehicles to complete the visits.

These inspections will assess the condition of:

- tower nuts, bolts and steelwork
- earthing systems
- insulators or other transmission line hardware
- tower signs and anti-climbing barriers.



Timings of work

To minimise inconvenience, tower inspections will occur between 6.30am to 6.30pm, Monday to Saturday.

Future construction works

Following these detailed inspections, Powerlink will determine the specific refit activities to later be performed at each tower on a case-by-case basis. It is expected that this **second stage** of the project – construction works – will commence along the line in around early to mid 2017. This preliminary timeframe will be refined closer to the time and is dependent on various factors, including weather.

We will contact you closer to the time of construction to provide more information on works to be undertaken and anticipated timings.

Minimising potential impacts

We are committed to safely managing potential impacts associated with these works. All refit activities will be undertaken in accordance with rigorous environmental management requirements, which outline how potential environmental and social impacts will be minimised and managed.

All activities will be undertaken in accordance with any property entry conditions and Powerlink's Land Access Protocol, which be viewed at www.powerlink.com.au (go to 'Landholders & Property').

Further information

If you would like more information about this project, please contact the Powerlink representative listed below or alternatively visit our website at www.powerlink.com.au (go to 'Projects' > 'Central Queensland').

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About Powerlink Queensland:

Powerlink is a State Government Owned Corporation, which owns, develops, operates and maintains the high voltage electricity transmission network that extends 1700km from north of Cairns to the New South Wales border. Find out more about Powerlink: www.powerlink.com.au (go to 'About Powerlink').



For further information:
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