

# Virginia Site Uplift Project

POWERLINK QUEENSLAND

## 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 241,000 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.

## Improvements to our Virginia site

We have commenced early planning to upgrade a section of Powerlink's headquarters at Harold Street, Virginia. This critical infrastructure is necessary to best support the future needs of our state's changing and growing electricity network. The upgrade is in the initial stages of planning and is proposed to be delivered in two stages.

The first stage includes a new fit-for-purpose administration building, a food service area and additional car parking. The new administration building is anticipated to be three storeys in height plus plant (such as air conditioning vents and lift motor equipment) which is essential to ensure the building can safely operate. The new development will feature landscaping and recreational spaces. The second stage involves the partial replacement of warehouse and operational services facilities. This includes an additional new building that is expected to be two storeys in height.

The map included on the next page indicates the proposed high-level locations of the uplift work within the current Powerlink site footprint. Please note, we are also upgrading our current laboratory services building. While this is included in the map on the next page, it has been approved under a separate planning approval process.

*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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## How the new development is shaping up

### Two new buildings are proposed:

**Stage one** - administration building (expected to be three storeys in height, plus plant)

**Stage two** - operational building (expected to be two storeys in height)

The likely floor area of the administration building will be around 9,300m<sup>2</sup>.

The likely floor area of the Field Delivery and Operational Engineering Building (FDOEB) will be approx 4200m<sup>2</sup>.

The proposal also includes areas for:

- vehicle parking
- food service
- landscaping
- recreation
- spaces that support diversity and inclusion for our staff

Have your say – we welcome your input. Please refer to details in this newsletter on how you can share your feedback with us.

## LEGEND

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| EXISTING BUILDINGS (1-3 STOREYS- NO CHANGE AS PART OF THIS PROPOSAL) | FUTURE CAR PARKING (SUBJECT TO MINISTERIAL INFRASTRUCTURE DESIGNATION (MID) APPROVAL) |
| LANDSCAPING (EXISTING AND PROPOSED)                                  | PROPOSED BUILDINGS (3 STOREY PLUS PLANT LEVEL, AND 2 STOREY- SUBJECT TO MID APPROVAL) |
| CAR PARKING AND INTERNAL ROADS (EXISTING)                            | LABORATORY SERVICES BUILDING (APPROVED UNDER DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION A006414057)      |

## Why are we upgrading the site

Our site in Virginia has been home to Powerlink since the mid 1990s. In that time, not only has our workforce grown, but also the complexity around managing the ongoing safe, reliable and secure supply of electricity across our growing state. As we facilitate the connection of more renewable energy into Queensland's transmission network, it is critical our facilities are fit-for-purpose to meet the requirements of the increasingly complex environment in which we are operating.

Powerlink will deliver on our promise to be a world-class Transmission Network Service Provider, supported by the agility and capability of our people. Our ability to respond to the increasing demands of our energy network will be strengthened by this well-considered and planned project to ensure the long-term suitability of our existing Virginia site.

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## Proposed Ministerial Infrastructure Designation

In order to progress the planning and development approval process for this project, Powerlink is following a Ministerial Infrastructure Designation (MID) process.

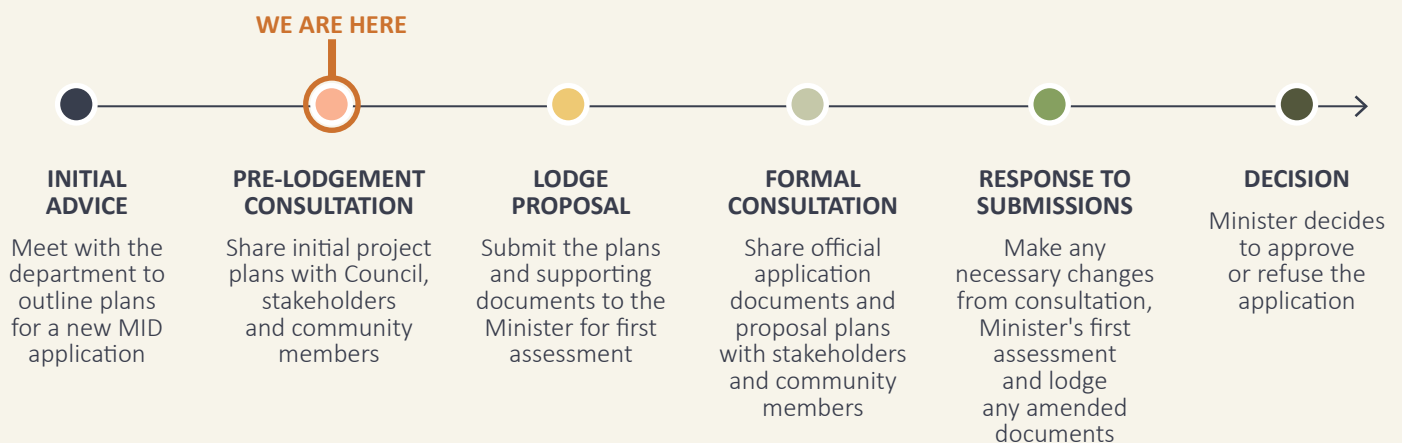
MIDs are a type of State Government approval process that facilitate the delivery of infrastructure that supports communities. Examples of infrastructure that may use the MID process include hospitals, schools, sporting facilities, water supply infrastructure and powerlines. The Planning Minister is responsible for approving an MID.

There are a number of opportunities where you can provide your input throughout the MID approval process, and we welcome your feedback and insights to help inform our final design. We're committed to working with nearby residents, the local community and other stakeholders to progress this project.

The first opportunity for your feedback, referred to in the diagram below as the 'Pre-Lodgement Consultation', is where we are now. Further steps include Powerlink preparing an Environmental Assessment Report (EAR) which will be released for formal public comment down the track. This will be your second opportunity to provide comments in a more formal capacity.

The EAR will comprehensively examine a range of social (including traffic, noise, landscaping, visual amenity), environmental and economic impacts from the development, and how those impacts can be mitigated or managed. This will also include completing a range of technical assessment reports exploring topics such as traffic impacts, acoustic considerations, and architectural and landscape concept plans. Specialist consultants will be engaged to prepare the relevant reports that provide a high-level review of these areas of focus.

The MID steps are:



## Opportunity to provide initial feedback

As a valued member of our local community, it is important to us that you have the opportunity to share any initial comments or thoughts you may have on our proposed facilities uplift.

At this stage, we are seeking your early thoughts on this proposed development on factors such as visual amenity, traffic impacts and environmental considerations.

## Contact us and share your feedback

If you would like to discuss this project further, or share any feedback you may have, please contact our project team on the details below:

- Visit our website at [powerlink.com.au/virginia-site](https://powerlink.com.au/virginia-site) or scan the QR Code
- Email [sqprojects@powerlink.com.au](mailto:sqprojects@powerlink.com.au)
- Call our Virginia Site Uplift Project Team on **07 3898 4455**



The opportunity to provide feedback during this initial engagement period will close on **27 February 2025**. Further consultation will be undertaken as the project progresses.



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