

CopperString 2032 Early works – geotechnical investigations

JULY 2023

Dear community member,

We are writing to you about geotechnical investigations taking place along the CopperString 2032 transmission line corridor.



Why

The Powerlink-led CopperString 2032 project recently signed off on an early works package with CIMIC Group companies UGL and CPB Contractors. These works include progressing detailed engineering design for the expanded 500 kilovolt (kV) transmission line from just south of Townsville in the Burdekin region to Hughenden, field surveys and geotechnical works throughout the corridor in advance of construction starting in 2024.



Timing

Geotechnical investigations will commence in late July 2023 and are expected to continue until late November 2023. Powerlink staff and contractors will undertake works on private properties along the corridor in line with negotiated land access agreements and within road reserves in the following local government areas:

- Charters Towers Region
- Flinders Shire
- Richmond Shire
- McKinlay Shire.

Works will occur Monday to Sunday between 6.30am and 6.30pm. These activities will not result in any planned electricity outages.



Overview of works

Works involve geotechnical investigations including seismic and borehole activities such as:

- Drilling small boreholes to collect geotechnical samples to assist with the project's design development. Equipment on site will include a six-wheel-drive truck-mounted drill rig and a number of support four-wheel-drive vehicles.
- Conducting non-invasive seismic sampling of ground conditions to establish design data. Equipment will comprise a small seismic test rig and a number of support four-wheel-drive vehicles.

When on-ground works start, an exclusion zone will apply around the work zone for safety purposes. Only authorised personnel are to enter the site. Please observe any temporary diversions/signage that may be in place.



Biosecurity

Powerlink will undertake all reasonable actions to fulfil our general biosecurity obligation under the *Biosecurity Act 2014* to ensure that in carrying out our activities, we do not spread or introduce biosecurity matter (weeds, pests, pathogens and diseases). We are committed to working with landholders to determine practicable and risk-based biosecurity management requirements.

All activities will be undertaken in accordance with Powerlink's Land Access Protocol (LAP), which outlines the standards and commitments Powerlink and our representatives will adhere to when we carry out our works. The LAP can be viewed at <u>www.powerlink.com.au/reports/land-access-protocol</u>.

The project will also be undertaken in accordance with rigorous environmental management requirements, which outline how potential impacts will be minimised and managed. At all times, we aim to conduct our activities with as little disruption as possible to the wider community.

Further information

Powerlink is committed to keeping you informed about our activities. If you would like any further information, please scan the QR code or contact the project team:

1800 635 369 <u>copperstring2032@powerlink.com.au</u> <u>www.powerlink.com.au/copperstring2032</u>



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. To find out more about Powerlink, visit <u>www.powerlink.com.au</u>.