

Pioneer-Burdekin Pumped Hydro Connection Project



Why are we engaging?

Powerlink is delivering the Pioneer-Burdekin Pumped Hydro Connection Project, which will provide the transmission infrastructure required to safely and reliably connect Queensland Hydro's planned Pioneer-Burdekin Pumped Hydro Project to the electricity grid. Powerlink will investigate options available for transmission line connection, and work with landholders, the community and other stakeholders to select a preferred location to build and operate this infrastructure.

Engagement objective and commitment

Our engagement objective

To work with the community in an open and transparent manner as infrastructure corridor options are assessed and refined. We will actively seek local knowledge and feedback when identifying the potential impacts of corridor options, and ways to minimise and manage those impacts while leveraging opportunities for benefits and co-existence.

Our engagement commitment

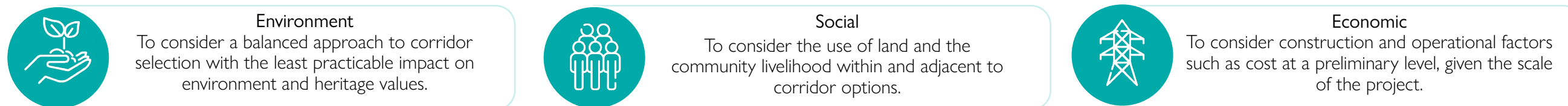
We will engage transparently and respectfully, working alongside landholders, the community and other stakeholders to identify the least overall impact location of our transmission infrastructure. We will keep interested parties informed of progress and engage on key topics throughout the project.

Stakeholders

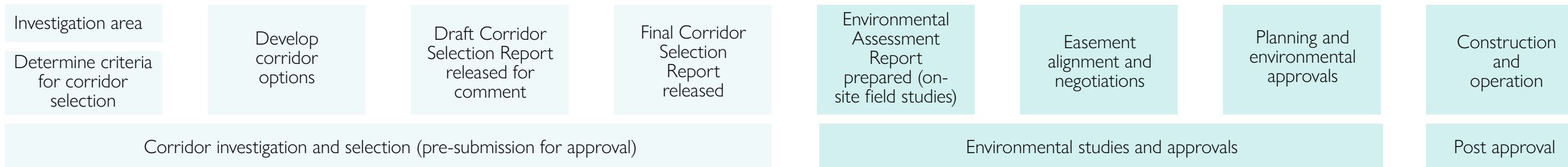
Landholders and the wider community	Traditional Owners	Local community, business, tourism, service and advocacy groups	Environmental groups	Government – Local, State, Federal	Energy industry associations and peak bodies	Queensland Hydro
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Key factors we consider during the corridor selection process

Powerlink's focus is on finding the best balance of environmental, social and economic impacts – considering a range of factors including existing and future land use, Cultural Heritage considerations, location of homes, environmental and conservation areas, existing electricity infrastructure corridors, constructability, liveability factors, visual amenity, topography and overall cost impacts. The corridor selection process involves examining data compiled through mapping and other desktop analysis, as well as insights from landholders, the community and other stakeholders.



Project development and approval process



ONGOING COMMUNITY INSIGHTS AND ENGAGEMENT

Expected timings and opportunities to be involved

*Timing is subject to change

APRIL 2024 ONWARDS

- Project need is communicated to the community and other stakeholders.
- Engagement commences with broader community.
- An investigation area for the transmission infrastructure is explored.
- Objectives and criteria used to assess corridor selection within the investigation area are provided for feedback.

2025

- Corridor selection process commences using community, Traditional Owner and stakeholder feedback alongside technical constraints analysis.
- Draft corridors released for community feedback.
- Final corridor will be identified.

2026 ONWARDS

- Engagement continues with landholders to negotiate and determine the final easement alignment and land access agreements.
- Formal approval process with the State and Federal Government commences.
- State and Federal Government assess the social and environmental impacts of the project and provide final approval on commencement of the project.

ONGOING

- Continued communication and engagement with landholders, the community and other stakeholders about construction and operational activities.
- Developing access arrangements and property-specific requirements.

Potential engagement tools

Meetings, phone calls, letters (including letterbox drops), emails	Interactive mapping	Community information sessions	Interactive planning workshop in collaboration with a range of stakeholders	Stakeholder Reference Group	Newsletters, fact sheets, FAQs	Project website	Media releases and social media channels	Advertisements
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