

Chapter 16

Indigenous Cultural Heritage

16.0 Indigenous Cultural Heritage

A search of the Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships (DATSIP) database identified recorded Aboriginal cultural heritage in the vicinity of the Draft Alignment. None of the identified sites are located on the Draft Alignment or within the proposed easement.

A search of the DATSIP database identifies three Aboriginal Parties whose Native Title determinations/claims are intersected by the Draft Alignment, including:

- Gugu Badhum People #3
- Ewamian People #2
- Ewamian People #3.

The *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003* (ACH Act), administered by the DATSIP, requires that a person who carries out an activity must take all reasonable and practicable measures to ensure the activity does not harm Aboriginal Cultural Heritage (the Cultural Heritage Duty of Care).

A person is taken to have complied with the Duty of Care if they are acting under a Native Title agreement or other agreement with an Aboriginal Party. Powerlink Queensland intends to address any Aboriginal cultural heritage risks and meet its Duty of Care through the development and implementation of Cultural Heritage Management Agreements (CHMAs) with each of the Aboriginal Parties, in accordance with the ACH Act.

Powerlink Queensland has established processes for, and significant experience in working closely with Traditional Owners for the management of cultural heritage risks in transmission line and substation development. Powerlink Queensland is actively engaging with each of the Native Title groups to develop CHMAs, which will include agreed methodology for the identification and management of Aboriginal cultural heritage sites and values within, and in the vicinity of, the Draft Alignment. This is expected to include detailed cultural heritage surveys of the Draft Alignment with the Traditional Owners. The locations and significance of the sites identified from database searches will be confirmed through surveys conducted under the CHMAs.