

Bayview Heights to White Rock Project

POWERLINK QUEENSLAND

Project update

This project newsletter provides updates and information on:

- confirmed new amenities and their locations along the easement
- status of the maintenance requirements at the cable joint bay sites
- completed vegetation management works
- remaining works for 2025 and 2026

The installation of new amenities along the easement is scheduled to start from **September 2025**, and further compatible vegetation will be planted from the start of the 2025 wet season.

As we move into the final stages of the project, we would like to thank residents and the local community for their continued patience as we deliver these essential works.

As part of reinstating the cable joint bay site near Alpinia Terrace, new turf has been installed.

Cairns Regional Council notified Powerlink that during recent watering of the turf, some residents were impacted by temporary water loss or low water pressure. This was a result of the water truck connecting to Council's water network in the Forest Gardens Estate area. We sincerely apologise for the impacts and inconvenience experienced by residents.

Further watering is required over the coming months to establish the turf. Our contractors will fill water trucks at alternative locations, away from Forest Gardens Estate, to ensure there are no further impacts to residents.

If you have any questions, please contact the project team on 4034 7600 or fnqprojects@powerlink.com.au

Project overview

Powerlink owns and operates the 275kV underground high voltage transmission cables that run between the Bayview Heights and White Rock transition stations in Cairns. Installed in 1997, the 2.7km of underground cables are critical to maintaining a reliable and secure power supply for residents and businesses in Cairns and the Far North Queensland region.

Powerlink maintains an easement along the length of the underground cables so we can safely operate and maintain the transmission cables. Essential works to ensure the continued secure supply of power are being delivered along sections of the underground cables and easement located in Mount Sheridan's Forest Gardens Estate. These works involve:

- vegetation management along the easement
- easement restoration, including replanting with compatible vegetation
- refurbishment works at two cable joint bay sites located near Alpinia Terrace and Amazon Close.

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.



powerlink.com.au/bayviewheightswhiterock



SAFE FOR LIFE
Everyone. Everywhere. Everyday.

Maintenance requirements

The refurbishment works at the cable joint bay site near Alpinia Terrace have been completed and the site has been reinstated with turf.

Works are now underway at the site near Amazon Close. Due to the availability of the specialist crews, the refurbishment works are now scheduled for completion in mid-September 2025.

We recognise the proximity of residential homes to these works and are committed to minimising impacts, wherever possible.

If you have any questions about these works, we encourage you to contact the project team on 4034 7600 or fngprojects@powerlink.com.au.

Further information is also available in the *Project Newsletter – March 2025* and on our Community Hub webpage powerlink.com.au/bayviewheightswhiterock.



Cable joint bay site near Amazon Close.

Amenities

Powerlink is committed to restoring the easement while maintaining the required safety clearances for the underground cables and easement.

We have been working with Cairns Regional Council to appropriately plan for the easement restoration works, including identifying opportunities for new amenities.

New shade trees and amenities are being installed along Powerlink’s easement to enhance the Crowley Creek walking path for all users and to address shade loss and community feedback, where possible.

To finalise the types and locations of amenities we have considered:

- resident and community feedback about the proposed amenities
- entry points to the Crowley Creek walking path
- provision of respite spots at regular intervals

Amenities will be located alongside or near the Crowley Creek walking path and will be positioned away from private property boundaries to maintain privacy.

The installation works will be delivered by local contractors.

Residents and the community will be kept updated on timings and activities as they progress.

Further information about the community feedback received on the amenities is available in the *Project Newsletters – October 2024 and December 2024* and on our Community Hub webpage powerlink.com.au/bayviewheightswhiterock.

Installation of the new amenities is scheduled to start from September 2025 and will include:

- 4 × water bubblers, with dog bowls
- 1 × shade shelter
- 10 × park bench seats



New water bubbler (dog bowl not shown in image).



New shade shelter with park bench seat. Photo supplied by GX Outdoors.

Amenities map



Vegetation management

The vegetation management activities required to remove the remaining trees posing a future risk to the underground cables are now complete.

Mulch from the clearing works has been spread over the cleared areas and coir logs have again been installed to manage erosion along the creek bank.

Tree stumps have been treated with herbicide and cut as low as possible to the natural ground level. The easement restoration plantings will also provide visual screening for the stumps.

In consultation with the on-site fauna spotter and Cairns Regional Council, several tree trunks have also been retained along the easement, adjacent to Alpinia Terrace, to provide habitat for local fauna.

Easement planting works

We have engaged local contractors, Cairns Conservation Services, to deliver the easement restoration planting works in partnership with Powerlink.

The first stage of planting works started in November 2024 and approximately 5,000 compatible species have been planted so far.

The next stages of the restoration works will involve further planting of compatible vegetation and maintenance of the new plantings. This work will commence at the start of the 2025 wet season and continue into 2026.



Sarah from Cairns Conservation Services with Powerlink representative Rachael.

Project Engagement Timeline

The timeline below details the works completed to date, our engagement activities and the remaining project works.

-  **2026**
Maintenance of the plantings along the easement
-  **2025**
November/ December
Easement restoration plantings continue along the easement
-  **October**
Notification on progress of amenities installation and joint bay refurbishment works, and timings for easement restoration plantings
-  **July** **We are here**
Notification of confirmed amenities and locations along the easement, status update on vegetation management and joint bay refurbishment works
-  **May**
Crowley Creek walking path realignment works completed and timings of vegetation management activities
-  **March**
Notification of upcoming works including, Crowley Creek walking path realignment works, vegetation removal and joint bay refurbishment works
-  **2024**
December
Amenities and indicative locations confirmed following community feedback
-  **November**
Easement restoration planting works commenced in the four cluster areas
-  **October**
Community engagement on easement restoration plans, including proposed amenities
-  **September**
Update on vegetation management works and resident survey
-  **July**
Vegetation removal of selected trees via four cluster areas (Year 1)
-  **June**
Project notification and community engagement on vegetation management options, including an options survey

Community Grants

Powerlink's next round of community grants is now open for community groups, community clubs and not-for-profit organisations in the Cairns Local Government Area.

Our grants support projects and activities valued up to \$5,000 that align with resilience, safety, well-being, and economic outcomes, ultimately leading to positive impacts for groups and communities. Funding of up to \$25,000 will be available to each eligible Local Government Area.

Applications must be received no later than 5pm on 22 August 2025 and will be assessed following the closing date.

For more information about the Community Grants and how to make an application, please visit www.powerlink.com.au/community/community-grants or call 1800 635 369.



Keeping the community informed

Local residents, the wider community and other stakeholders will continue to be kept updated about the project works through:



letterbox drops
to properties in
the project area



community
notices and
signage
along the
easement



door-knocking
residents directly
neighbouring the
easement



website
updates



social
media
posts

About Powerlink Queensland

Powerlink is a leading provider of high voltage electricity transmission network services, combining innovation with insight to deliver safe, cost effective and reliable solutions. We own, develop, operate and maintain the high voltage electricity transmission network in Queensland. Our network extends 1,700km from north of Cairns to the New South Wales border. We aim to connect Queenslanders to a world class-energy future, providing electricity to more than five million Queenslanders and 241,000 businesses.

Further information

For more information on the Bayview Heights to White Rock Underground Cable Project, please contact our project team on **07 4034 7600** or fnqprojects@powerlink.com.au



Use the QR code
to access our project
website or visit
[powerlink.com.au/
bayviewheightswhiterock](http://powerlink.com.au/bayviewheightswhiterock)