

Connections and confidentiality

FOR DEVELOPER-LED PROJECTS

Powerlink is a Government Owned Corporation that owns, develops, operates and maintains the high voltage electricity transmission network in Queensland. Our network extends 1,700 kilometres from Cairns to the New South Wales border. Our purpose is to connect Queenslanders to a world-class energy future.

In addition to developing and operating the high voltage network and associated infrastructure, Powerlink also provides electricity transmission services. This can include connecting large industry and electricity generation projects (such as wind farms, solar farms, gas, battery storage and others) to the transmission network.

Connecting developer projects to our network

Developers of electricity generation projects regularly approach Powerlink requesting connection of their proposed facility to the transmission network.

It is not Powerlink's role to approve developer-led projects. Powerlink must make an offer to connect to our network if the developer satisfies certain criteria under the National Electricity Rules.

It is important to note that not all connection enquiries and applications result in a project that proceeds to construction and operation. It is also worth highlighting that under the National Electricity Rules, transmission lines can be built and owned by parties other than Powerlink. In other words, there may be projects where Powerlink is not involved in the corridor selection, easement acquisition and construction activities for the transmission infrastructure required to connect electricity generation projects to Powerlink's existing network.

What information can Powerlink share about potential connections to our network?

Powerlink is bound by confidentiality obligations throughout the whole process of connection from inception to operation and decommissioning (including specific obligations under the National Electricity Rules). This means that Powerlink is restricted in what information we can share about potential connections to our transmission network. We may only be able to share publicly available information such as information published on the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) website.

Developers may be actively speaking with landholders and community members about their proposed project in very early phases of project development, even well in advance of them making contact with Powerlink.

Powerlink manages electricity connection applications to the Queensland transmission network in accordance with the National Electricity Rules.

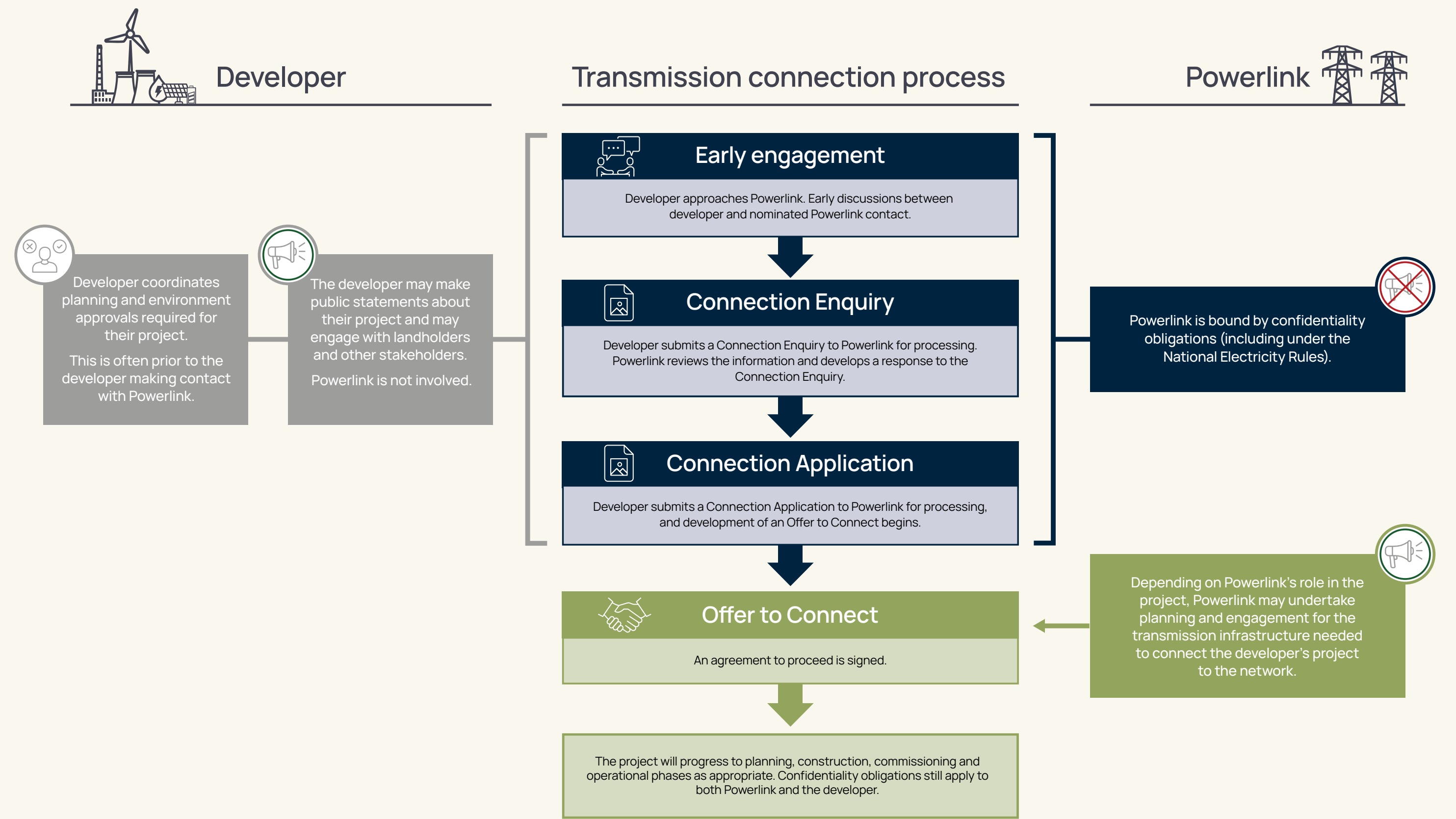
Powerlink must make an offer to connect if the developer satisfies certain criteria under the National Electricity Rules.



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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The process for developer-led projects to connect to the transmission network and Powerlink's confidentiality obligations.



Phases of work and information available

Prior to contacting Powerlink and starting the connection process, developers conduct their own project assessments and undertake due diligence. During this time, Powerlink may not have details of the proposed project. The developer, however, may choose to hold discussions with landholders and other stakeholders as part of their investigations.

The table below describes the stages that developers work through to connect to Powerlink's electricity network, and what information is available to the public at each stage.

Stage	Description	What information can Powerlink release to the public?	Other information available to the public
Early engagement	Early discussions between the developer and Powerlink. High level information is exchanged.	Powerlink is bound by confidentiality obligations (e.g. including under the National Electricity Rules).	The developer may choose to hold discussions with landholders and other stakeholders as part of their investigations, subject to confidentiality obligations.
Connection Enquiry	Developer submits a Connection Enquiry to Powerlink.	As above.	The developer may make public statements about their project, subject to ongoing confidentiality obligations. AEMO publishes information about generator connection enquiries and applications on its Generation Information Page .
Connection Application	Developer submits a Connection Application.	As above.	As above.
Offer to Connect	An agreement to proceed is signed and the project moves into the next phases of planning, approvals and construction.	Powerlink and/or the developer may engage with landholders, Traditional Owner groups, the community and other stakeholders as appropriate. Powerlink is still bound by confidentiality obligations (including under the National Electricity Rules).	AEMO lists committed projects on its website. The developer may make public statements about their project, subject to ongoing confidentiality obligations.
The project will progress to planning, construction, commissioning and operational phases as appropriate. Confidentiality obligations still apply to both Powerlink and the developer.			

Find out more

The process for developers to connect to our transmission network is explained on the 'Connect to our Network' page on the Powerlink website (powerlink.com.au/connect-our-network).

Contact us

For further information, please contact us:

Email: pqenquiries@powerlink.com.au

Phone: 1800 635 369 (Monday to Friday, 7.30am – 5pm).

powerlink.com.au



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