

# Genex Kidston Connection Project

## POWERLINK QUEENSLAND

### Construction and project highlights

- The Genex Kidston Connection project team is now making the most of the recent drier conditions with construction ramping up over the last few months.
- Work on tower foundations is nearing completion, with more than 325 of the 348 foundations completed at the end of June 2024.
- Tower assembly and erection is also progressing well, with around 178 towers erected along the 186km line.
- About 50km of transmission line has been strung including 13.5km of drone stringing to-date.
- Works on the switching stations are nearing completion, with Guybal Munjan Switching Station now connected to Powerlink's transmission network.
- The Aurumfield Switching Station has reached practical completion and site acceptance testing and commissioning is currently on track to commence in Q4 2024.



### Guybal Munjan Switching Station

The name 'Guybal Munjan' is the Indigenous Cultural Intellectual Property of the Gugu Badhun Aboriginal Corporation (GBAC) and is now a registered trademark owned by the GBAC.

To mark this milestone, the GBAC has provided an approved notice that is now available to view on our project webpage by scanning the QR code at the back of this newsletter.

*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



*Aurumfield Switching Station*

### Switching station progress

#### Aurumfield Switching Station, Kidston

Practical Completion was achieved in April 2024 with final testing and commissioning to start in Q4 2024.

#### Guybal Munjan Switching Station, Mount Fox

Construction of the switching station was completed in December 2023 and cut-in works have now been completed to connect Guybal Munjan to the existing 275kV transmission line network between Ross and Chalumbin.

### Transmission line progress

Tower installation progress along the 186km alignment is well underway and expected to reach completion by December 2024. The final section of vegetation clearing work is also nearly complete.

More than 50km of transmission line has been strung including a 13.5km section strung by drone.



*Executive General Manager Delivery and Technical Solutions Sarah Huang, Hinchinbrook Shire Council Deputy Mayor Cr Mary Brown and Powerlink Genex Kidston Connection Project Director Tony Janas.*

### Site visit

Members of Powerlink's team including Executive General Manager Delivery and Technical Solutions Sarah Huang had the opportunity to see the works first-hand during a recent site visit.

While on-site, the team was able to drive the alignment and check out the progress made on the transmission line and switching station construction activities, as well as catch helicopter stringing works in action.

The visit also included a trip to the Genex Pumped Hydro Storage Project site at Kidston and a catch-up with Hinchinbrook Shire Council Deputy Mayor, Cr Mary Brown.

### Drone stringing

The 186km-long Genex Kidston Connection Project transmission line has included 50km of drone strung line, making this the largest drone stringing in a single project in the Asia Pacific region.

While line stringing is generally done by helicopters or ground crews, drone stringing is an emerging technology that gets the job done quickly and is less intrusive for landholders.

To deliver this work, Powerlink partnered with Infravision, a Queensland based company. Infravision has developed a drone and software technology system that can be used to install and upgrade overhead powerlines.

Video footage of drone stringing is available on our project webpage by scanning the QR code at the back of this newsletter.



## Community investment update

Powerlink's community investment activities are aimed at supporting initiatives and projects that focus on creating sustainable communities and assist with economic development, enhance community and social capacity, build resilience and create positive legacies.

More than \$151,638 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:

- Supporting a Tropical North Showjumping Super Clinic in Ingham
- Donation of multiple items including a Kings portable fridge for auction at the annual Oak Park Races in North-West Queensland
- Refurbishment of the Greenvale Seniors Club which began in late November 2023 and involves suppliers from Charters Towers and Townsville
- Donation of Starlink Satellite Hardware and UHF Radio for auction at the Georgetown School P&C Fundraiser to raise money for a mini-bus to assist with transportation of residents at the Georgetown Independent Living Facility
- Supporting the Einasleigh Progress Association to construct a cricket pitch in Einasleigh. Once built, the new pitch and other supporting infrastructure will also provide opportunities for social functions throughout the year
- Funding to provide paramedic support during the 2024 Greenvale Campdraft and Challenge event
- Supporting a four-day training course in operating agricultural machinery to prepare participants for the 26-week cane harvesting season.

For more information about Powerlink's community investment activities, please contact [community@powerlink.com.au](mailto:community@powerlink.com.au) or visit [www.powerlink.com.au/community-investment](http://www.powerlink.com.au/community-investment).



*Greenvale Campdraft participants.*



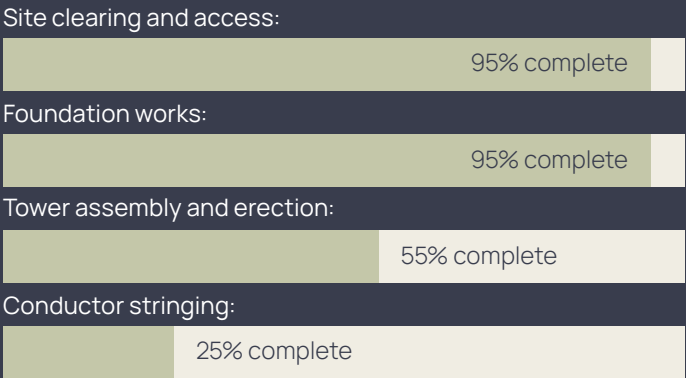
*Trainees attending the agricultural machinery training course.*



# Construction progress

(as per end June 2024)

## Transmission Line



## Guybal Munjan Switching Station



## Aurumfield Switching Station



## Hinchinbrook Shire's 'Get Out, Get Active and Connect'

Powerlink's Genex Kidston Connection Project was a proud supporter of Hinchinbrook Shire Council's Get Out, Get Active and Connect event. Aimed at promoting an active lifestyle, mental health and wellbeing, and community connectivity within the Hinchinbrook Shire, the event attracted about 1,500 attendees.

Key highlights included a moving speech on mental health by special guest speaker Greg Inglis, a rugby league legend and mental health advocate.

Greg now runs Goanna Academy, the first accredited and Indigenous-owned mental health education provider in Australia. Goanna Academy's mission is to help end the stigma surrounding mental health and improve social capacity to identify, talk about and manage mental health for all Australians.



*Greg Inglis with the Ingham Lions Club.*

## Further information

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

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Scan the QR code or visit [powerlink.com.au/genex](http://powerlink.com.au/genex) to read more on our project webpage.

## About Powerlink

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.

## 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 270km north-west 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 (visit [www.genexpower.com.au](http://www.genexpower.com.au) for more information). Powerlink has been engaged by Genex to deliver this project.

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