

CopperString Ministerial Infrastructure Designation assessment process

What is a MID?

A Ministerial Infrastructure Designation (MID) helps support the delivery of community infrastructure such as hospitals, schools, emergency services stations, powerlines, sporting facilities, water supply infrastructure and sewerage treatment plants.

The MID process provides an alternative to lodging a development application with local government and is managed by the Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning (DSDIP) with input from other government agencies.

The Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning is responsible for making decisions on MID proposals and, under the *Planning Act 2016*, can make, amend, extend, or repeal a MID.

How is a MID different from an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)?

An EIS considers project impacts to determine if environmental conditions are required for the project to proceed. A MID is an alternative process for land use planning approval. Where necessary, the Minister can impose requirements on a MID to ensure the adequate provision of services and that certain outcomes or impacts are addressed.

Why is Powerlink seeking a MID for CopperString?

The project crosses seven Local Government Areas (LGAs) each with its own set of planning regulations. The MID process simplifies planning and approvals by allowing the project to be assessed at a whole-of-government level by a single assessment manager (the Minister) who all stakeholders can engage with and provide feedback to.

What does a MID allow?

A MID allows a project to be assessed at a whole-of-government level. It does not allow a project to skip the development application process.

The MID process provides an alternative to lodging a development application with local government. It also does not allow for any changes to an existing agreement you may have with Powerlink. The project's existing conditions of approval imposed by the Queensland Coordinator-General during the EIS process cannot be changed. In fact, additional conditions may be imposed through the MID process as part of the planning assessment.

How will the MID process run?

Due to the size and scope of CopperString, we will lodge several MID proposals to support the development of the transmission line and supporting infrastructure across the corridor.

We have undertaken preliminary engagement with impacted landholders, key stakeholders, and communities to ensure those interested were given an opportunity to provide initial feedback before MID proposals were lodged.

Following the lodgement of each MID proposal, the Minister will initiate formal consultation by writing to relevant local governments and impacted landholders to invite submissions.

Submissions must be made to the Minister via DSDIP.

During this time, Powerlink will also undertake public consultation with landholders, community members and other key stakeholders to share project information and how to make a submission to DSDIP.

How can I have my say during the MID process?

Following the receipt of each MID proposal, the Minister will commence formal consultation by writing to relevant local government/s and impacted landholders, inviting submissions on the MID Assessment Report. Local government and landholders are typically given 25 business days to make a submission.

During this time, Powerlink will also undertake public consultation with landholders, community members and other key stakeholders.

Submissions regarding the MID Assessment Report must be made to the Minister by the advertised due date. This can be done:

- online at www.planning.qld.gov.au/planning-framework/infrastructure-planning/ministerial-infrastructure-designations which lists MID requests open for consultation
- via email infrastructuredesignation@dsdilgp.qld.gov.au
- by post to PO Box 15009, City East, QLD 4002.

How will I know the MID process is underway?

If your property is impacted by a MID proposal, you will receive formal notification via the Minister who will outline the proposal and how to provide feedback. Powerlink will also engage directly with landholders on MID processes.

Will I be notified of all MIDs and/or can I provide a submission on more than one?

You will receive formal notification of any MID that directly impacts you. The MID process also includes statutory requirements for a public notice and invites feedback from the wider public.

While you may receive formal notification of more than one MID if you are impacted by more than one MID, you are also welcome to provide a submission on any MID proposal submitted for the project.

What does a MID mean for the community?

The MID process provides one set of planning regulations that will apply to the whole project, making the process simpler to assess. While these regulations will be assessed at a Queensland Government level, local government regulations will need to be addressed, along with evidence of general compliance.

How is a MID proposal assessed and decided on?

A comprehensive assessment of land use planning matters relating to a MID proposal is undertaken by DSDIP, along with considering advice from other state agencies and technical experts.

The Minister then decides on the MID proposal after considering the assessment and submissions received during public consultation.

Community concerns that are not specific to the proposal's material land use planning matters are not considered under the planning framework and are out of scope for the assessment of the MID. Where relevant, these matters are provided to the relevant state agency or authority for consideration.

What will be included under each MID?

MID proposals will include temporary and permanent infrastructure components needed to develop the project. This includes, but is not limited to, towers, substations, access tracks, workforce accommodation and facilities, and laydown areas.

The MID assessment focuses on the proposed land use, and its associated impacts including traffic, car parking, stormwater, noise, ecology, amenity, and built form.

How do I find out more about the MID process?

For more information on the MID process please visit the DSDIP website at

<https://planning.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au/planning-framework/infrastructure-planning/ministerial-infrastructure-designations>.

How can I provide feedback on a MID proposal?

During the DSDIP public comment period, submissions must be lodged with the Queensland Planning Minister on or before the advertised due date. This can be done:

- online at <https://www.planning.qld.gov.au/planning-framework/infrastructure-planning/ministerial-infrastructure-designations>
- via email infrastructuredesignation@dsdilgp.qld.gov.au
- by post to PO Box 15009, City East, QLD 4002.

For more information on the submission process, you can contact the MID team directly on 1300 967 433 or via infrastructuredesignation@dsdilgp.qld.gov.au.

How can I provide general feedback on the project?

You can provide general feedback on the project by:

- contacting your local Landholder Relations Advisor or Indigenous Relations team representative directly
- contacting your local Project Engagement Specialist representative directly
- emailing the project team via copperstring@powerlink.com.au
- submitting feedback via our [online form](#)*.

*Please note feedback submitted via our online form is informal only. Submissions regarding a MID proposal must be made to the Minister. This can be done via the following website which lists MID requests that are open for consultation: <https://planning.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au/planning-framework/infrastructure-planning/ministerial-infrastructure-designations>. Visit the 'Requests open for consultation' tab towards the bottom of the webpage.